

Message Pro X Product Manual

Version 1.0 April 2021

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Revision History

Version	Date	Modification
1.0.0	2021/5/3	Initial release.
1.0.1	2021/5/6	Modify disclaimer. Adjust pages alignment. Revised program configuration explanation.

1. Introduction

1.1 Disclaimer

Message Pro X is built for editing print messages for ANSER X1 printer in a more efficient way. Its main function include create and edit print messages and data exchange between X1 printer(s) and a personal computer or a workstation.

We highly discourage users to perform other usage that is not included in this manual. For more system integration requirement or customization needs, please contact ANSER Coding Inc.

1.2 Minimum hardware requirement

- CPU: Intel® Atom™ X5-Z8350, 1.44 GHz
- RAM: 2GB SDRAM
- LCD: 1280x800
- Disk Storage 32GB
- I/O USB port x 2
- 4GB up USB disk x 1

1.3 Minimum system requirement

- Operating System: Windows 10 Home
- MS Office Excel

2. Installation Steps

STEP1: Double click on “MessagePRO X *.*.exe” installer.


Name	Date modified	Type	Size
 MessagePRO X 3.0.1.01.0004.exe	2021/1/29 10:35...	Application	36,521 KB

Figure 2-1

STEP2: Select installer language and click “OK”.

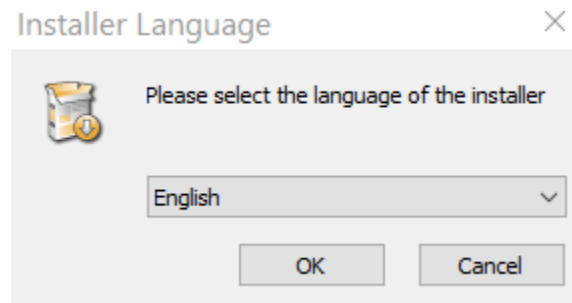


Figure 2-2

STEP3: Click “Next >”.

(It is recommended that to close all other application before installation.)

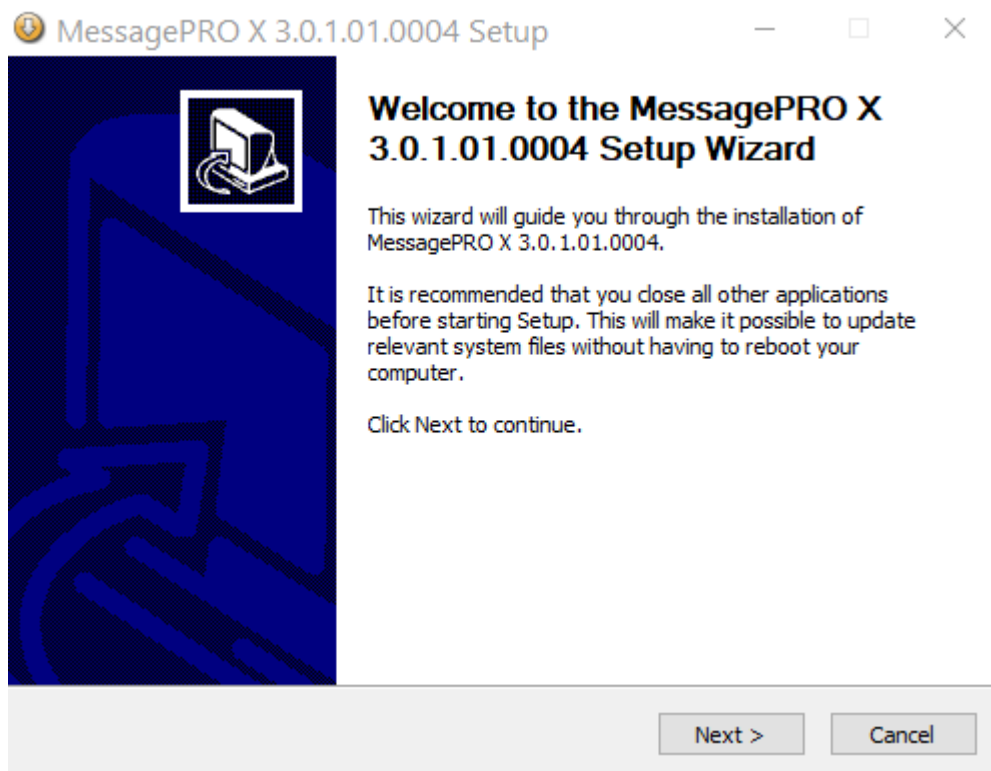


Figure 2-3

STEP4: If in a reinstallation process, a warning message will show. Click “OK”.

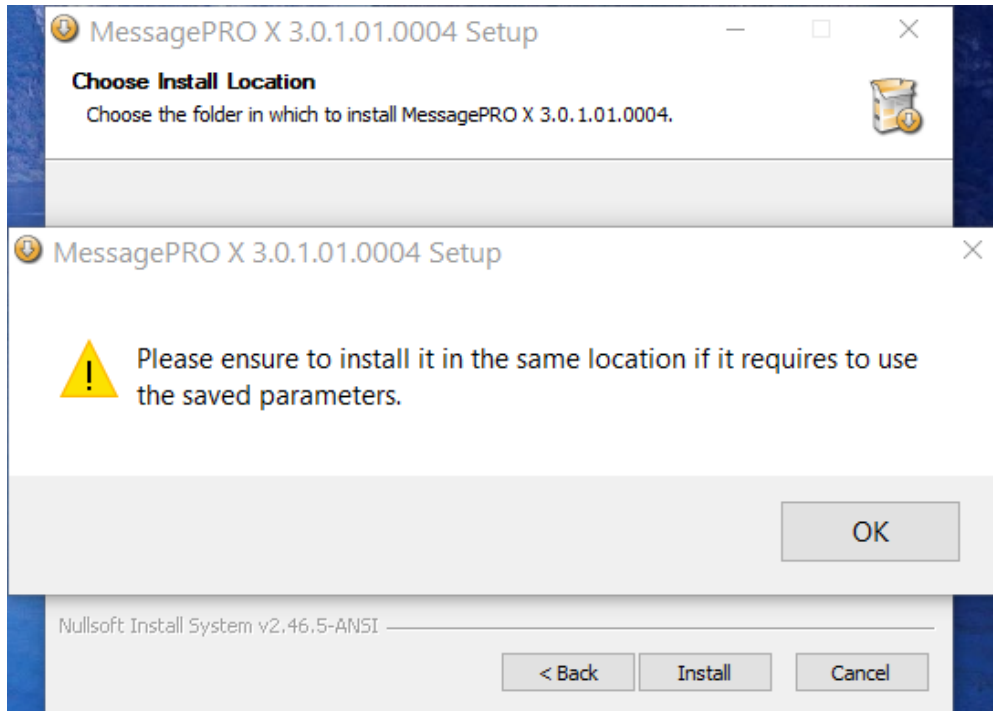


Figure 2-4

STEP5: Select destination location and click “Install”.

(Default location: “(Default User Path)\ANSER PRODUCT\MessagePRO X”)

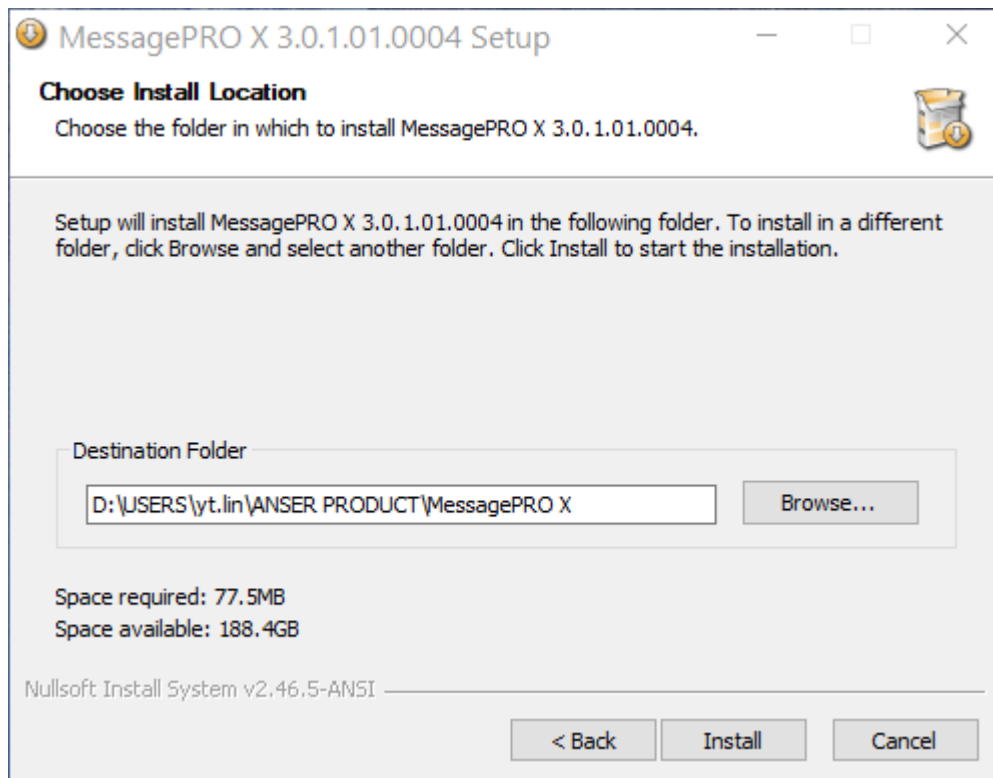


Figure 2-5

STEP5: Wait for the installation to complete then click “Close”.

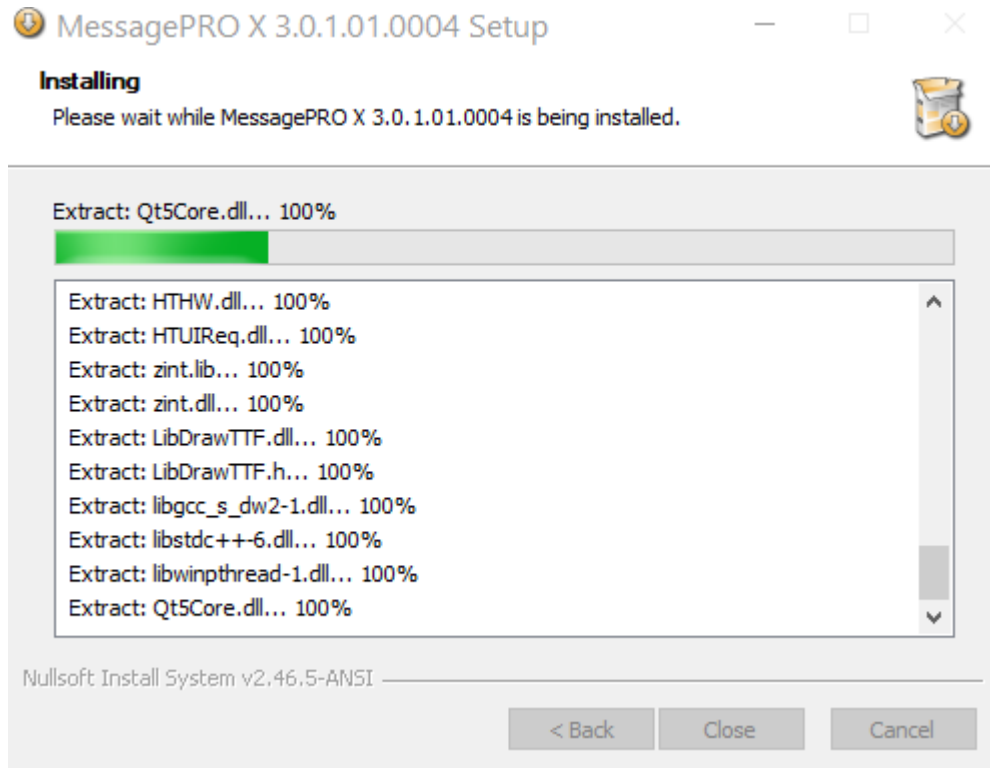


Figure 2-6

STEP6: An application shortcut will be created on the Desktop.

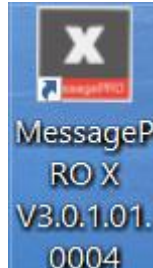


Figure 2-7

3. Operation

3.1 Prerequisite

ANSER does not provide an USB in X1 controller set. However, any USB drive with the FAT32 format can be used to backup, synchronize or transfer data between X1 and the Message Pro X program.

3.1.1 Format a USB with FAT32 format

Right click on the USB drive and select “Format...”

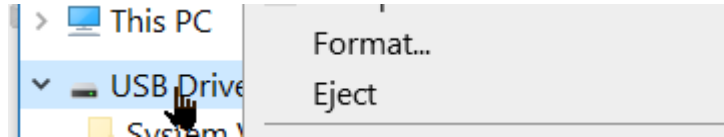


Figure 3-1

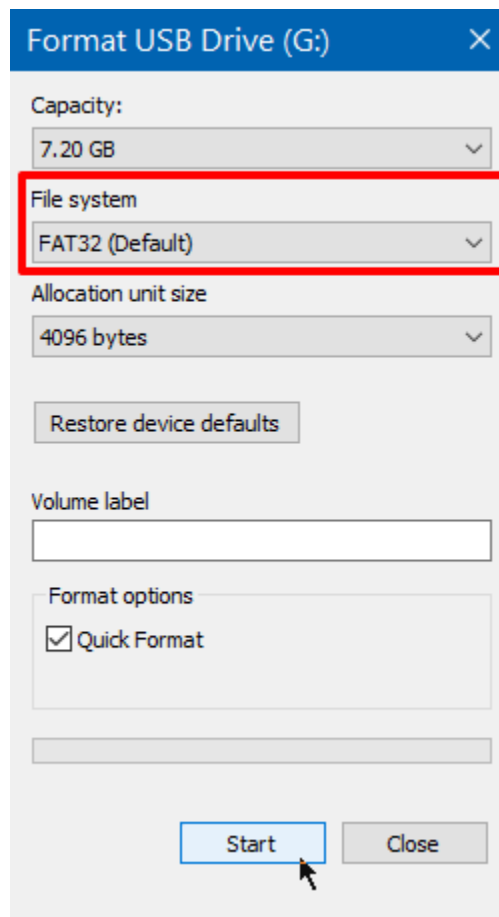


Figure 3-2

3.1.2 Confirm if the USB disk is properly formatted

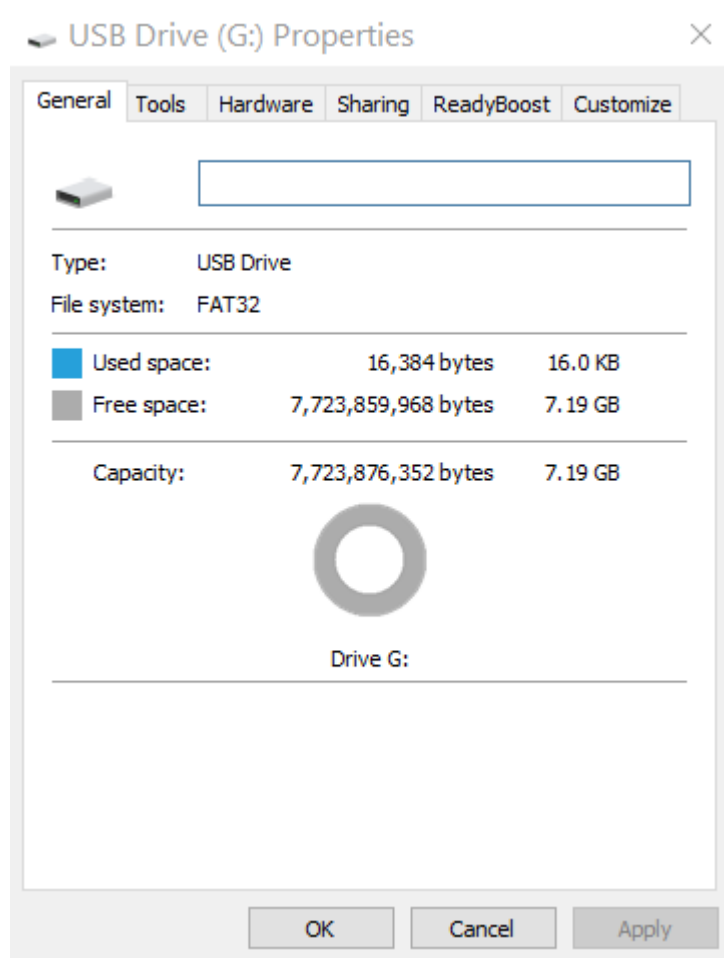


Figure 3-3

3.2 Import / Export X1 files from/to the USB disk

3.2.1 Export

STEP1: Insert the formatted USB and navigate the X1 printer to the “About Printer” page.

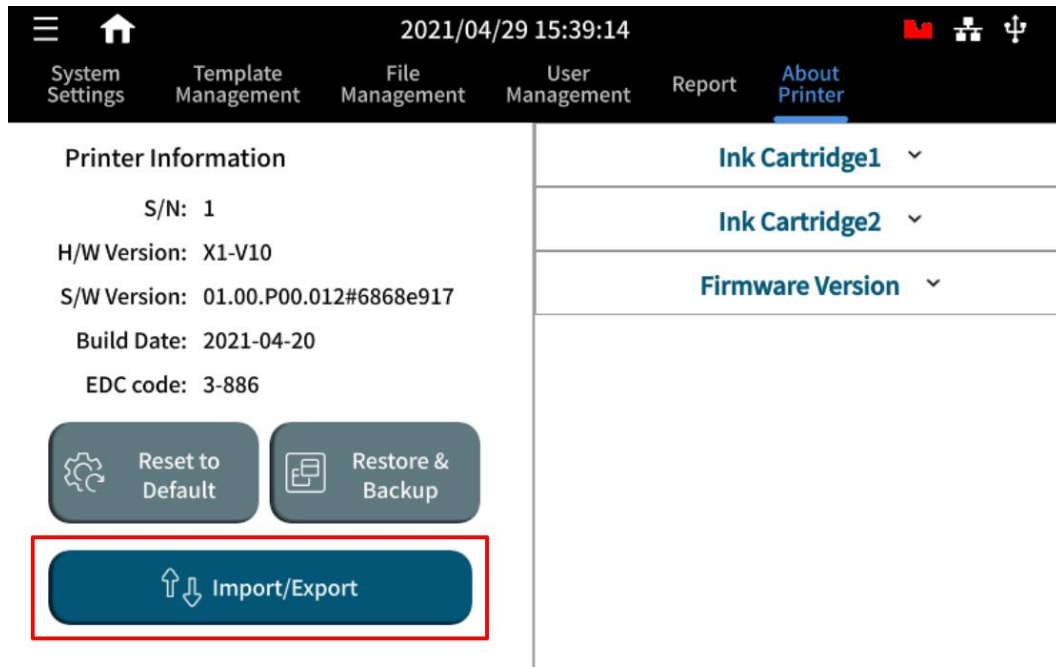


Figure 3-4

STEP2: Select “Export”.

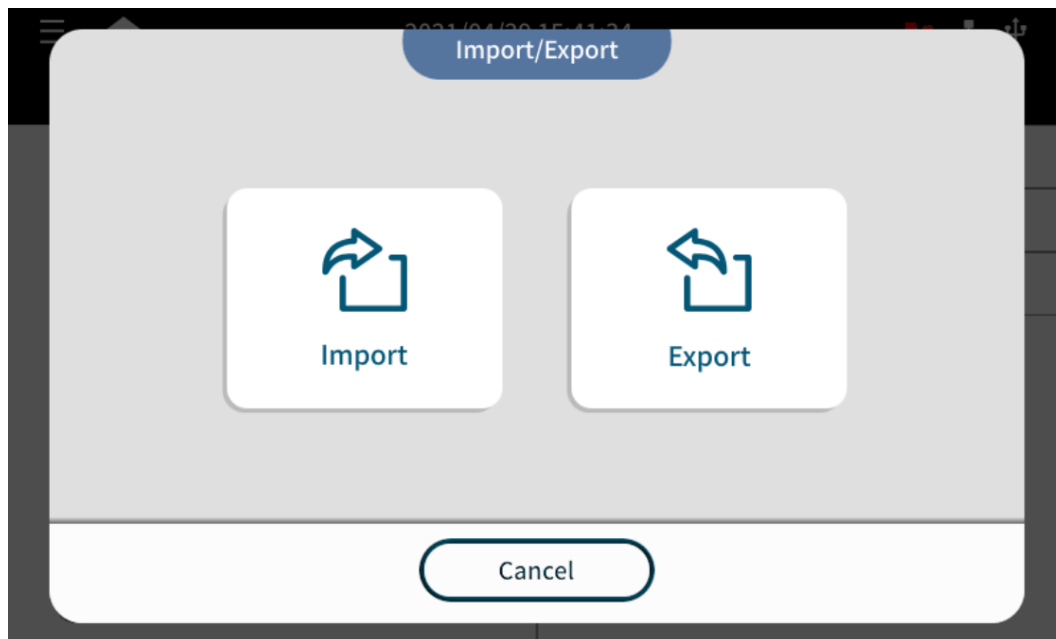


Figure 3-5

STEP3: Specified the File Name of the exporting file, then click “USB” as the target media.

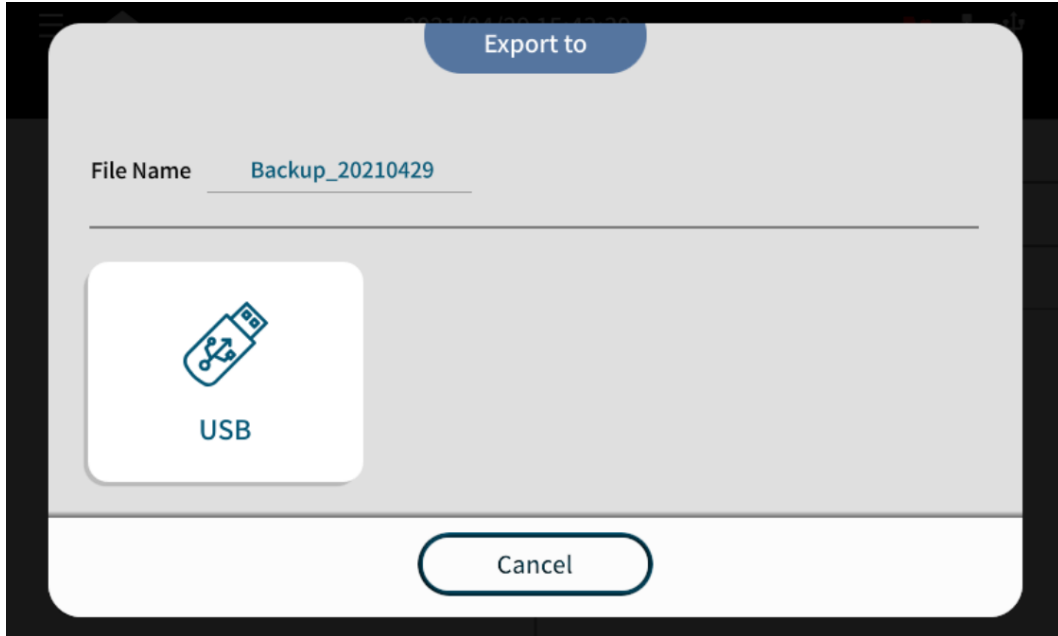


Figure 3-6

STEP4: Navigate to the root directory and click “Done” to confirm the exporting.



Figure 3-7

STEP5: Click “OK” and safely remove the USB drive from the X1 controller.

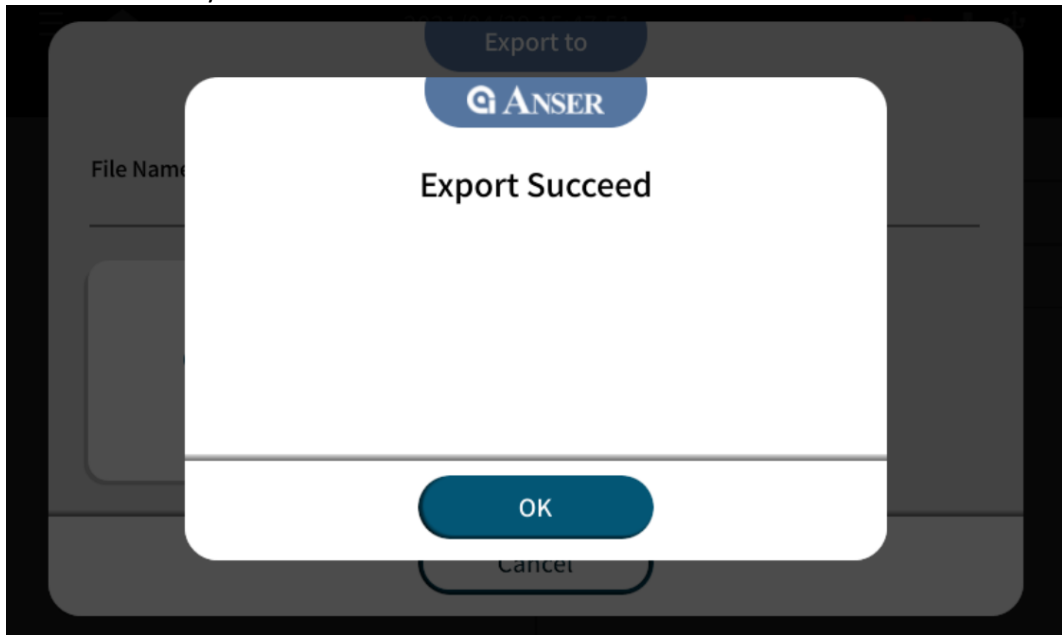


Figure 3-7

3.2.2 Import

STEP1: Insert the USB and navigate the X1 printer to the “File Management” page.

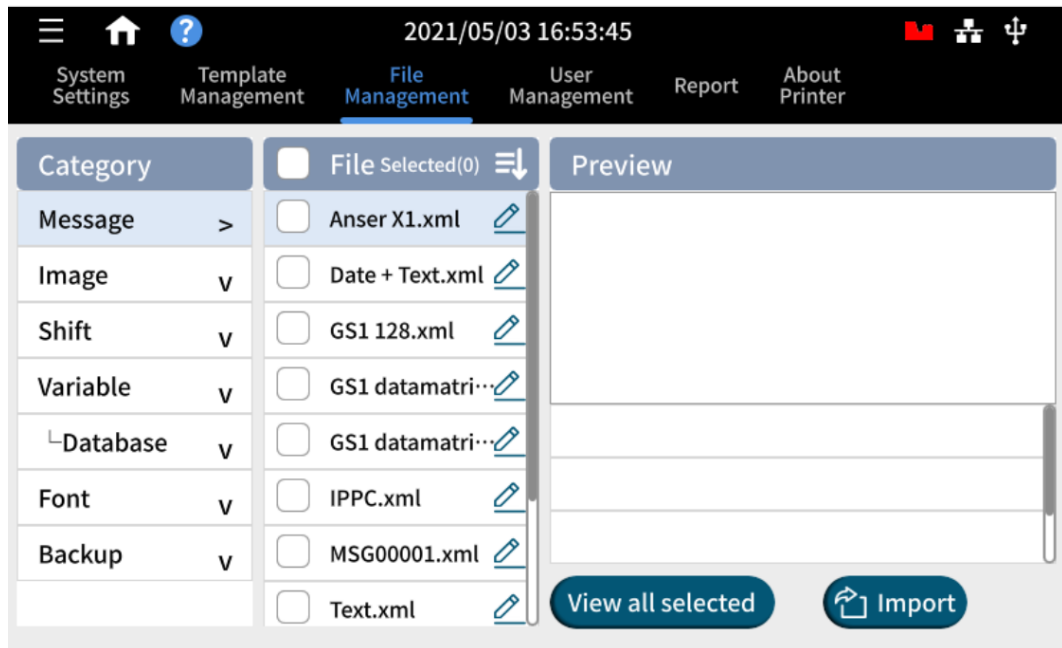


Figure 3-8

STEP2: Click the “Import” button, and select the USB media.

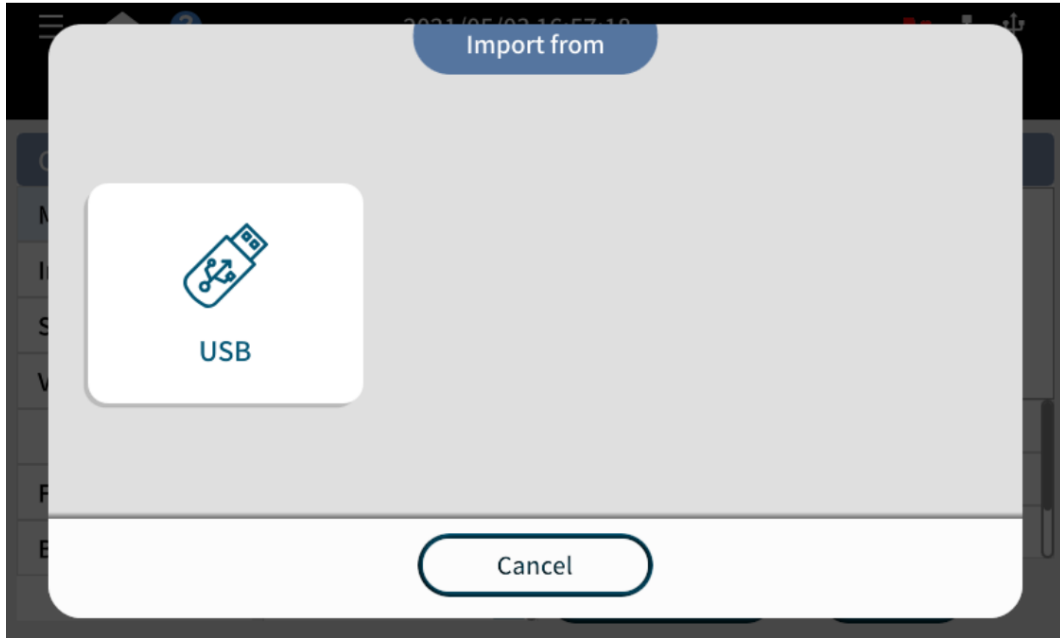


Figure 3-9

STEP3: Double click on the printer data folder then press “Done”.

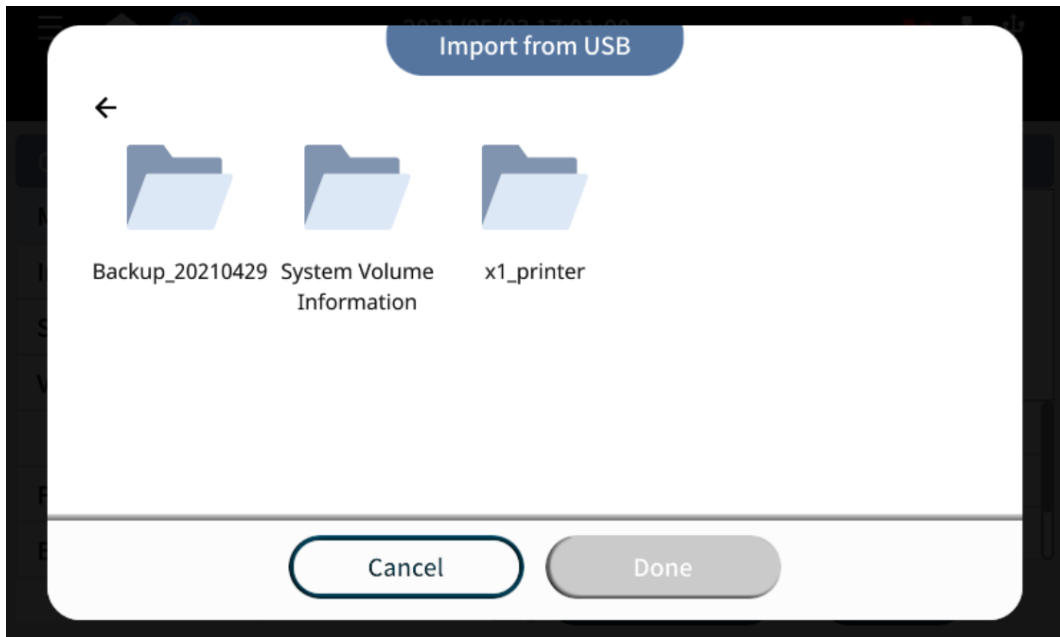


Figure 3-10

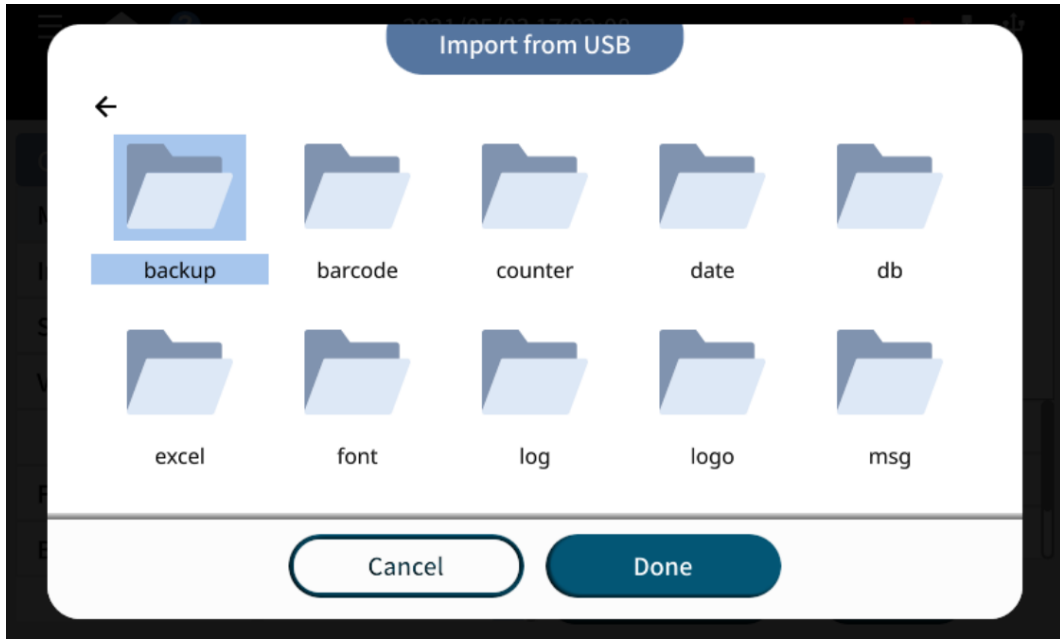


Figure 3-11

STEP4: Check the files that are importing. (Unchecked all and reselect is preferred.)

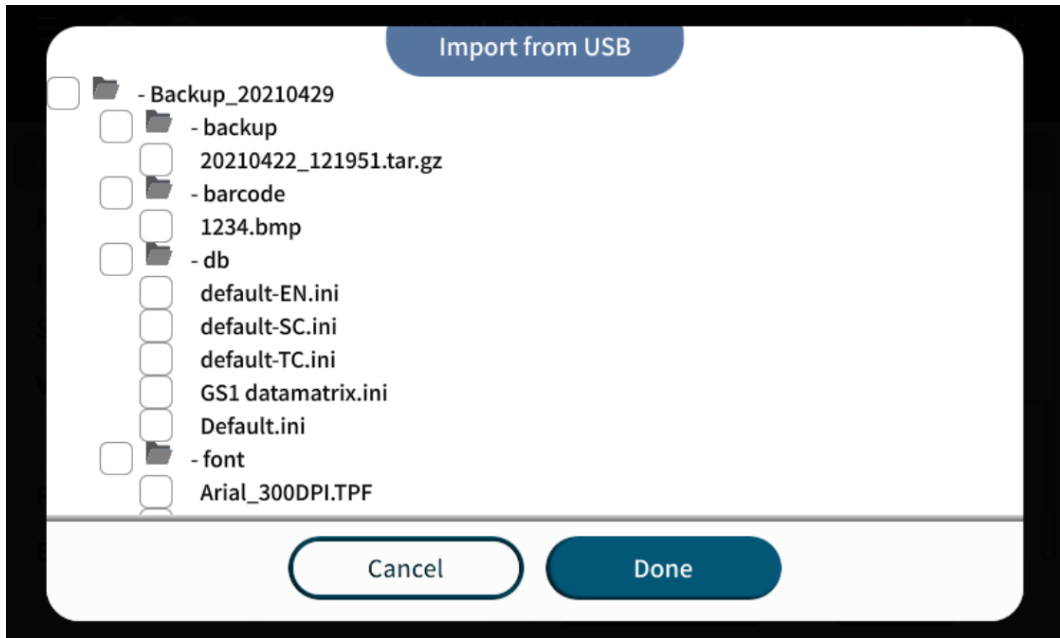


Figure 3-12

STEP5: An “Import Success” message will show when the import it completed.

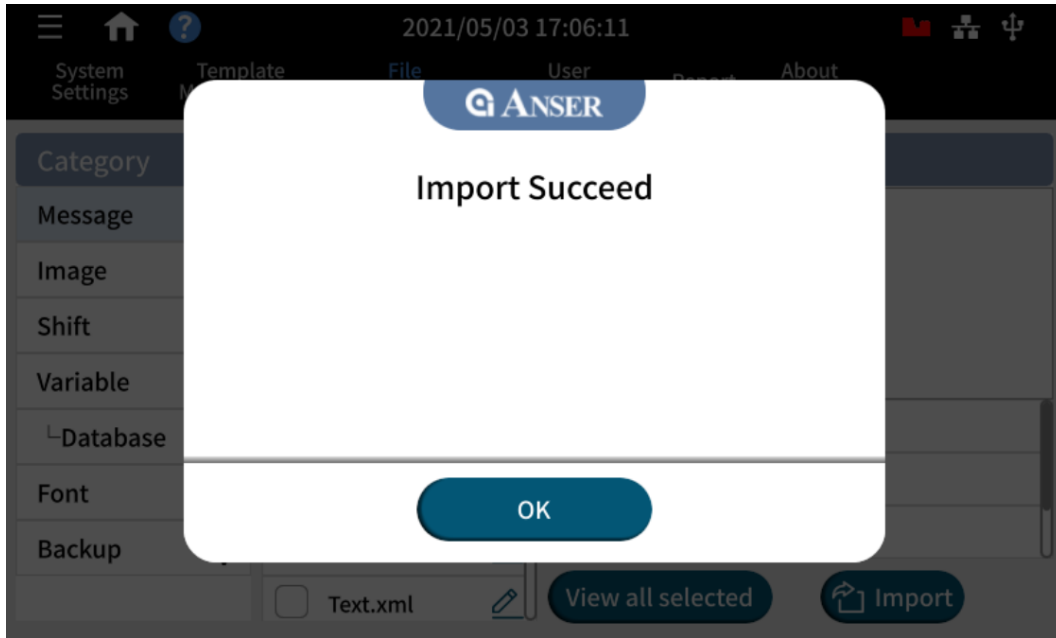


Figure 3-13

4. Function introduction

4.1 Run the program

Double click "MessagePro X" icon to execute.



Figure 4-1

4.2 Select the printer file folder

Insert the USB drive and select the exported folder.

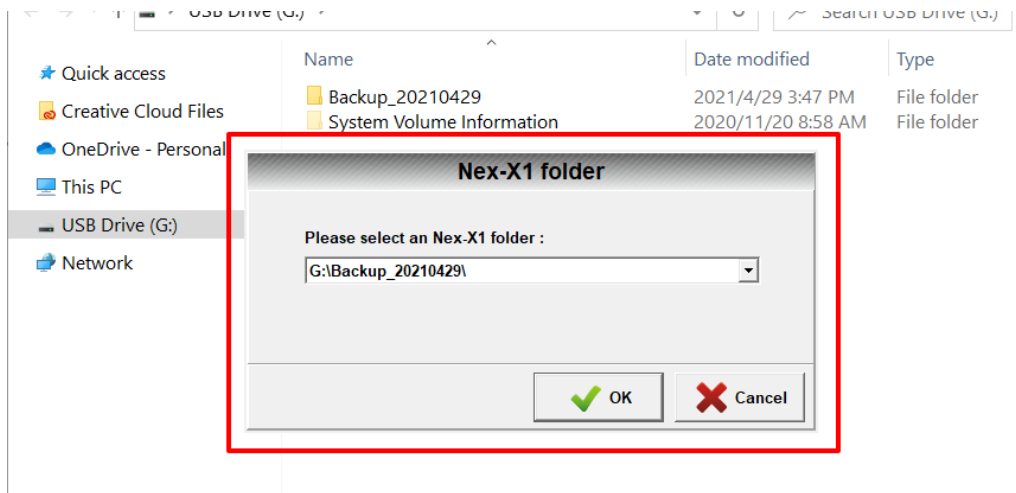


Figure 4-2

If the MessagePro X program were executed when there is no USB drive inserted. A below status will be shown.

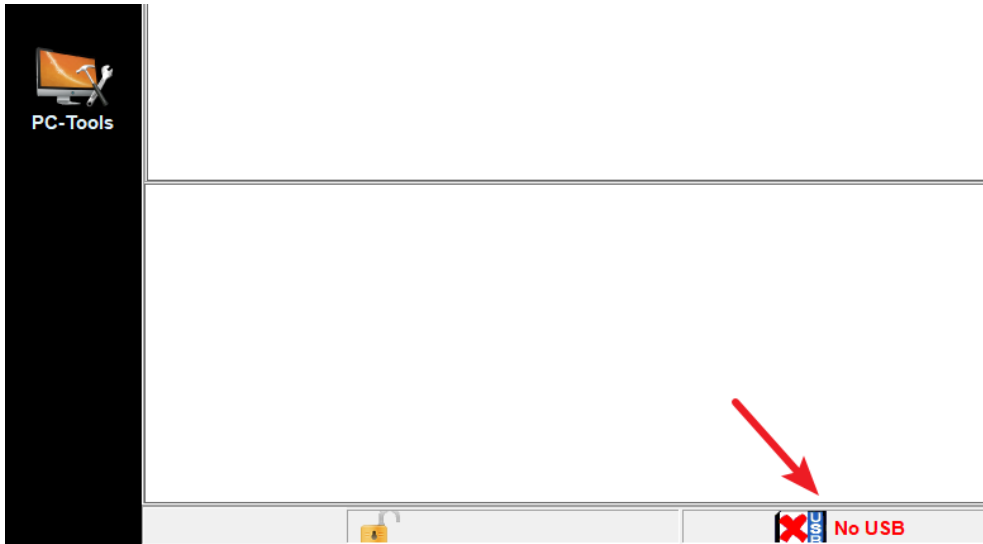




Figure 4-2

Icons	Description
	No USB disk detected. The USB disk is not formatted in FAT32 format or no X1 export folder found.
	USB disk checked.

4.3 Main menu introduction

4.3.1 Version number

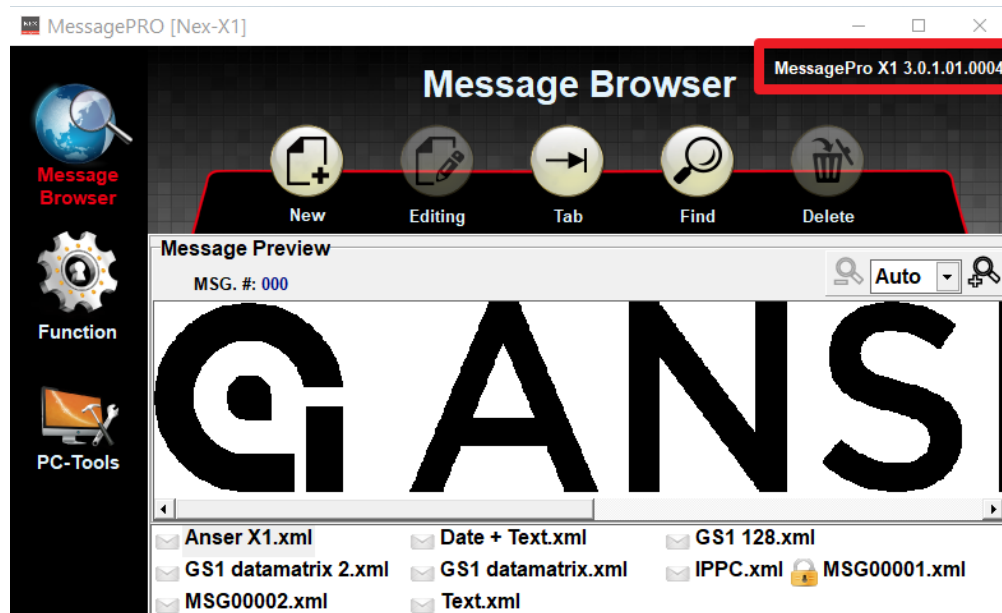





Figure 4-3

4.3.2 Main functions

Icons	Description
 Message Browser	<p>The default page when the program is ready. Including message preview and the message list.</p>
 Function	<p>Including Message Pro X program configuration and template editing.</p>
 PC-Tools	<p>Used to import the image files, csv files or TTF files into the X1 printer.</p>

4.3.3 Message Browser

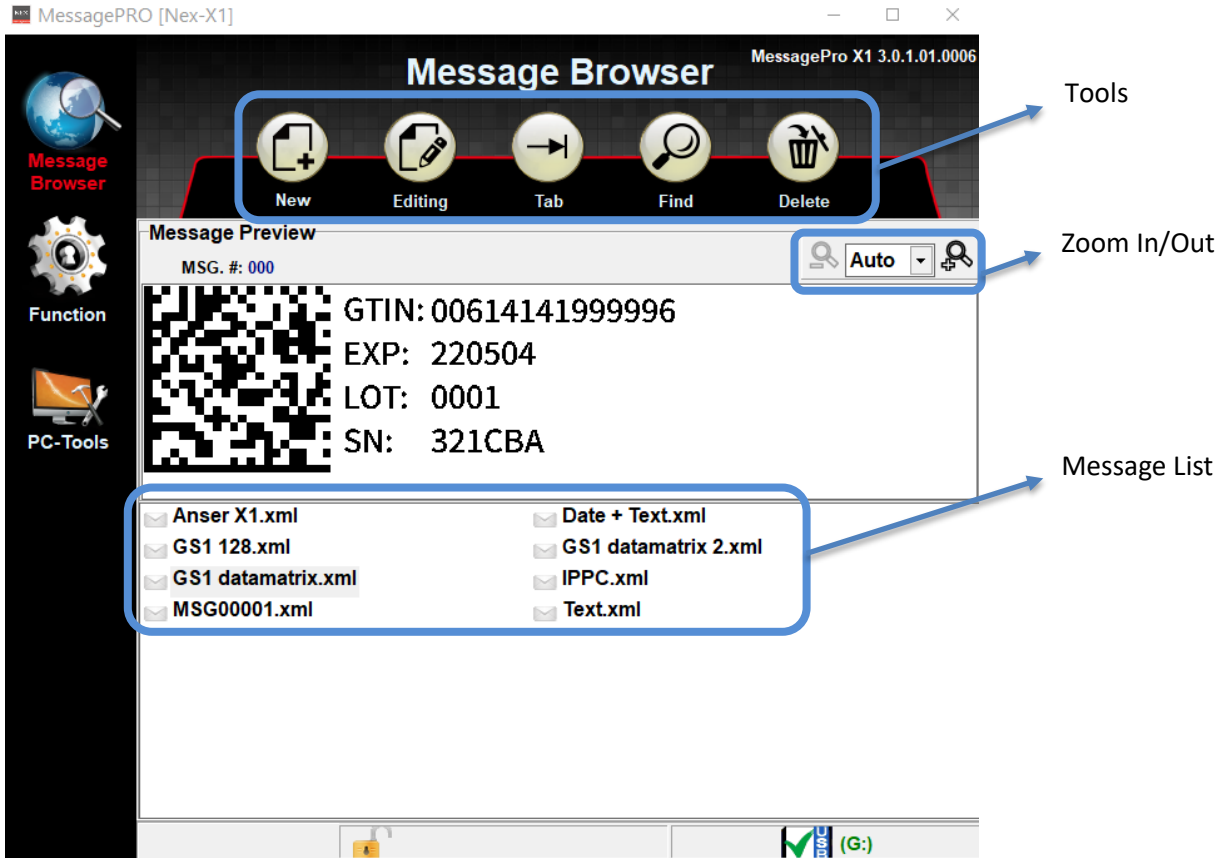


Figure 4-3

4.3.3.1 Message browser tools

Icons	Description
	Add a new message.
	Edit the selected message.
	Delete the selected message.
	Search for specific message by message name.
	Set the message delay.
	Zoom out the preview. (75%, 50%, 25%)
	Zoom in the preview. (125%, 150%, 175%, 200%)

4.3.3.2 Message browser right click menu

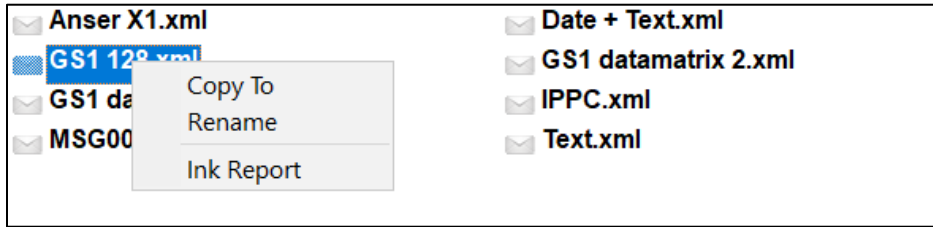



Figure 4-4

Icons	Description
Copy To	Duplicate the message.
Rename	Rename the selected message.
Ink Report	Show the consumed dots of the selected message and the estimated printables.

4.4 Message Editor



Click  icon or double-click within the blank area of Message List. A Message Editor window as below will appear.

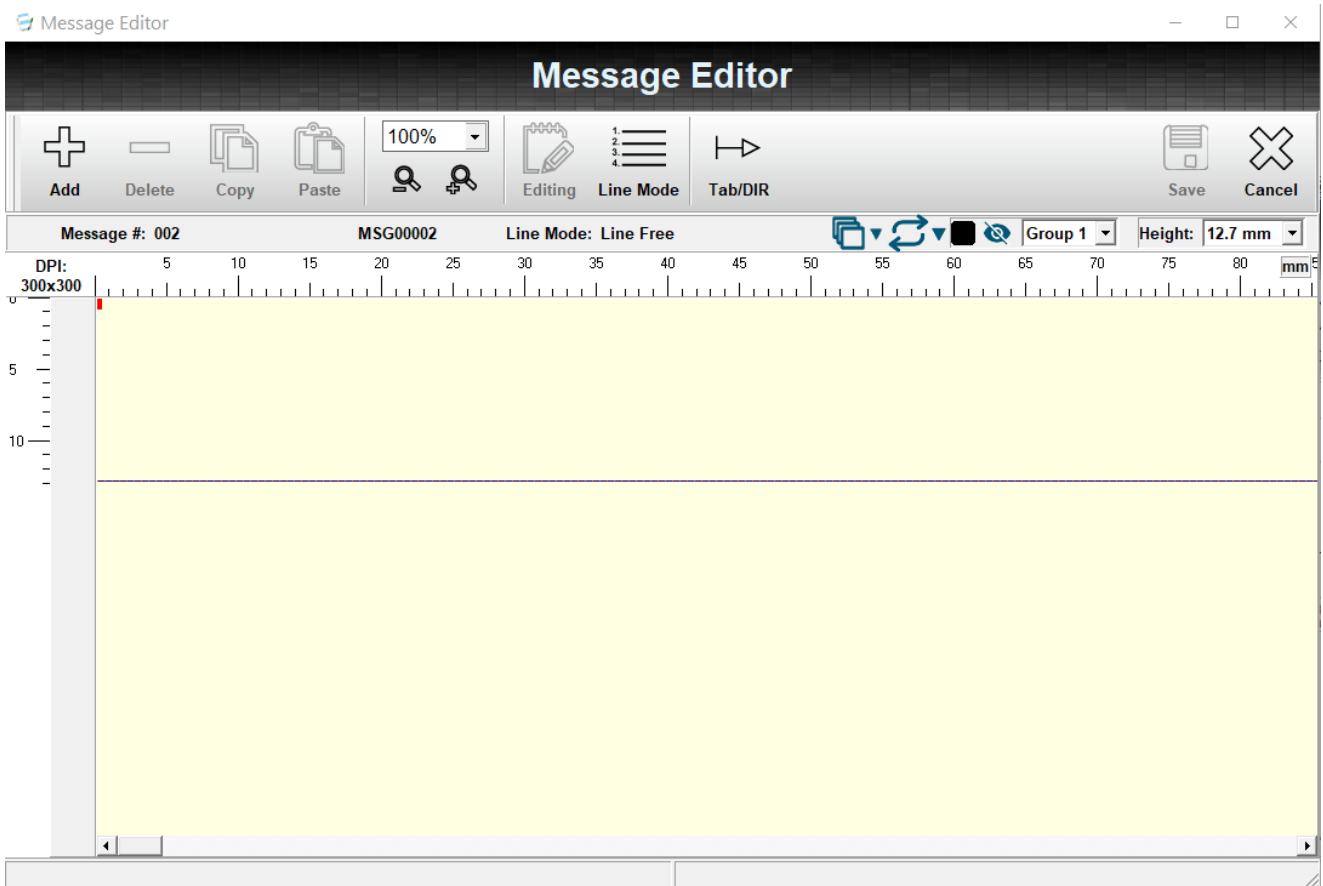


Figure 4-5

4.4.1 Message Settings/Object Settings

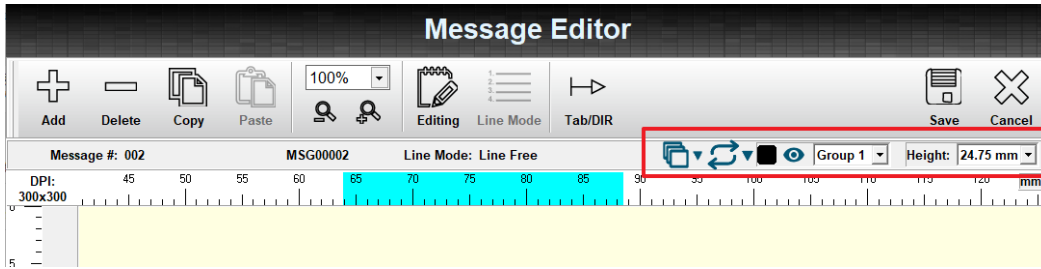




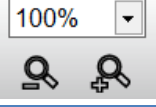







Figure 4-6

Icons	Description
	Bring the selected object to Top
	Send the selected object to Bottom
	Mirrored
	Upside Down
	Rotate
	Reverse Color
	Color of the group
	Use to group the objects so can later be applied to different color.
	The message height options, 12.7mm, 24.75mm, 25.4mm, and 48.7mm

4.4.2 Message Editor Tools

Icons	Description
 Add	Add a new object.
 Delete	Delete the selected object.
 Copy	Copy the selected object.
 Paste	Paste the selected object.
	Zoom out the preview. (75%, 50%, 25%) Zoom in the preview. (125%, 150%, 175%, 200%)
 Editing	Edit the selected object.
 Line Mode	Setup the alignment lines within the message. Only available when there is no object added.
 Tab/DIR	The message delay setting and the message direction setting. These two settings have higher priority than print station settings.
 Save	Save the message editing.
 Cancel	Discard the editing and exit.



X1 can hold up to 3000 messages per controller. USB disk can be share across different X1 controllers. When editing on Message Pro X, select the folder from one of the X1 controller.

4.4.3 Objects

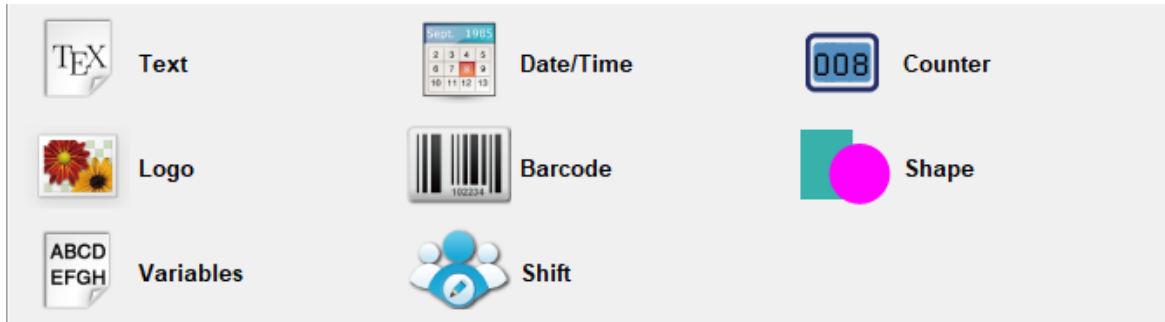


Figure 4-7

4.4.3.1 Object: Text

Editing the Text object attribute as following:

- Message Content: Input the letters and numbers. Full Unicode encoding supported.
- Font: Default fonts are loaded in the “Fonts” folder under install directory. Text object attribute also include font size, density, stretching, spacing, and font style.
- Position: Display X/Y-axis, width and height of the object.

4.4.3.2 Object: Date/Time

Editing the Date/Time object attribute as following:

- Content: The date/time preview
- Parameters: Setup the date as expiration date or freeze lock the date to a specific weekday or date.

Figure 4-8

Options	Description
Type	Day: Can specified the number of days as the expiry. Month: 2 numerical digits available. Year: 2 numerical digits available. (max. until 2088)
Format Preference	(TBD)

- **Format (Templates):**

Available templates or customized Date/Time templates can be edit here. Maximum Date/Time object length is 30 characters.

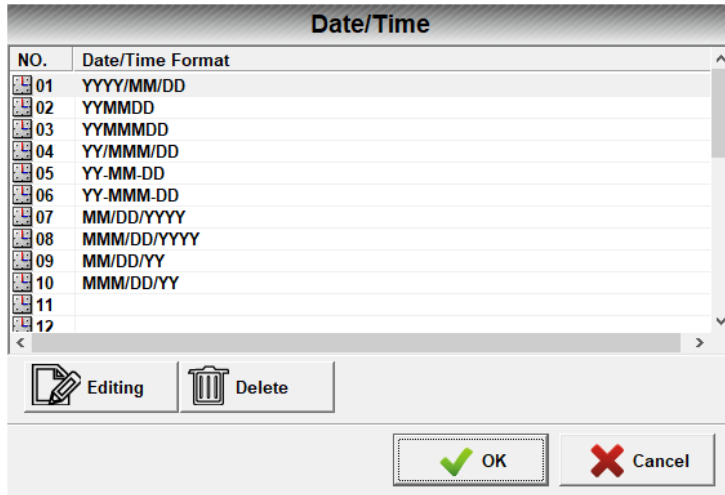


Figure 4-9

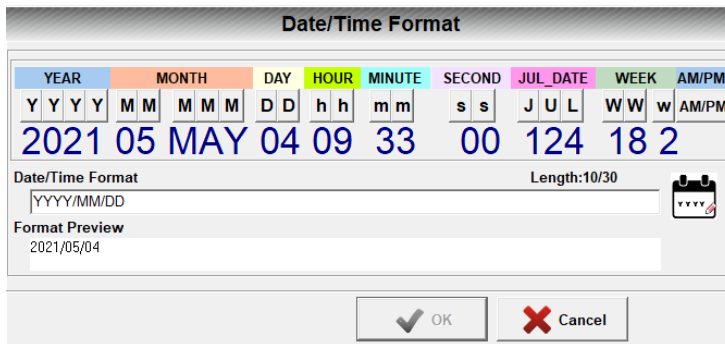


Figure 4-10

Icons	Description
	Switch between single character selection and unit group selection.

4.4.3.3 Object: Counter

Figure 4-11

The counter object designed with types, Item, Lot, and Box. The Box and Lot has the relationship of carry. Concept can be easily pictured as in below:

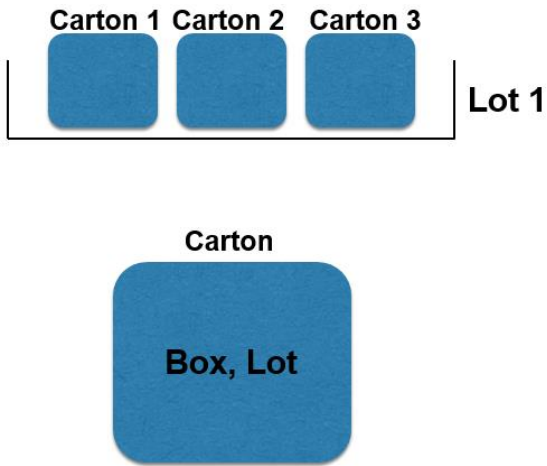


Figure 4-12

The Item counter is independent from Box & Lot. The relationship explanation can be illustrate in below.



Figure 4-13

4.4.3.4 Object: Image

Use Windows Paint tool to create X1 readable bmp image files. The maximum number of image file can be stored within a backup file is 60. The maximum size for each of the message is 1200 pixels x 640 pixels

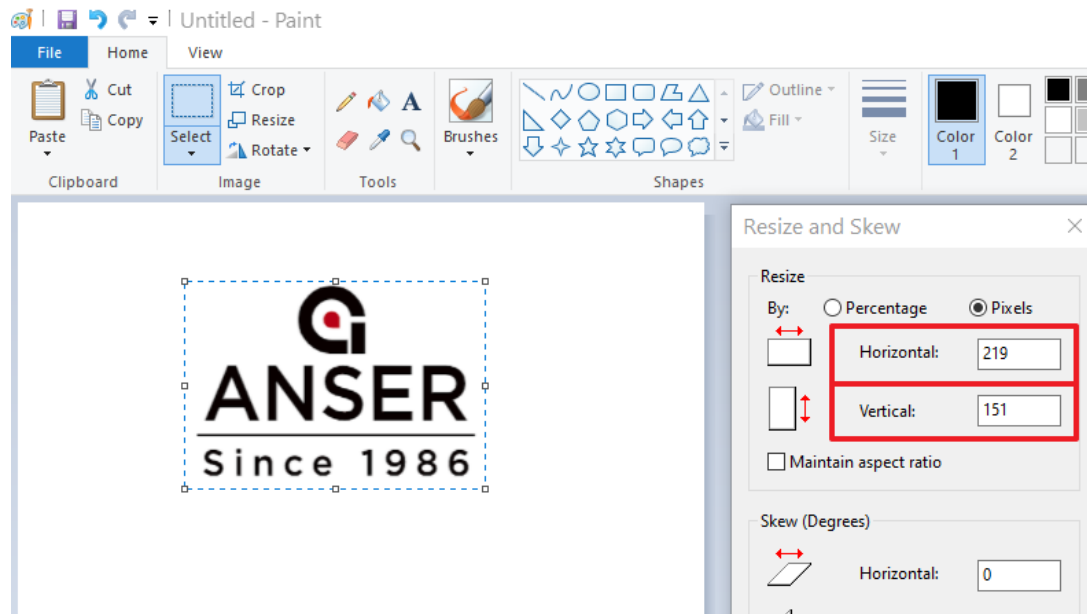


Figure 4-14

When the edit is completed, file should be saved as monochrome bmp.

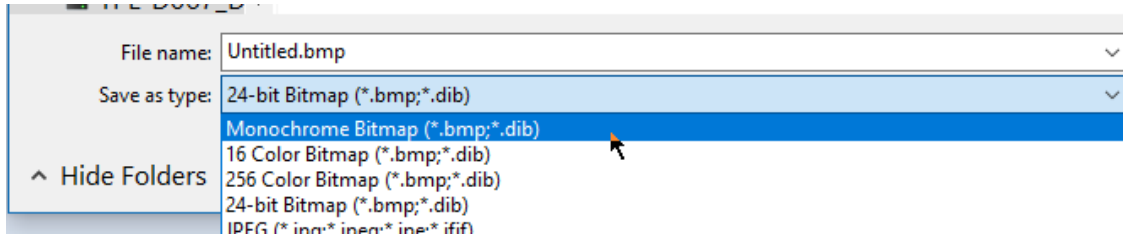


Figure 4-15

4.4.3.5 Object: Barcode

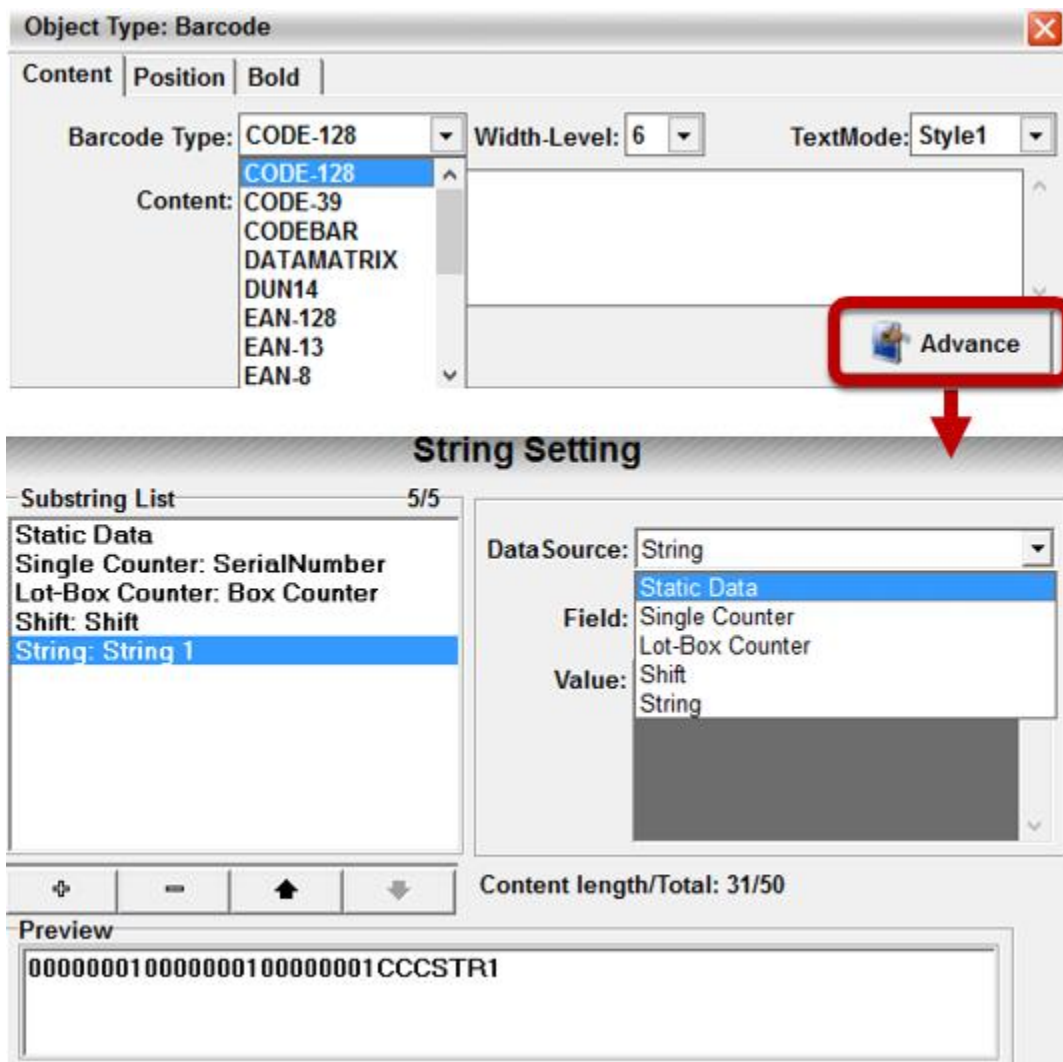


Figure 4-16

4.4.3.6 Object: Shape

The shape object has three types: Rectangle, Circle, and Line.

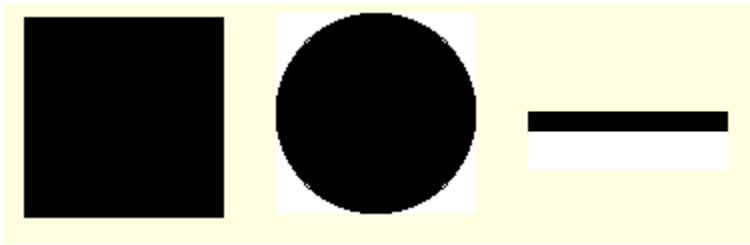


Figure 4-17

Each one of the shape type has different parameters.

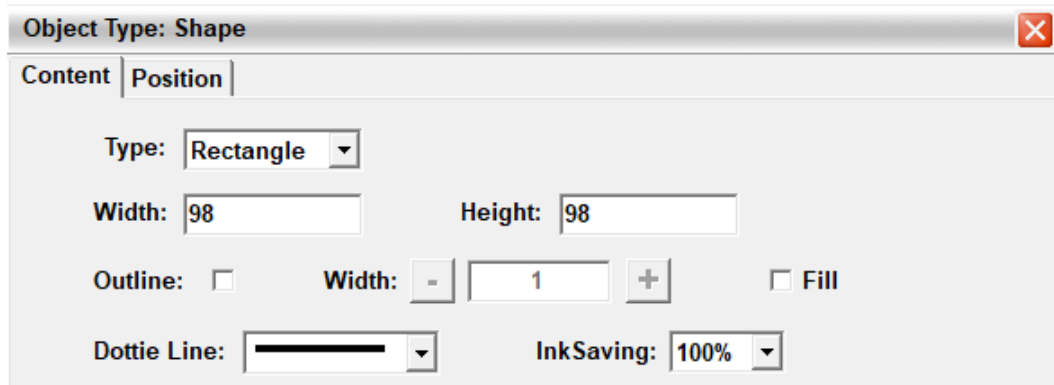


Figure 4-18

4.4.3.7 Object: Variables

There are up to 20 variable templates can be created for variables. The source internal takes variables from one of the variable templates.

The source external will make the variable take reference from external device input such as a barcode scanner or a checkweigher.

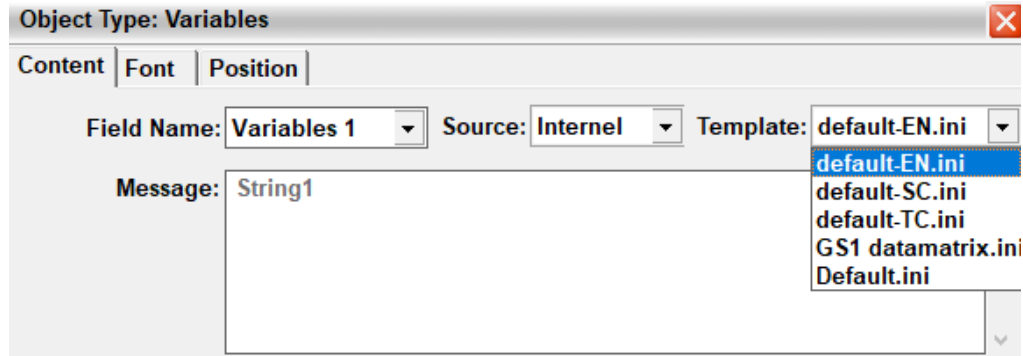


Figure 4-19

4.4.3.8 Object: Shift

The Shift object is a type of dynamic data that will changed according to system time. There are maximum 24 number of shifts available in a shift table. Each shift name can input 20 characters. The maximum number of shift tables within each X1 backup file is 20.

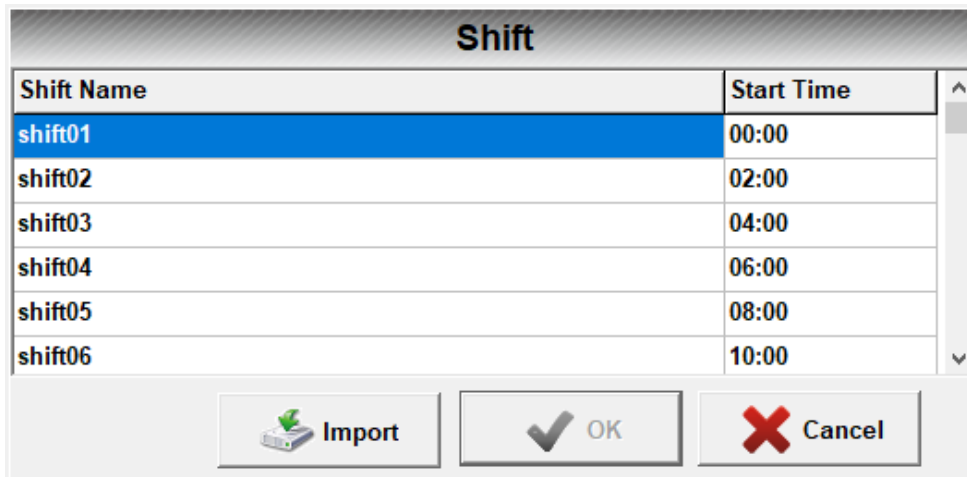


Figure 4-20

The structure of a shift table (.ini format) should be constructed as in below.

```

Default.ini - Notepad
File Edit Format View Help
[Shift]
SHFormatName1=shift01
SHFormatName2=shift02
SHFormatName3=shift03
SHFormatName4=shift04
SHFormatTime1=0000
SHFormatTime2=0600
SHFormatTime3=1200
SHFormatTime4=1800
    
```

Figure 4-21

4.5 Function

4.5.1 Configuration

4.5.1.1 Measurement

Can be select between Metric units (mm) and British units (inch).

4.5.1.2 X1 folder

Select the targeting valid X1 file directory.

4.5.2 Object Templates

Tabs	Description
Text Template	Allows the user to create text objects that contained pre-fixed content.
Date/Time Format Template	Allows the user to create custom template formats for date and time objects.
Counter Template	Allows the user to create templates for counter objects.

Variable Template

Allows the users to create a table of variable objects containing pre-defined content. Can be used to store data sent by external devices.

Shift Template

Allows the user to create a table of work shifts for different operators and hour periods.

Format Preference Template

Customize the name of the months used in production and expiry date objects.

4.6 Files Management (PC-Tools)

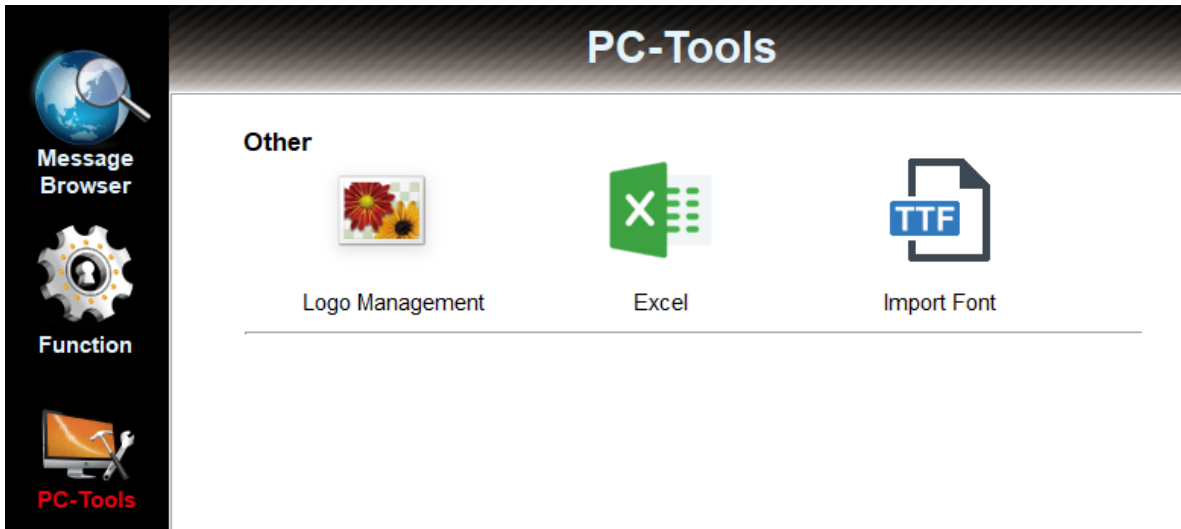


Figure 4-22

4.6.1 Image

Images can be imported as monochrome .bmp format. The printing heights in corresponding to pixels are as the following.

Message Height	Image Vertical Size	Print Station Type
12.7 mm	150 pixels	Half inch single
24.75 mm	292 pixels	One inch single
25.4 mm	300 pixels	Half inch stitch
48.7 mm	575 pixels	One inch stitch

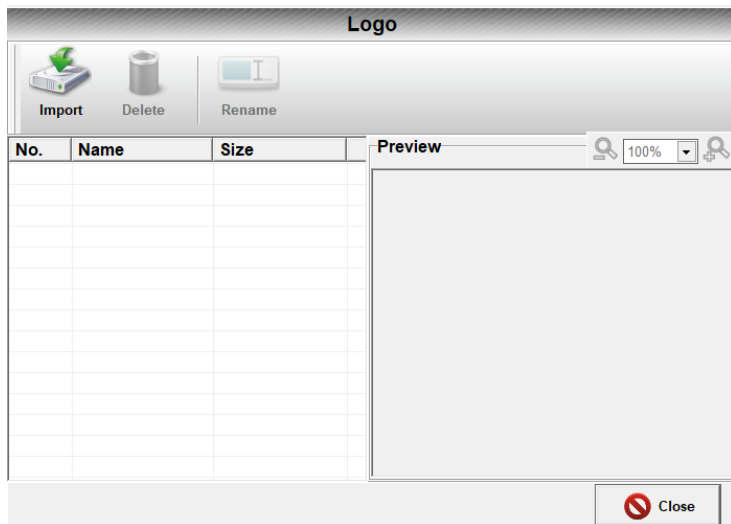


Figure 4-23

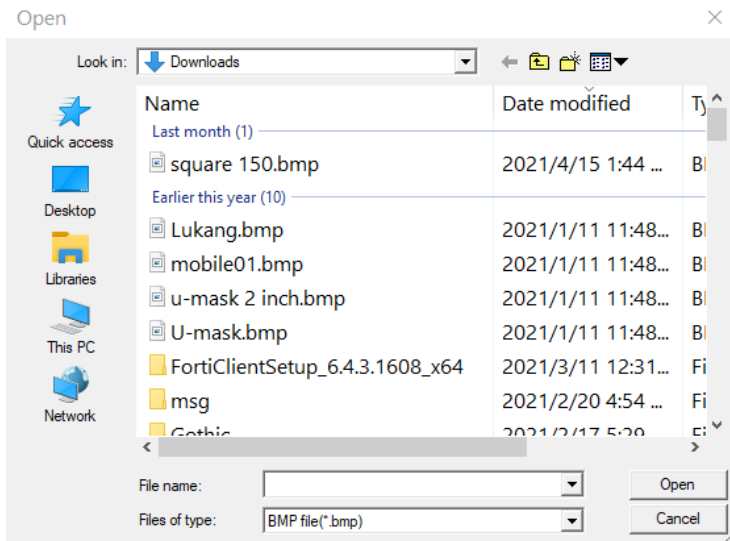


Figure 4-24

4.6.2 Excel/CSV

The X1 printer can take external data source as variables. The supported data formats are excel files in xlsx or csv format, or txt files. The limitation of the data being used is 70,000 rows with all 20 variables being used, which is $20 \times 70,000 = 1,400,000$ cells of data.

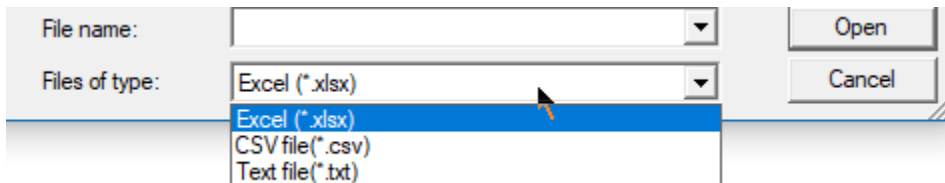


Figure 4-25

The data content for txt file format should look like in below. Use comma as separator of different variables, and use lines for each data entry.

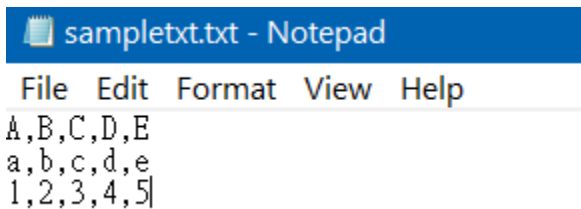


Figure 4-26

The data content for excel or csv format should look like in below. Each column represent one variable, and each row represent one data entry.

	A	B	C	D	E
1	AABBCCD1	1CCDDEE2			
2	AABBCCD2	1CCDDEE3			
3	AABBCCD3	1CCDDEE4			
4	AABBCCD4	1CCDDEE5			
5	AABBCCD5	1CCDDEE6			
6	AABBCCD6	1CCDDEE7			

Figure 4-27

4.6.3 True Type Font

The maximum number of TTF can be imported is 20. Please be aware that fonts are intellectual properties and Anser Coding Inc. does not encourage using unlicensed fonts.

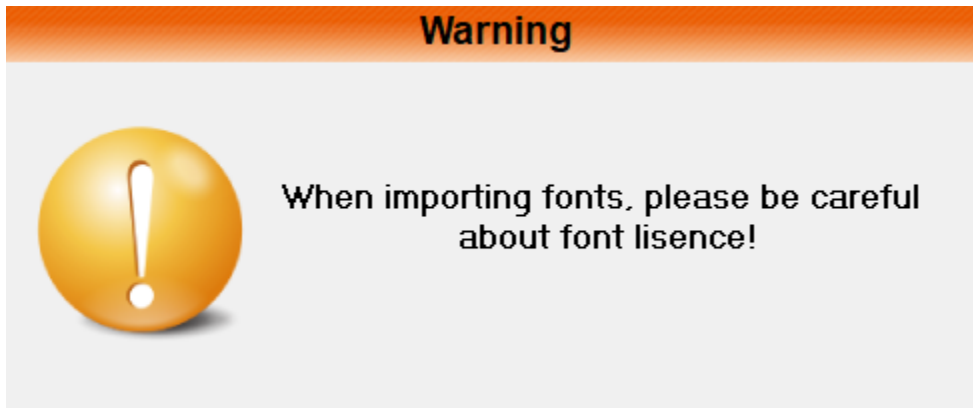
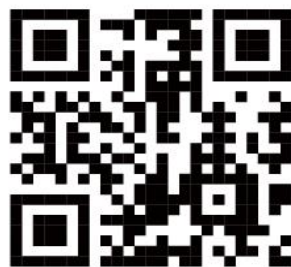


Figure 4-28

A restart of the Message Pro X program is required after new fonts are Imported.



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