What's new in SIMATIC IT R&D Suite v7.5

SIEMENS
Ingenuity for life

Integrated product design platform now also offers laboratory execution system and good manufacturing practice compliance

Benefits

- Faster time-to-market
- Rationalized and harmonized product range
- Faster exchange of product data with partners
- Reduced administrative tasks and errors
- Well-maintained product quality and compliance
- Cost reduction in new product development and introduction (NPD/NPI)
- Standardized intellectual property throughout the company

Summary

SIMATIC IT® R&D Suite v7.5 is the latest version released on the new-generation platform that embeds functionalities from the classic product portfolio: SIMATIC IT Unilab, SIMATIC IT Interspec, and R&D Libraries (Electronic Lab Notebook/Formula Workbench). SIMATIC IT R&D Suite V7 represents a major technological evolution, providing lightweight client applications that employ web technology and HTML5. This release is primarily focused on laboratory execution capabilities for regulated environments, good manufacturing practice (GMP) compliance and advanced sample planning.

Improvements in SIMATIC IT R&D Suite v7.5 include:

Laboratory execution system (LES)

- Assures adherence and gives guidance to operators in respecting standard operating procedures (SOP) in the lab
- LES workflow visualization with workflow steps and color-coded status indicators

Laboratory information management system (LIMS)

- Advanced sample planning
- Subsampling enables creation of a hierarchy of samples
- Data migration toolkit from SIMATIC IT Unilab v6.4/v6.7

Specification management

- Compare specifications

Compliance

- Full GMP compliance for the entire SIMATIC IT R&D Suite with extended and printable audit trail

Improved usability

- Improvements to application usability and performance for more speed and efficiency
- Display full material description when adding materials to the bill of materials (BOM) or formula
- Highlights differences side-by-side when comparing specifications
- Provides access to specification details directly from the BOM

Technology

- Authentication through user management console (UMC) and security assertion markup language (SAML)

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- Running on Windows Server 2019

For a complete list of enhancements and features, reference the software release notes.
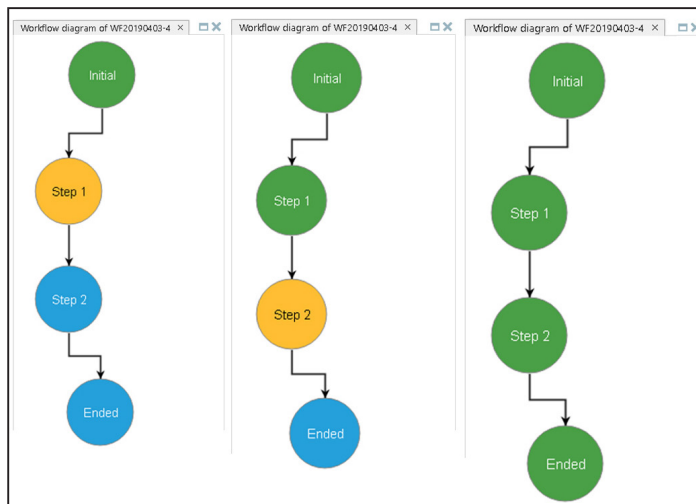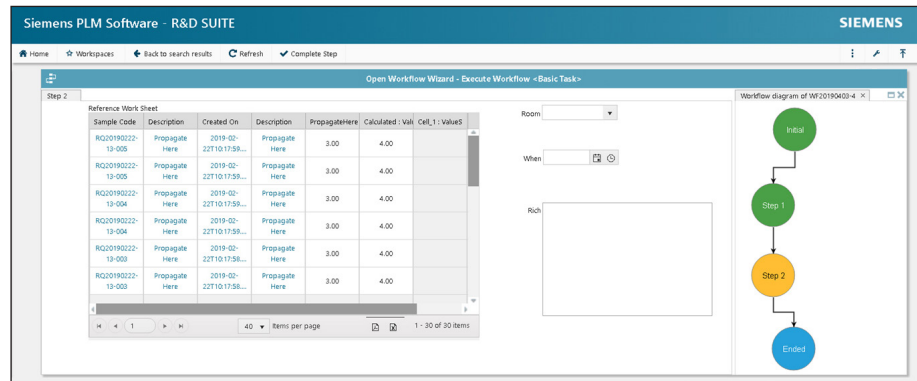
Laboratory execution system

Regulated industries need to assure that standard operating procedures in the lab are strictly followed. Also, all crucial steps in the analysis process such as preparation must be followed strictly and need to be documented.

SIMATIC IT R&D Suite v7.5 embeds a laboratory execution system (LES) in the LIMS. The LES helps in enforcing the lab analyst in performing each individual step of the analysis process. In this way the end results of the process can be assured.

By initiating a preconfigured LES work-flow in SIMATIC IT R&D Suite v7.5, the entire workflow is visualized with each step of the workflow assigned a color indicating the status. The workflow engine evaluates the completion of a step and presents the next step to the operator. The status of the step ("to do," "in progress" or "completed") in the workflow is also visually updated by changing color. When all steps are completed, the workflow is finished.
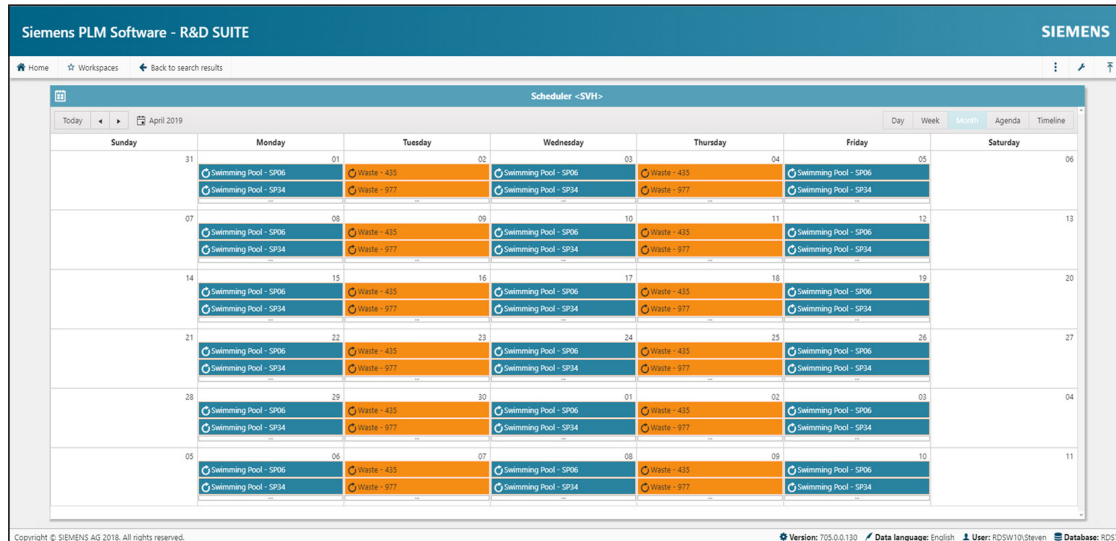
Each step of the workflow is presented to the analyst after completion and possible validation of the previous step. A step can contain infofield, method cell and worksheet objects.
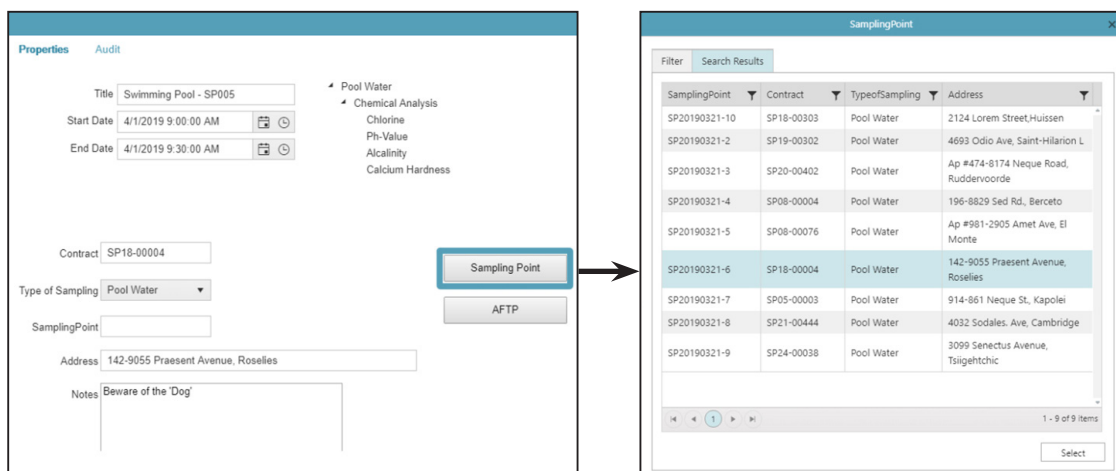
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Advanced sample planning

Advanced sample planning is a calendar-based sampling plan. It enables scheduled sample taking at a certain location over a period of time defined by recurrence properties.

Configurable info field buttons allow for a fast and correct sample schedule set up. Users can selecting the correct sample taking point from a pop-up window with all details on different sampling points. Adding a test plan to the schedule can be done in a similar way by retrieving all available test plans, taking into account the context, such as the type of sample that can be found at the sampling point.

Once a schedule is set up it can be viewed in a calendar view on a daily, weekly, monthly or yearly basis. The sampler scheduler will evaluate all active schedules and automatically create actual operational samples from the scheduled events, for example every night or every week.