

Agilent SLIMS

Feature Highlights for SLIMS 7.2

Rev. 7.20

12/10/2024 Feature Highlights SLIMS 7.2 DE003136 5994-8081EN

Agilent SLIMS 7.0b Feature Highlights



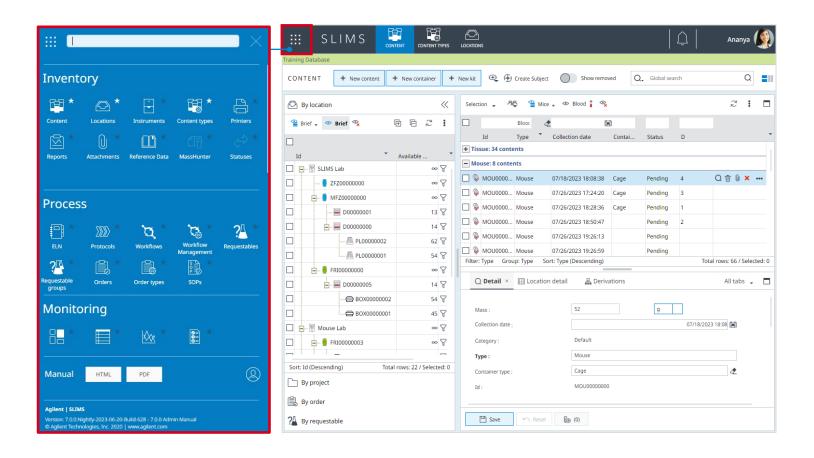
SLIMS User Interface Refactored

The look and feel of SLIMS was updated with this release to fit in with Agilent software visual identity. These changes do not affect behavior, but change the appearance in these main areas:

- Login page, fields, loading screen
- SLIMS main menu
- Top Bar
- Buttons and grids throughout
- All modules









Locations are now Content

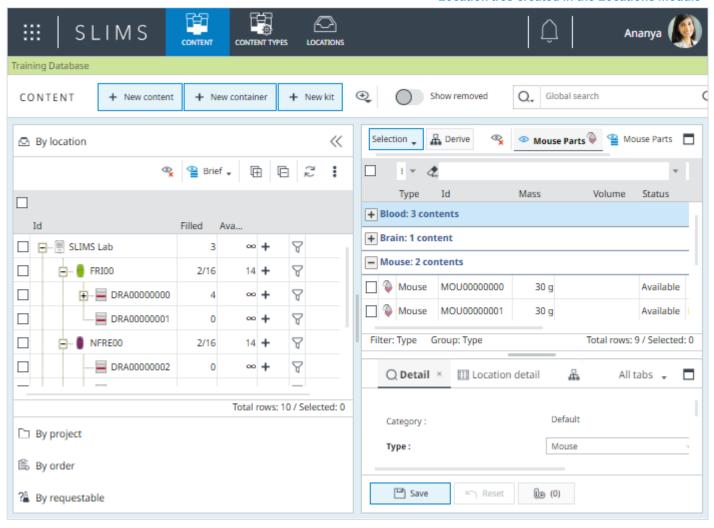
Locations are now defined in the Content Types module. This allows locations to have results and be tracked in workflows and ELN more easily.

There is a Locations category by default that has the "Can be used as a Location" field enabled. This category stores the location content types that were migrated from 6.9.

Locations retain their features including:

- Location tree is organized in the Locations module
- They have a manual or automatically generated barcode
- Defined by an ID and may use the barcode as ID
- Have short id to use in the location path
- Have the chosen number of rows/columns or are positionless
- May have alphabetic or numeric row/column names

Location tree created in the Locations module





Instruments are now Content

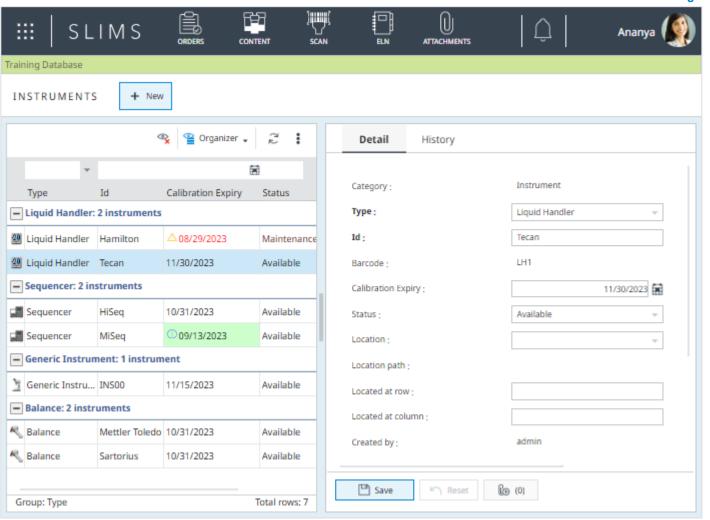
Instruments are now defined in the Content Types module. They take advantage of contents' ability to gather results and be sent to workflows.

There is an Instruments category by default that has the "Can be used as an Instrument" field enabled. This category stores the instrument content types migrated from 6.9.

Instruments retain most of their features including:

- Instruments are created in the Instruments module
- Can be in a location
- Simplified (and Default) protocols can require instruments and have restrictions on instrument content types
- OpenLab CDS and NGS packages were updated to work with these changes
- Calibration is tracked with a calibration expiration date field
- Statuses on the Default Content Status Workflow can be set to disallow linking in a protocol run

Instruments with custom fields for calibration tracking





Simplified Protocols Have Pages

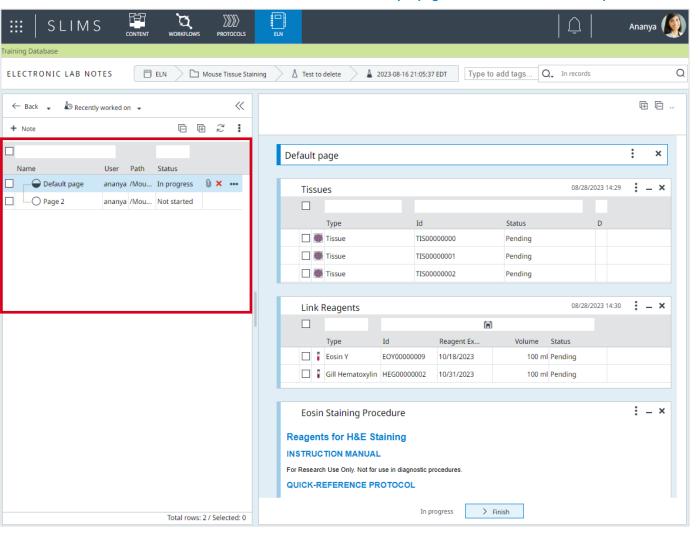
The Simplified Protocols and Protocols modules are consolidated. Both types are now set up in the Protocols module for ELN, or Workflow Management for Workflows.

Simplified protocols have pages like a lab notebook and each page is made of blocks. This makes long protocols easier to organize and use.

There are checks in place to ensure pages are constructed in a logical way. Simplified protocols are the easiest to design and most nimble to use. They retain most of their features:

- Tags (moved to the header)
- Complete blocks or pages out of order (in ELN)
- Add blocks before/between/after other blocks at will unless restricted
- Use a protocol status workflow at the page level to determine status transitions*

Multiple pages shown on the left in an experiment run





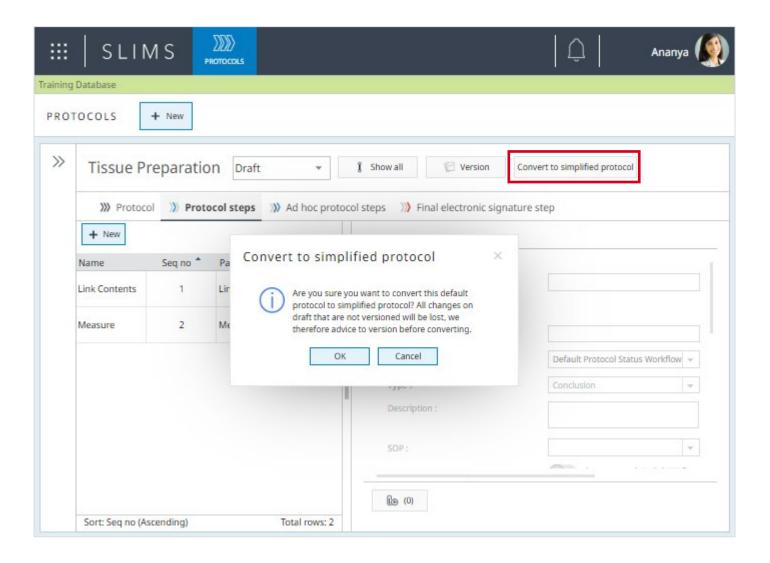
^{*}New feature described on another slide

Default to Simplified Protocol Conversion

Simplified protocols are being improved to replace default protocols across SLIMS. You can now convert default protocols into simplified protocols to take advantage of their easier setup and page style use. Simplified protocols can be reverted back to their default protocol builds for peace of mind. The pre-converted version is copied onto the draft.

SLIMS checks for unsupported situations and warns if the conversion would not be possible.

- Only default protocols can be converted
- Dynamic results cannot be converted
- Link Location or Variant Observation step types cannot be converted
- Protocol step cannot require instruments, add flags, or have mix rules





Protocol Status Workflows

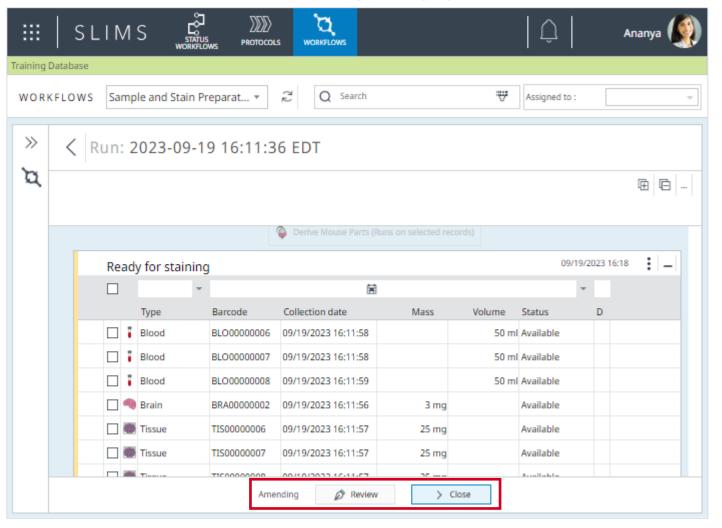
SLIMS 7 comes with a default protocol status workflow that manages the existing Back, Next, and Finish buttons in a workflow or ELN run. This change opens up review status workflow behavior.

Closed runs can be reviewed by turning on the In Review, Amending, and Amending Review statuses.

The statuses appear as buttons in workflow protocol runs and ELN experiment runs. Status transitions can be modified to:

- Provide review and amendment buttons depending on the user's role
- Offer or require comments
- Require e-signature

Page is undergoing amendment and can be reviewed or closed



Multiple Sessions Per User Lab Setting

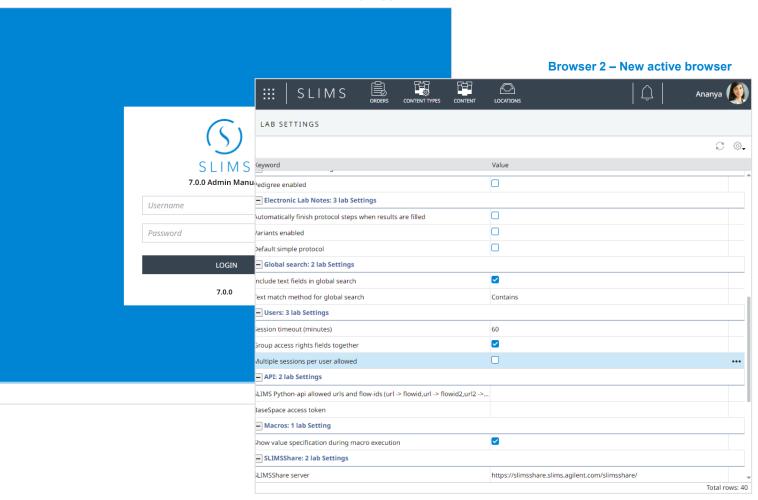
Administrators can choose whether users are allowed to be logged in on multiple devices or browsers at a time or not.

For example, Administrators might want increased security in lab environments with shared equipment.

When the new lab setting "Multiple sessions per user allowed" is:

- Enabled: users can be logged in on multiple browsers or devices at one time
- Disabled: Users are logged out of prior sessions when they log in on a new device or browser

Browser 1 – Automatically logged out

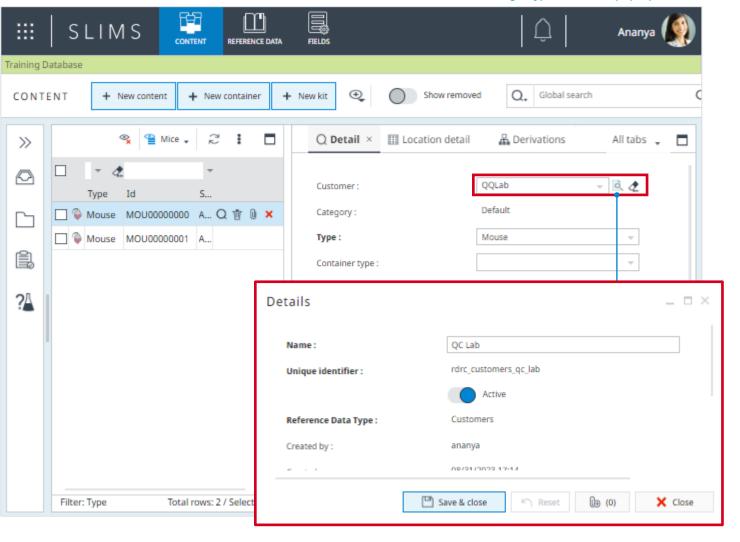




Edit Reference Data Records Inline

Users with the necessary permissions can now edit reference data records inline. This might be desired in case there are typos in reference data record values.

Editing a typo in Details pop-up



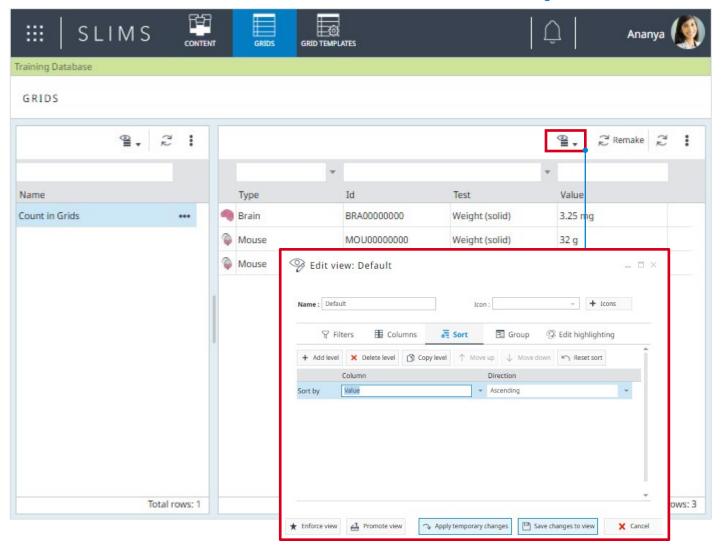


Sorting is Possible on Function Columns

Administrators can add columns to grid templates. Those columns can be used to count values or generate the mean instead of just display the record values.

This change allows columns that use the count or mean functions to be sorted.

Sorting Added to Custom Column



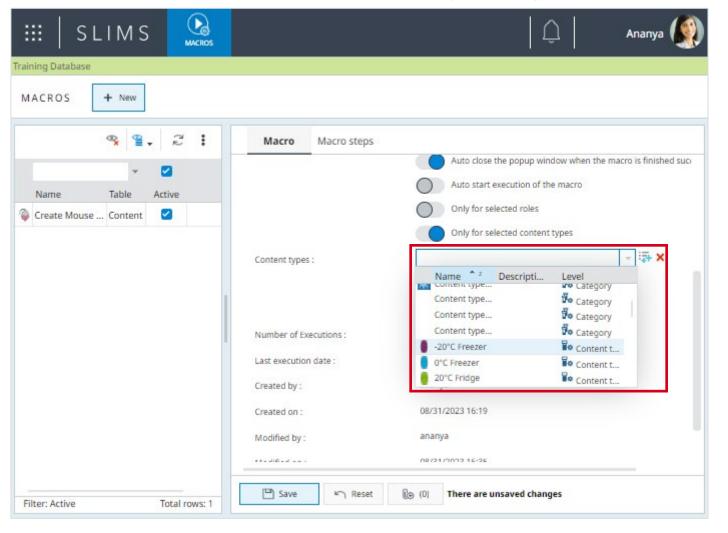


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Restrict Macros by Category

Administrators can restrict macros to certain content types or categories now. The "Only for selected content types" dropdown displays a list of both and indicates what they are.

Content Types and Categories in Restrictions list

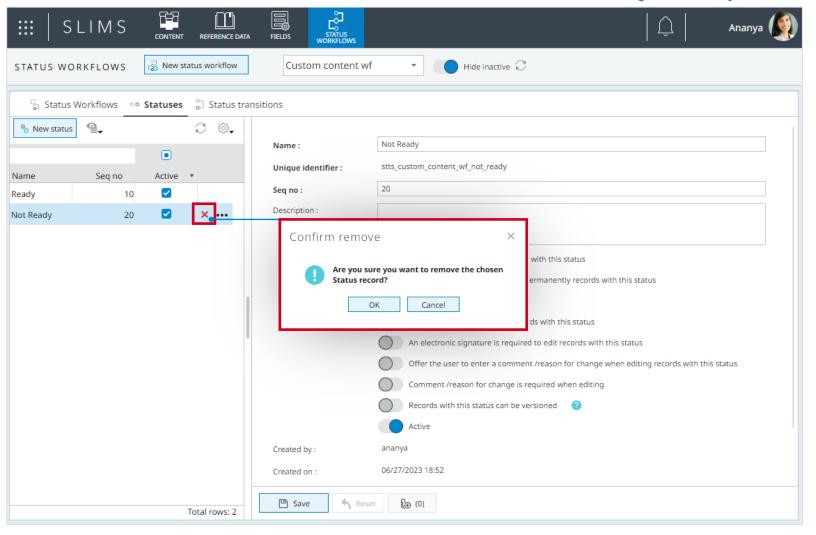




Remove Unused Custom Statuses

Statuses created on custom status workflows can now be permanently removed if they have never been used on a record.

Removing the "Not Ready" Status





Entities in Store Module can be Filtered

In the Store module, a pop-up displays all the entities that are imported with a package. The headers for the grid in the pop-up can now be filtered.

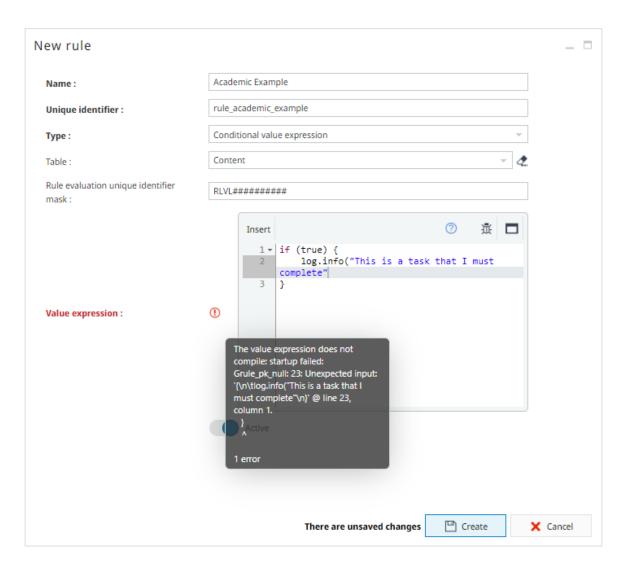
If you plan to partially import a package, this makes it easier to find the entities by name or table and import the ones you select.

No Screenshot Available



Groovy Compiler

Groovy validation attempts to compile Groovy expressions when a field or conditional value expression are saved. This checks the syntax for the most common clerical errors like missing brackets or parentheses. Admins or engineers working on the expression are alerted to simple issues sooner.



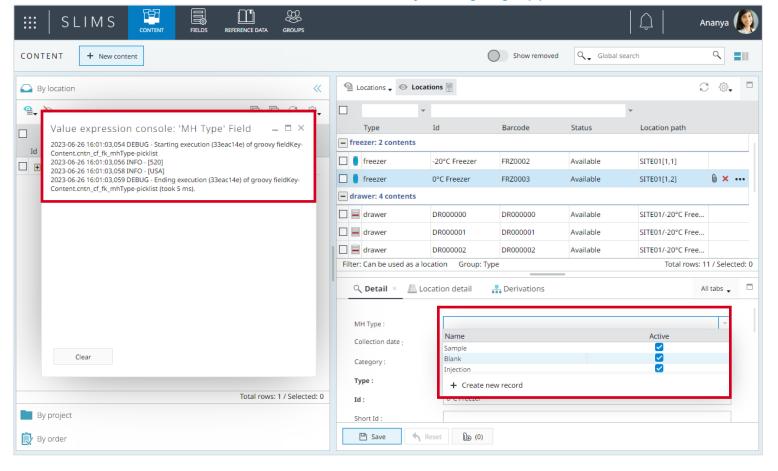


Groovy: Filter by User Rights/Groups

The authenticated User filter can be added to an expression for dynamic choice fields on the content table such as products.

This allows field expressions to be created that filter out the products or field values based on who the user is, and even what group they're in, filtering on either the group name or group pk.

Groovy returning the group pk and name of the current user



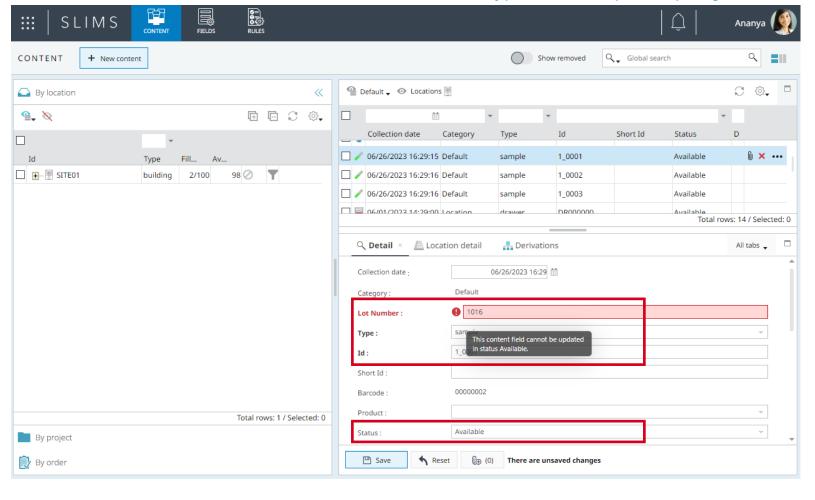


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Groovy: Use differencesMap in Rules

differencesMap is available to be used on conditional value expression rules and status rules. This allows rules to easily check what fields are being updated and to what values.

Groovy provides error that prevents updating lot number





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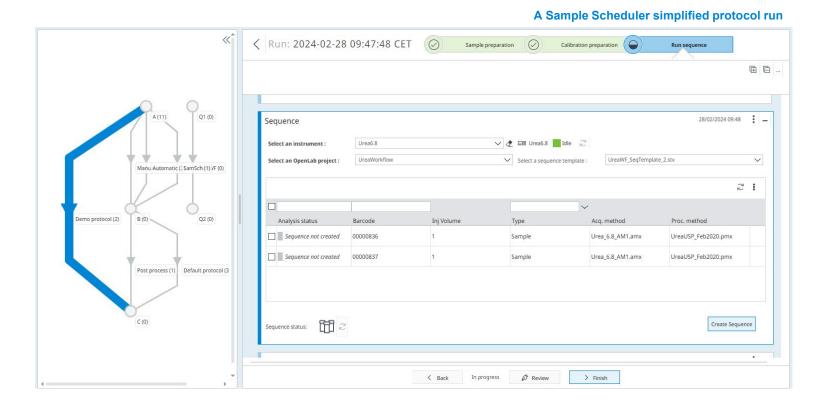
Sample Scheduler in Simplified Protocols

Use Simplified Protocols to connect to Sample Scheduler in a Workflow or ELN. Gain the userfriendly benefits of simplified protocols with two new block types:

- Submit Sample Scheduler Design a grid template to map Sample Scheduler concepts into SLIMS concepts, define the submit status, and offer an optional sequence template.
- Complete Sample Scheduler Sequence Map system suitability samples, blanks, and calibration standards to contents in SLIMS. Assist the user with an auto-complete SLIMS GATE flow

Sample Scheduler default protocols can even be converted to get the streamlined block-style user experience of simplified protocols.

*Requires authentication with OpenLab Shared Services, Sample Scheduler for OpenLab installation, OpenLab CDS installation, and the CDS package via the Package Browser module.





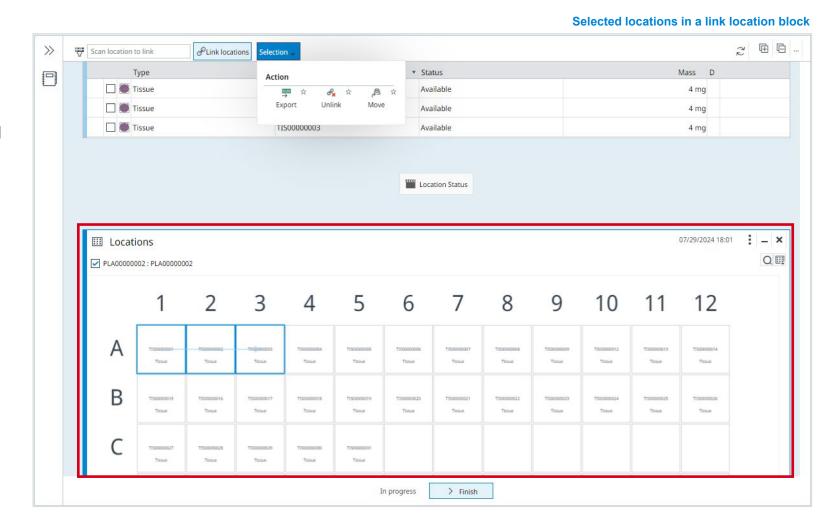
Location Blocks in Simplified Protocols

Link Location blocks are now available in simplified protocols to make it easier to view contents in plates during a run.

Locations can be linked manually by users, but the block can be set up to automatically link the locations for the contents linked to the associated content block.

Location details can be viewed by expanding the linked locations. Users can select one or more locations and perform actions via the selection menu. Selected locations can be unlinked, moved, and exported from the protocol run.

Contents in the location can be selected, and an arrow displays the direction in which the user selected them. Actions from relevant action blocks can be taken on selected contents.

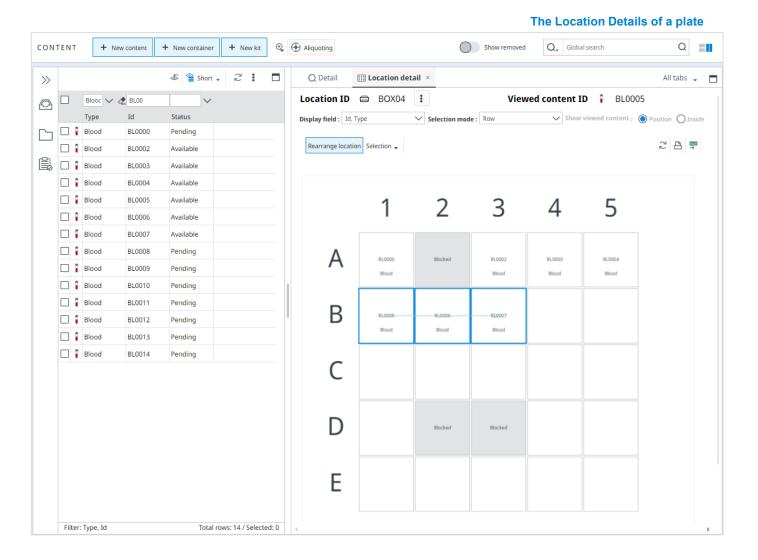




Location Details and Plate Visualization

The grid display on the Location Details tab has been improved to be more readable.

- Grid UI has been refreshed
- Selection mode: Drag to select multiple positions at once. Choose whether to select in a box shape, select by row, or select by column.
- Rearrange mode: Toggle on to drag and drop contents to new positions, or to swap contents with each other in the location.
- Block/unblock positions
- View the contents or locations inside the selected location, or view other contents in the same location as the selected content
- Select single or multiple contents and access actions in the selection menu.
- Refresh the grid, print, or export to Excel



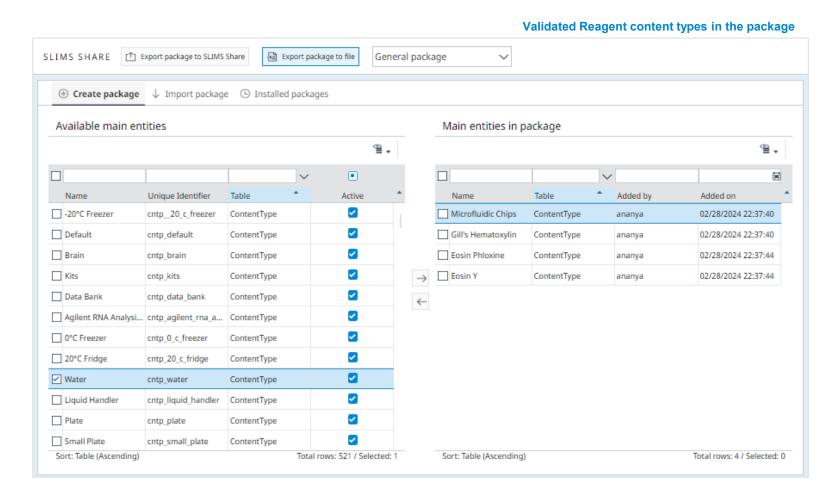
SLIMS Share Redesign

SLIMS Share was redesigned to give super users more insight into the package that synchronizes a validation SLIMS with their production SLIMS.

There is one General package with all the tested main entities in the validation instance. The selected entities persist in the right grid so super users no longer need to create multiple packages.

When exporting the package to synchronize with the production instance, SLIMS validates the entities in the package. The super user is notified of any missing dependencies and can choose what to include or exclude from the package. The result is one package that should be importable on any SLIMS instance.

Ad Hoc packages can be created by expert users who are familiar with main entity dependencies. This allows small out-of-sync packages to be created for one-off changes that need to be in production ahead of time.



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ID of Users is Recorded in Expression Logs

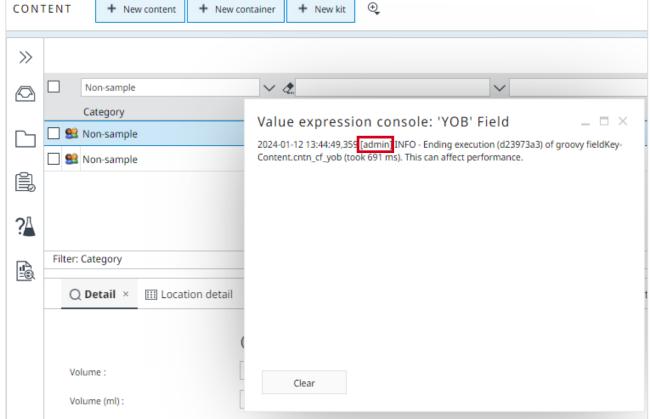
It is easy to tell who initiated an action, like updating sample data that triggers a Groovy expression. Now, the unique identifier of the user who started it in the SLIMS interface is shown in the log.

The user is captured in logs for:

- Groovy executions
- SLIMS GATE Flows

+ New content + New container ⊕_ + New kit

User's UID is now reported in the log



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Macro UI Improvements

The pop-up users see when executing macros was optimized to focus on the most useful information. The UI is simpler, and the position of buttons was adjusted.

The Scan module was also improved to gain the same benefits.

Create all mouse _ = × Show feedb... Executing Create c +1. Create content Amount Amount: Address Location: Specify new location Use previously created location BOX02: 17 Location: scan barcode OR type barcode and press Enter or scan location barcode: Content detail #2. Derive content Continue



Create mouse and derive blood macro in action

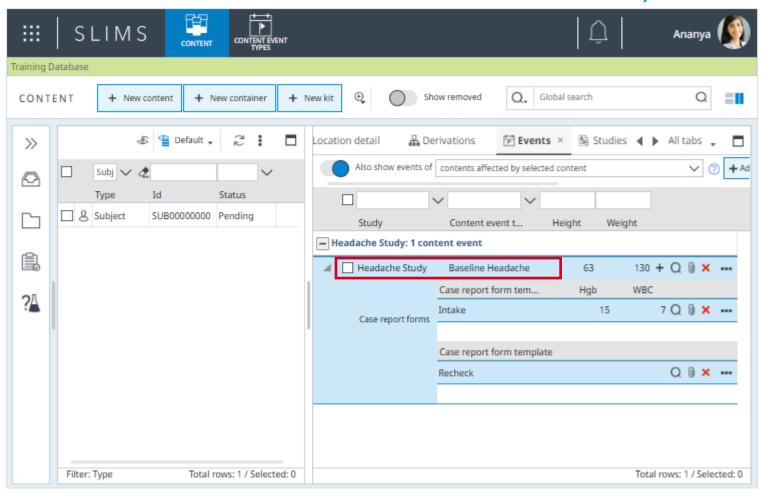
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Restrict Content Events

Content event types and flags can now be restricted by content types and category. This way, events are filtered so only the applicable ones are shown for a content.

For example, only the checks on temperature are present for fridge contents.

Baseline is restricted to Subject contents



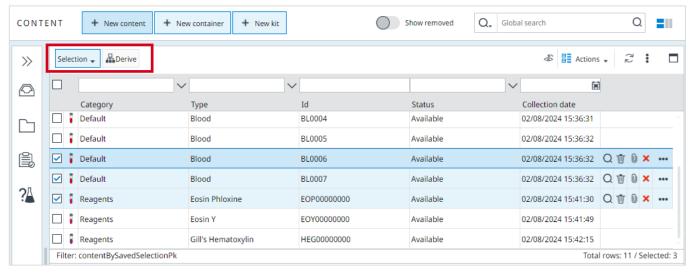


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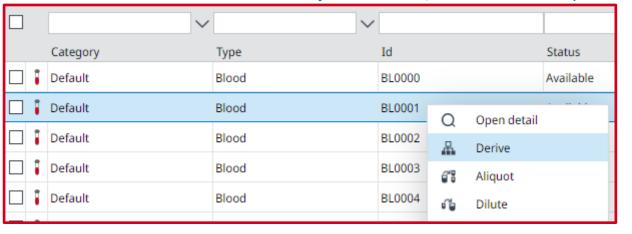
Hide Irrelevant Action Buttons

The actions users can take on contents depends on their content type definition. Actions that aren't possible for a content are hidden / unavailable, so users don't mistakenly try to take an impossible action.

With reagent and blood selected, the only action in common is "Derive"



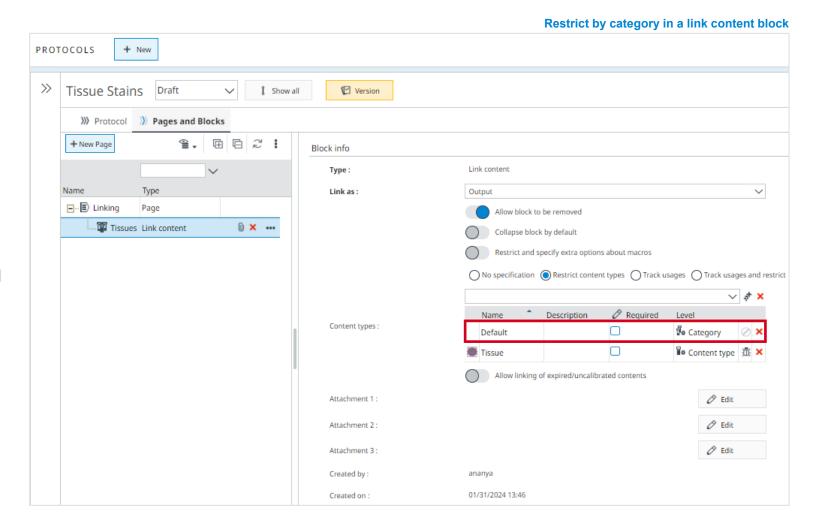
When only blood is selected, all the blood actions are present



Restrict Category in Simplified Protocols

Contents linked to simplified protocols for ELN and workflows can now be restricted by category, not just by content type. Restriction by category combines with other options.

- Refine filter: Also restrict to the content types in the selected category
- Require content: If enabled, at least one content of a type in the category must be linked
- Track usage: Categories with an amount field applied to all their content types can have usage options enabled in the simplified protocol block.



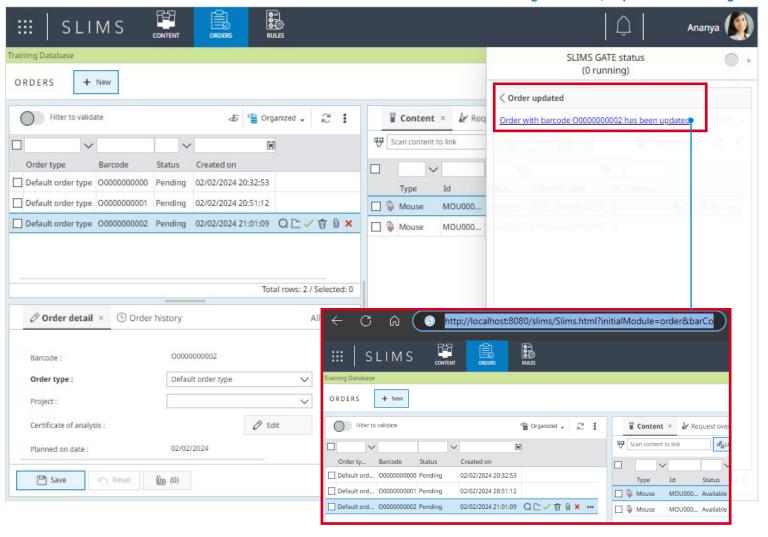


Use UID for URL Links to Records

URL links can be generated to go directly to specific records in SLIMS using their GUID or UID. This allows links to be generated for Orders, Contents, Protocol Runs, or Protocol Run Steps even before a GUID is assigned.

Users can paste the URL into their browser or click on the URL link from an automatically generated email or notification. The link takes them directly to the content, order, protocol run, or protocol run step.

Click link to go to record, or paste it to a colleague





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Additional Fluent Groovy API Functions

The library of API functions was expanded for Fluent Groovy.

- You can start a query from many more tables
- You can use unique identifiers for filtering instead of a pk
- You can filter for a collection of values or UIDs which will be interpreted as a "one of" filter
- Query and Link methods were added for working with versioned records in Draft or Published statuses.

No Screenshot Available



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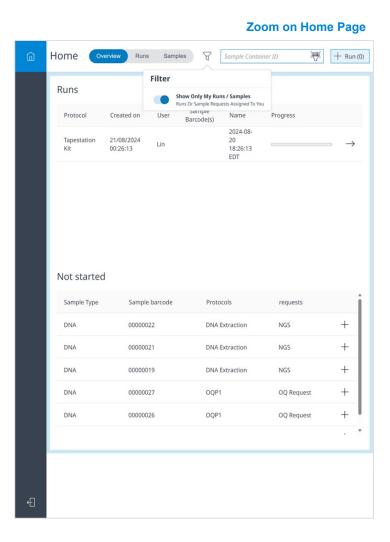
Bench UI for Touch Screens

A web-based interface for the Agilent tablet, Bench UI allows users to run protocols for ELN and workflows on supported touch-screen devices. Tablets can be used to process a subset of protocols at the bench.

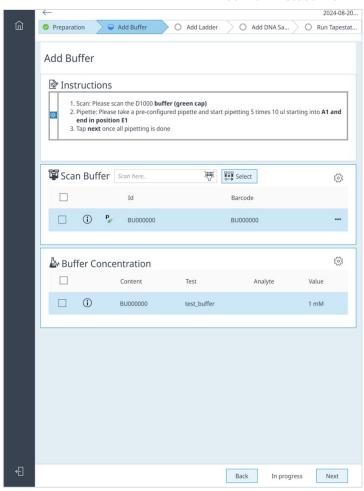
Technicians can use it for day-to-day sample management and protocol executions, and managers can review protocol pages.

All the setup is done in SLIMS beforehand to keep it simple to run for the user. Only simplified protocols are supported, but most of the block types can be used:

- Link Content
- Result
- Attachment
- Note
- **Grid Template**
- Action
- Form
- Custom: Submit Sample Scheduler



Zoom on Protocol Run





Requester Portal for Lab Orders

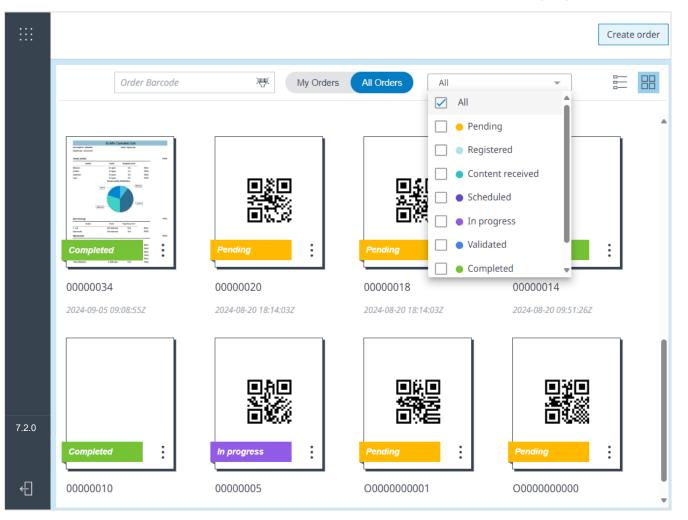
The Requester Portal is an add-on for SLIMS that gives customers a simple interface to create orders for your lab.

User accounts in SLIMS are authenticated to provide the desired level of access. In the portal, customers can:

- Create and edit their orders
- View orders in a tile or list format on the portal's dashboard
- Add samples and sample details to orders
- Add requests to order samples
- Access the finished certificate of analysis

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Requester Portal Landing Page with Filter Open





MassHunter Injection-Based Sample Sheets

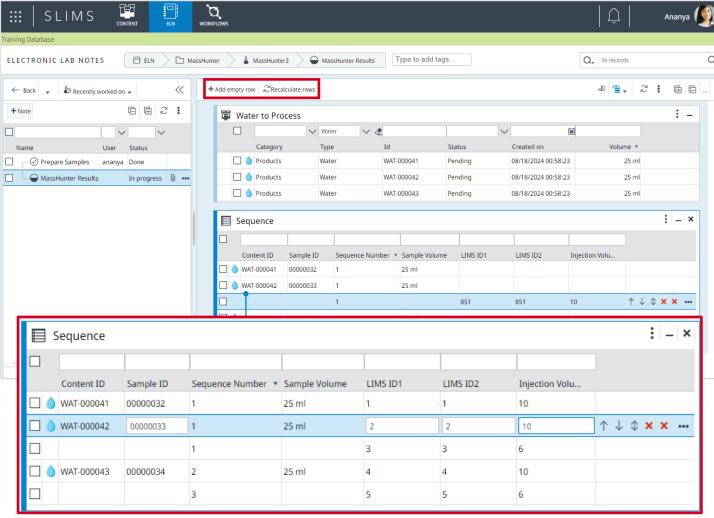
Grid Templates were enhanced so generic sequence templates can be made that work with various MassHunters and other analytical equipment.

Once the grid template is configured according to the instructions, a sample sheet row is added to the Grid block for each content linked to the associated Link Content block.

Not all rows have to be associated to content to collect sample sheet field data. On the right, the Content ID and Sample volume come from content data, but the Sample ID, LIMS IDs, and Injection volume are only stored in the sample sheet.

Sample sheet rows can be reordered, removed, and edited (if the protocol page is in an editable status). Empty rows can be created to collect data about non-sample records like blanks, QC and calibration standards.

Zoom on Grid Template used as Sequence



SLIMS Share Import Visibility

SLIMS Share is more informative about the changes that will occur when a package is imported.

Exporting a package:

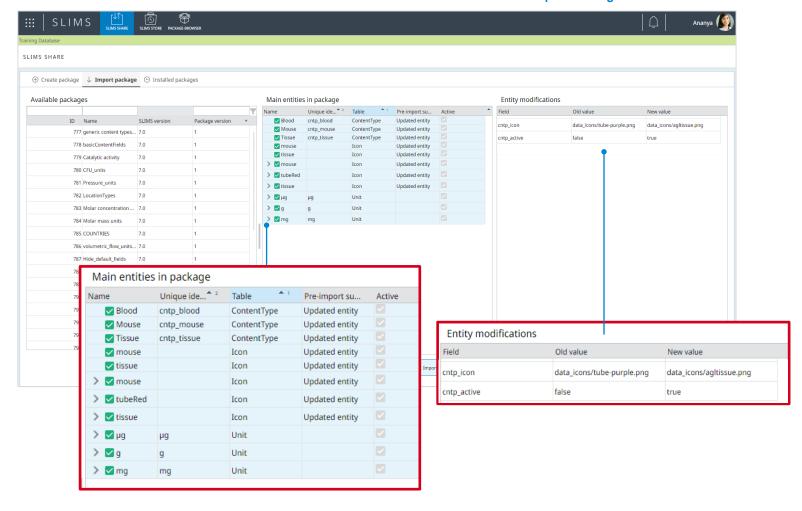
A pop-up identifies missing entities and whether they are required or optional. Super users can make a more informed decision about what to bring and what to leave out.

Importing a package:

All SLIMS Store packages for your SLIMS version are handy without switching modules. The screen was repurposed to show the entity tree with what entities in the package are new and which will update existing entities in the instance. Clicking on an entity shows what will change to make validation easier.

Installing a package from SLIMS Store now takes the super user to the Share module to benefit from the same level of scrutiny before import.

Zoom on Import Package tab in SLIMS Share

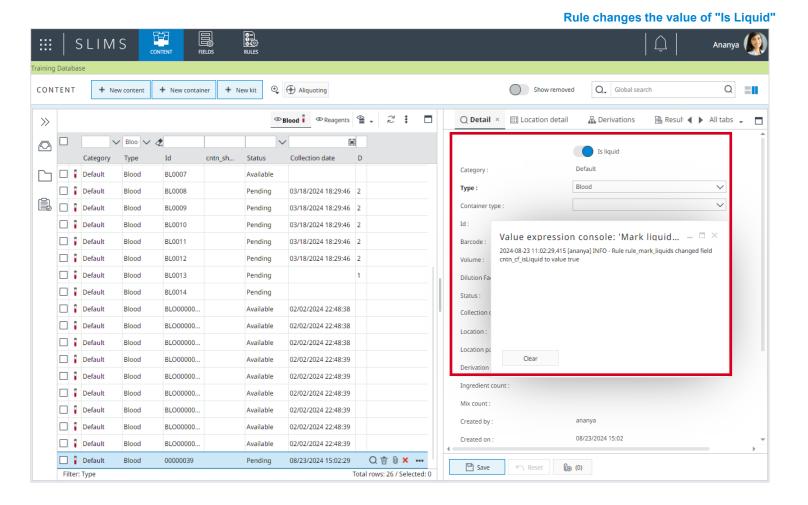


Rule Expansion to Enable Data Edition

Groovy expressions are being centralized into rules to minimize the need for managing value expressions across several SLIMS modules. Therefore, rule design has been updated to allow conditional value expression rules to modify data for records on which they're triggered.

Rules can now be:

- Described with the description field
- Restricted to fire on certain records (See Quality of Life slide "Restrict Record Types for Rule Executions")
- Developed so their actions are different when triggered by a content-related macro step
- Given a sequence number to define the order in which they fire
- Given a timing
- Given permission to execute on creation, update, and/or removal of records.

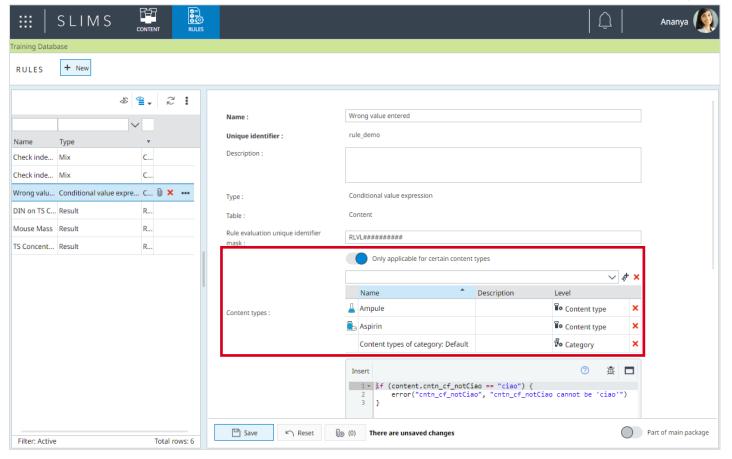




Restrict Record Types for Rule Executions

Conditional value expression rules can now be designed to run only on certain categories, content types, order types, content event types, etc. Choosing the type narrows the scope of a rule so it only impacts the relevant records.

A rule restricted to some content types





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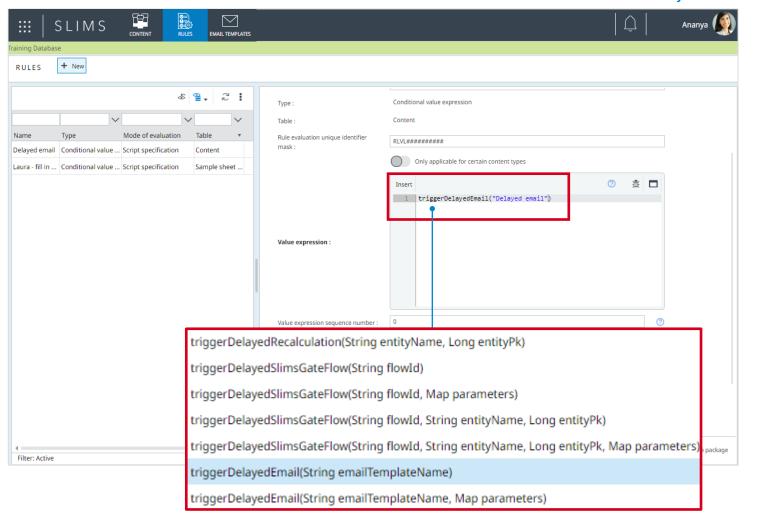
Send Delayed Emails with Rules

Emails can be sent instantly to notify users about a change. However, delayed emails can now be sent with conditional value expression rules to wait until a whole transaction is finished before sending the email.

Delaying the email means if anything happens during the transaction that should prevent the email from sending, it is not sent.

Additional methods were added to get paths to records. See the Technical Release Notes for details.

New methods to delay emails



Scan to Run Macros in Action Blocks

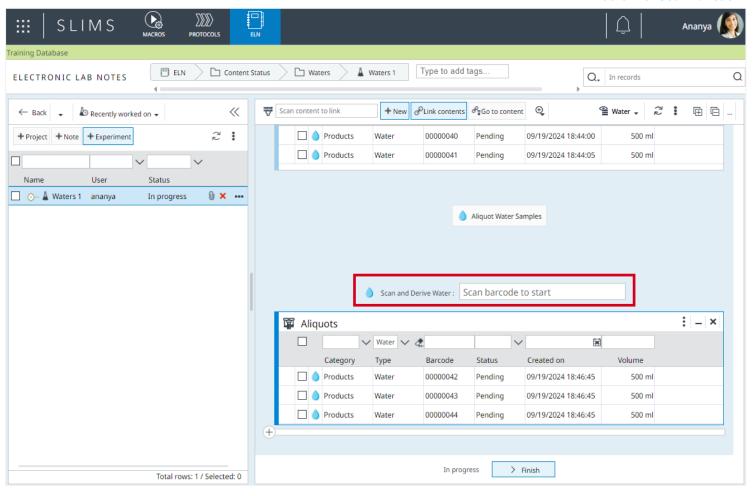
Macros that need an input to perform an action, like derive and aliquot, now have three options for selecting the input.

All means the macro takes everything from the input block.

Selected Samples requires the user to choose samples in the input block that the macro will act on.

Scan provides a barcode scanning box so the user can scan or type barcodes to select records. If the scanned samples aren't in the protocol yet, they are linked to the input block, and the records derived from the macro actions are linked to the output block.

Macro with Scan Function



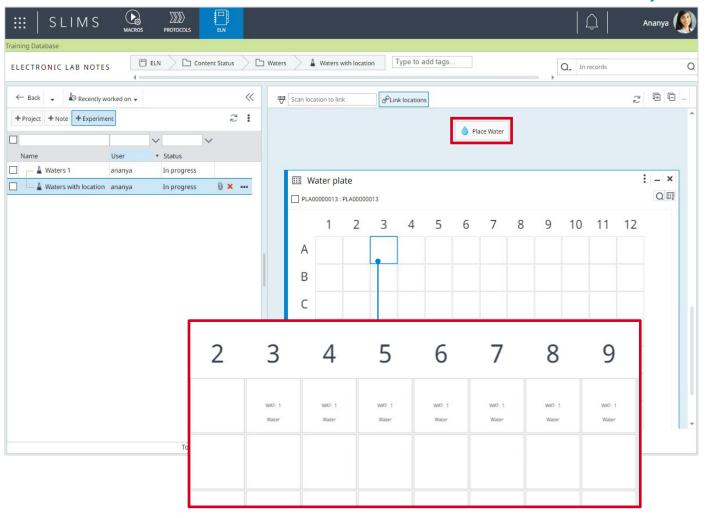


Macro can Position Content in Link Location Block

Macros can be used in Simplified Protocols to let the user position content in a location by selection.

The user chooses a position in the location (a well in the plate) and runs the macro. The input contents are processed, and the output begins filling the location from the start point selected by the user.

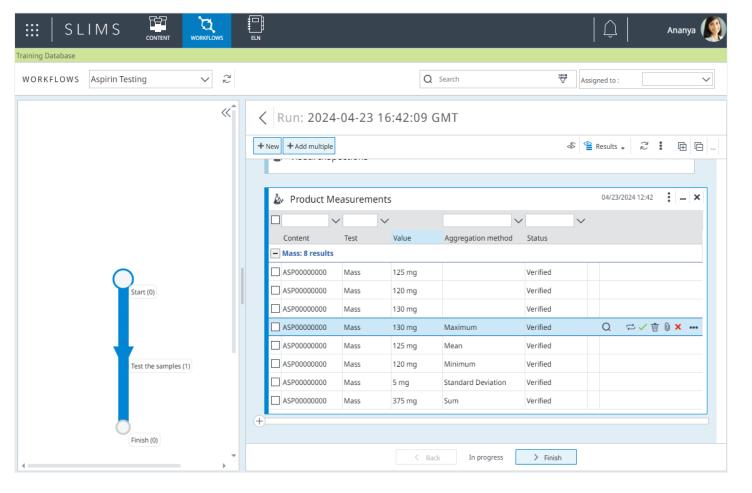
Macro run on Position 3A Filled by Row



Aggregated Results Evaluate After Contributing Results

Users only need to electronically sign once when filling all the results that make up an aggregated result. The status of the aggregated result gets updated once all its contributing results are entered, and any rule errors are provided.

Zoom on Aggregated Results



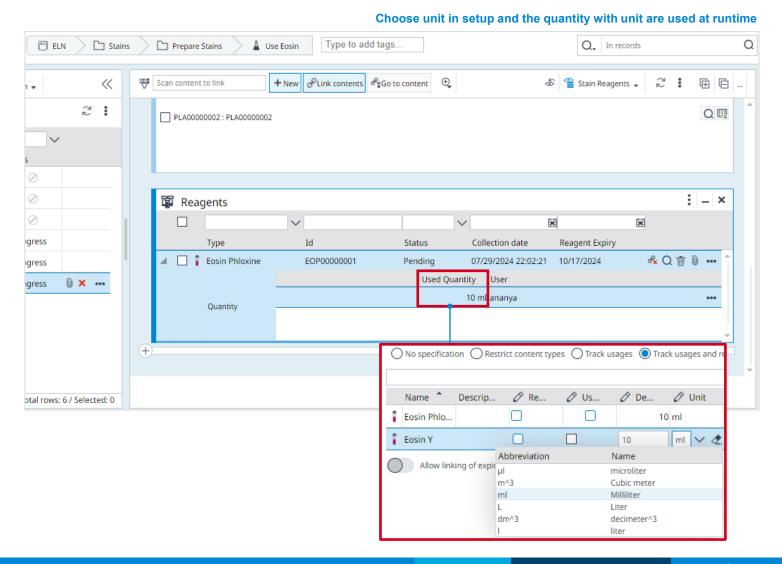


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Default Choice of Unit in Simplified Protocols

Link Content blocks that track a content's usage now respect quantity fields with "Choice of unit" enabled. Administrators can choose the default unit for the quantity which makes it easier to create quantity fields and use fewer of them.

Since the unit is predefined for the user, they can't change it during the protocol run.



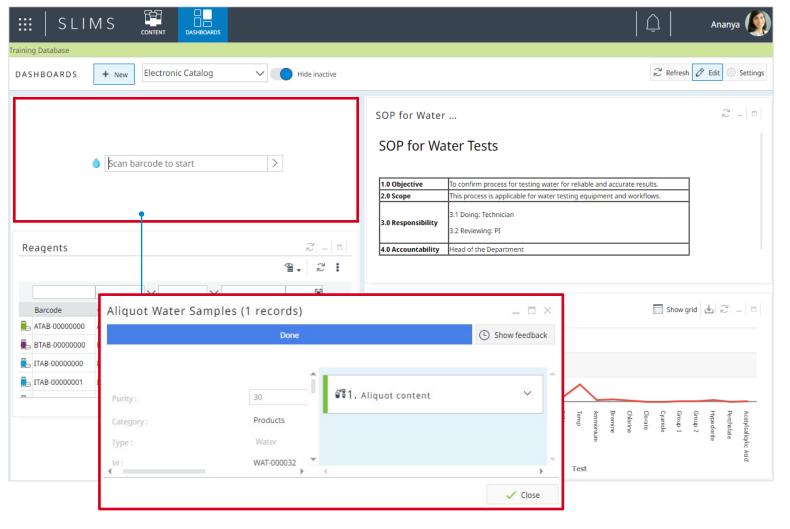


More Macros Available in Dashboards

Macros that require input can now be used in Dashboards, not just creation macros.

The user has an input field to scan or input a barcode. When they do, the macro runs on the record.

Scan a barcode to run the macro

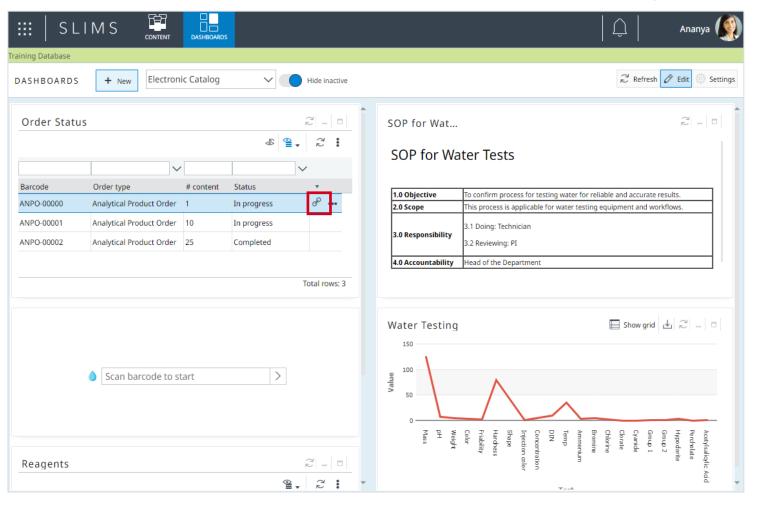




"Link to Order" Action for Dashboard Grids

An icon can be added as a column in order grids for dashboards. When the user clicks the icon, they're taken to the order in the Orders module.

Link to go to the order



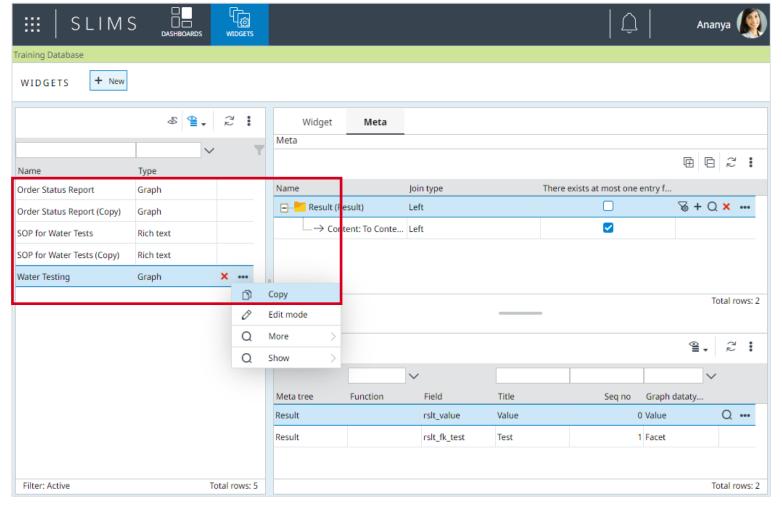


Widgets can be Copied

Graph and rich text widgets can be copied to make the design process faster.

Just supply a new name and the meta tree and columns or the text in the rich text box will be copied into a new widget design.

Zoom on copied widgets

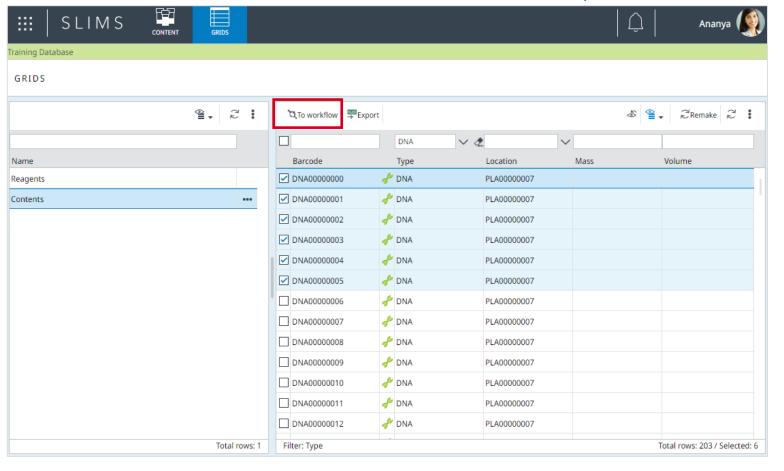




"To Workflow" Action Available on Grids

In the Grids module, users with the right permission can use the "To workflow" action on content grids. The action is available after selecting one or more content.

Select multiple content and use the action



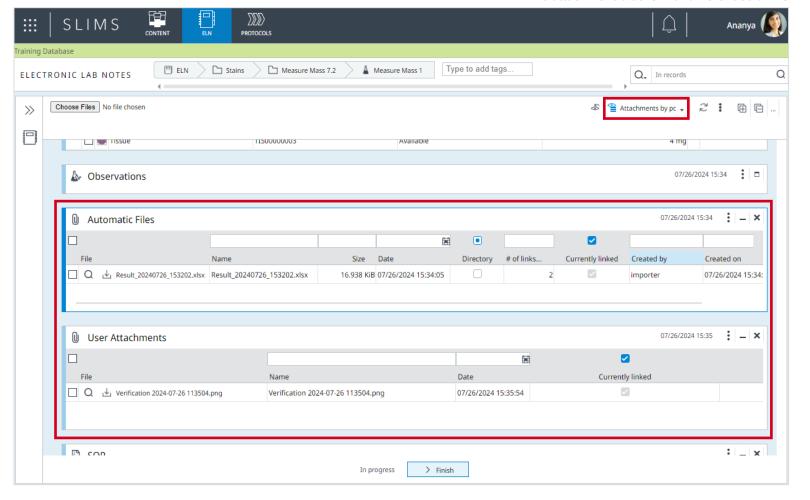


Views Added to Attachment Blocks

Attachment blocks can now use views to arrange the columns and filter custom fields displayed in the block.

This change supports labs who want a different display of attachment data in different blocks. For example, attachment blocks for users versus attachment blocks that lab equipment uploads files to.

Two attachment blocks with different columns





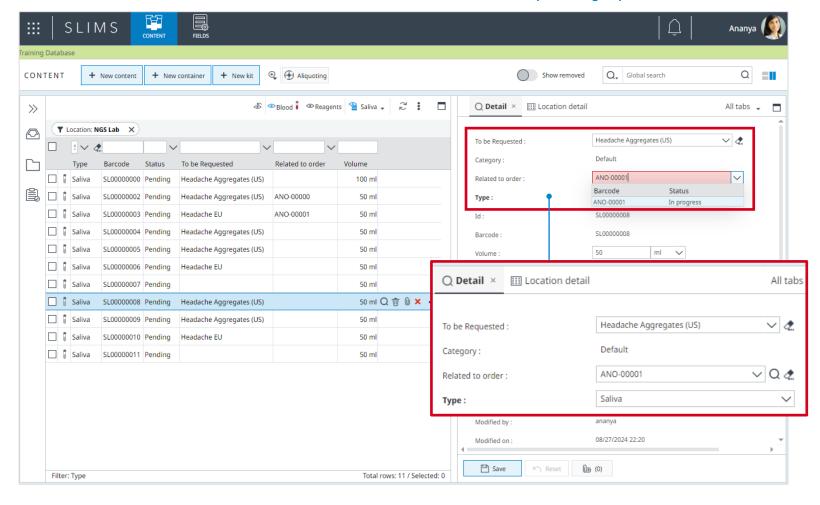
Feature Highlights SLIMS 7.2

Dynamic Choice Field Enhancements

Dynamic choice fields can be set up with selection options for more tables. Barcode fields and unique identifiers can be entered or scanned to select records in a field, and requestable groups can be a target of the field.

This can be used to scan content or orders into fields with a barcode scanner and scan instrument barcodes into a protocol run.

Requestable group and order can be selected



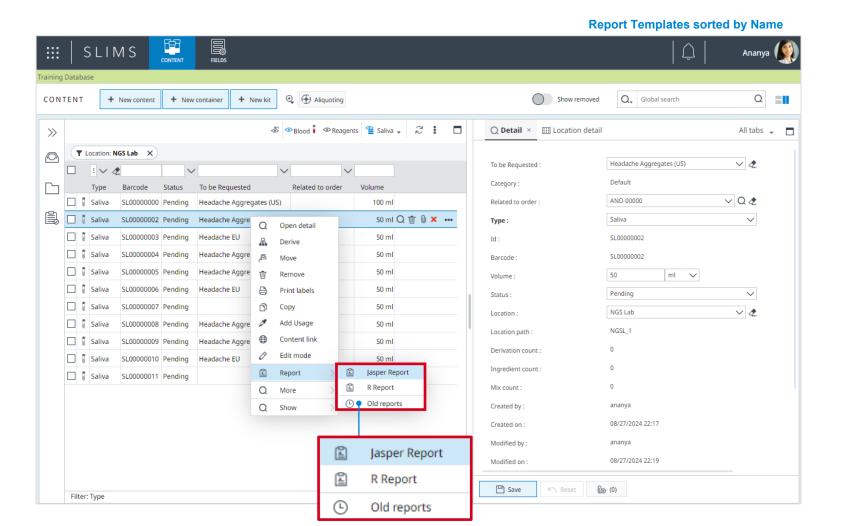


Sort Versionable Records Alphabetically

Records that are versioned show up in lists in several modules. In these lists, the records are now sorted alphabetically by name (and then version) to make them easier to find and select.

The lists are in modules:

- Orders: **Products** in Specifications to be Checked dropdown
- Stability Studies: Stability Study Templates
- Anywhere reports are generated: Report Templates in Report dropdown



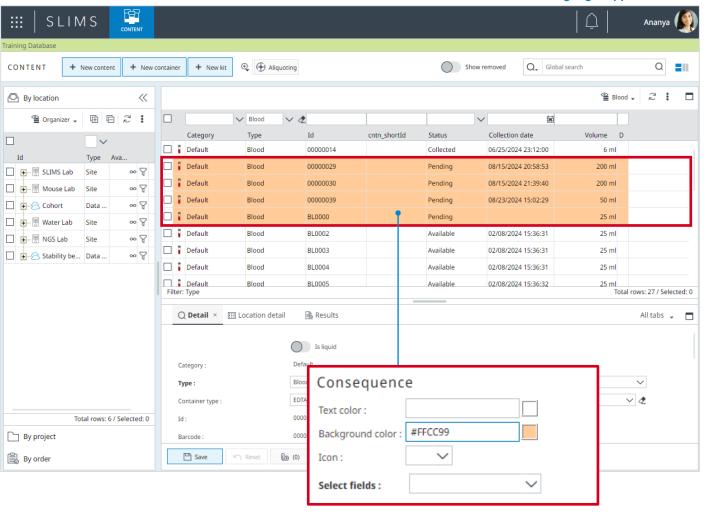


Apply View Highlight to Rows

You can now apply Advanced Highlights to a whole row instead of needing to select specific fields.

If you select the fields, the highlighting will be applied to just those fields. If you leave "Select Fields" empty, then the highlight will apply to the whole grid row instead.

View highlight applied to rows





Customization Support

The library of API functions was expanded for Fluent Groovy.

- You can get records via access rights
- You can get records via workflow protocol links
- Groovy expressions can be informed about macros that impact how they are executed.
- Complex filter operators for slimsgate.xml are now supported

More details are provided in the Technical Release Notes.

No Screenshot Available



DE003136



Trusted Answers