



# FlexMail 4

## Overview



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# **Flex**Mail Introduction

## General

- FlexMail is a software program developed to meet the requirements of users who need to print variable data, from direct mail to product labels.
- FlexMail offers an extensive range of postal features to prepare mailing lists and design postal items.
- The combination of FlexMail and the integrated Printer Modules or Printer Drivers developed by Flex Systems helps to get the most out of the supported printers.



# **FlexMail Introduction**

## **Editions and Modules**

### **FlexMail 4.0 Editions**

- A Basic edition for users that have basic variable printing needs.
- An Advanced edition for users that require data management and data cleansing functionality and advanced design features.
- A Professional edition for users working with mail tables and environments that require extensive printer support and interfacing (e.g. read and print, print and verify).

### **Additional postal modules**

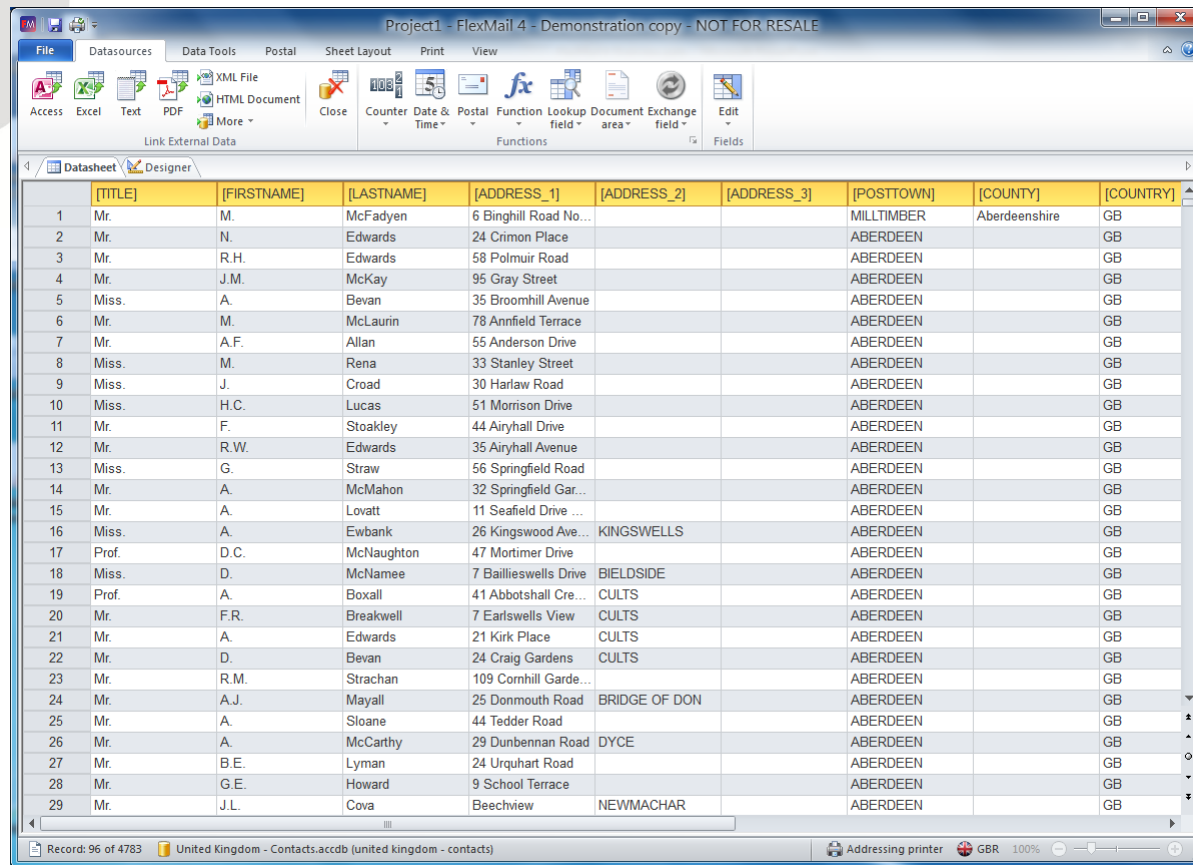
- Address Validation UK.
- Royal Mail Presort.

### **Additional printer modules**

- Print Pro I: supporting Inc.Jet, XiJet HP and LX, Lexmark Mustang and Palomino.
- Print Pro II: supporting XiJet KM4, TTP Meteor.

# FlexMail Data Preparation Datasheet

Link to any type of database and prepare, select and sort the data for a project simply and rapidly.



The screenshot displays the FlexMail 4 Datasheet Designer interface. The window title is "Project1 - FlexMail 4 - Demonstration copy - NOT FOR RESALE". The interface includes a menu bar (File, Datasources, Data Tools, Postal, Sheet Layout, Print, View) and a toolbar with various icons for file operations, linking external data, and editing. The main area shows a table with the following columns: [TITLE], [FIRSTNAME], [LASTNAME], [ADDRESS\_1], [ADDRESS\_2], [ADDRESS\_3], [POSTTOWN], [COUNTY], and [COUNTRY]. The table contains 29 rows of contact data, including names like Mr. M. McFadyen and Miss. A. Bevan, with addresses in Aberdeenshire and other areas like Kingswells and Cults. The status bar at the bottom indicates "Record: 96 of 4783" and "United Kingdom - Contacts.acddb (united kingdom - contacts)".

	[TITLE]	[FIRSTNAME]	[LASTNAME]	[ADDRESS_1]	[ADDRESS_2]	[ADDRESS_3]	[POSTTOWN]	[COUNTY]	[COUNTRY]
1	Mr.	M.	McFadyen	6 Binghill Road No...			MILLTIMBER	Aberdeenshire	GB
2	Mr.	N.	Edwards	24 Crimon Place			ABERDEEN		GB
3	Mr.	R.H.	Edwards	58 Polmuir Road			ABERDEEN		GB
4	Mr.	J.M.	McKay	95 Gray Street			ABERDEEN		GB
5	Miss.	A.	Bevan	35 Broomhill Avenue			ABERDEEN		GB
6	Mr.	M.	McLaurin	78 Annfield Terrace			ABERDEEN		GB
7	Mr.	A.F.	Allan	55 Anderson Drive			ABERDEEN		GB
8	Miss.	M.	Rena	33 Stanley Street			ABERDEEN		GB
9	Miss.	J.	Crood	30 Harlaw Road			ABERDEEN		GB
10	Miss.	H.C.	Lucas	51 Morrison Drive			ABERDEEN		GB
11	Mr.	F.	Stoakley	44 Airyhall Drive			ABERDEEN		GB
12	Mr.	R.W.	Edwards	35 Airyhall Avenue			ABERDEEN		GB
13	Miss.	G.	Straw	56 Springfield Road			ABERDEEN		GB
14	Mr.	A.	McMahon	32 Springfield Gar...			ABERDEEN		GB
15	Mr.	A.	Lovatt	11 Seafield Drive ...			ABERDEEN		GB
16	Miss.	A.	Ewbank	26 Kingswood Ave...	KINGSWELLS		ABERDEEN		GB
17	Prof.	D.C.	McNaughton	47 Mortimer Drive			ABERDEEN		GB
18	Miss.	D.	McNamee	7 Baillieswells Drive	BIELDSIDE		ABERDEEN		GB
19	Prof.	A.	Boxall	41 Abbotshall Cre...	CULTS		ABERDEEN		GB
20	Mr.	F.R.	Breakwell	7 Earlswells View	CULTS		ABERDEEN		GB
21	Mr.	A.	Edwards	21 Kirk Place	CULTS		ABERDEEN		GB
22	Mr.	D.	Bevan	24 Craig Gardens	CULTS		ABERDEEN		GB
23	Mr.	R.M.	Strachan	109 Cornhill Garde...			ABERDEEN		GB
24	Mr.	A.J.	Mayall	25 Donmouth Road	BRIDGE OF DON		ABERDEEN		GB
25	Mr.	A.	Sloane	44 Tedder Road			ABERDEEN		GB
26	Mr.	A.	McCarthy	29 Dunbennan Road	DYCE		ABERDEEN		GB
27	Mr.	B.E.	Lyman	24 Urquhart Road			ABERDEEN		GB
28	Mr.	G.E.	Howard	9 School Terrace			ABERDEEN		GB
29	Mr.	J.L.	Cova	Beechview	NEWMACHAR		ABERDEEN		GB

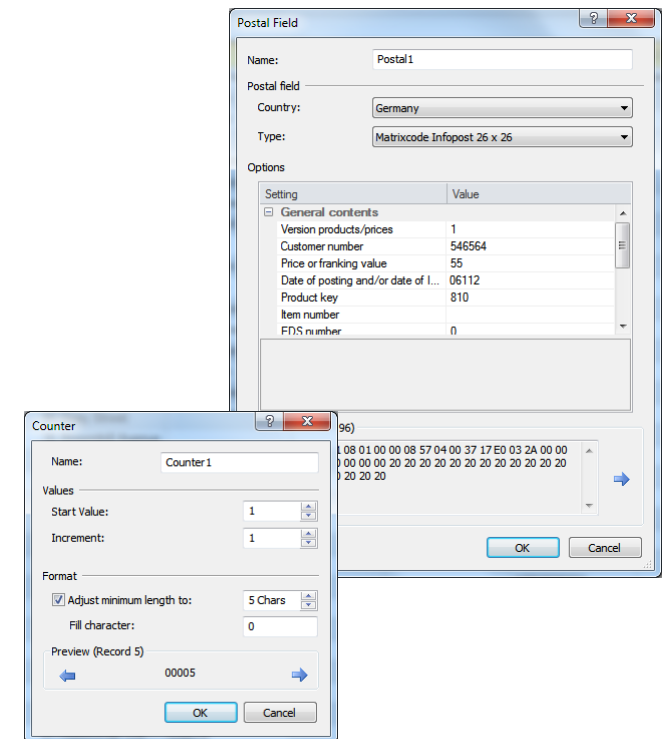
# FlexMail Data Preparation Datasources

## Databases

- Link direct to all industry format databases.
- Use Wizards to link to tekst and Excel files.
- Open PDF-files in the FlexMail Advanced version.

## Additional datasources

- Counters for (sequential) numbering.
- Date/time fields in any format.
- Dynamic fields based on Visual Basic macros.
- Look-up fields to link to other databases or translate codes to text or filenames.
- Postal functions to easily generate contents of indicia and postal barcodes.



# FlexMail Data Preparation

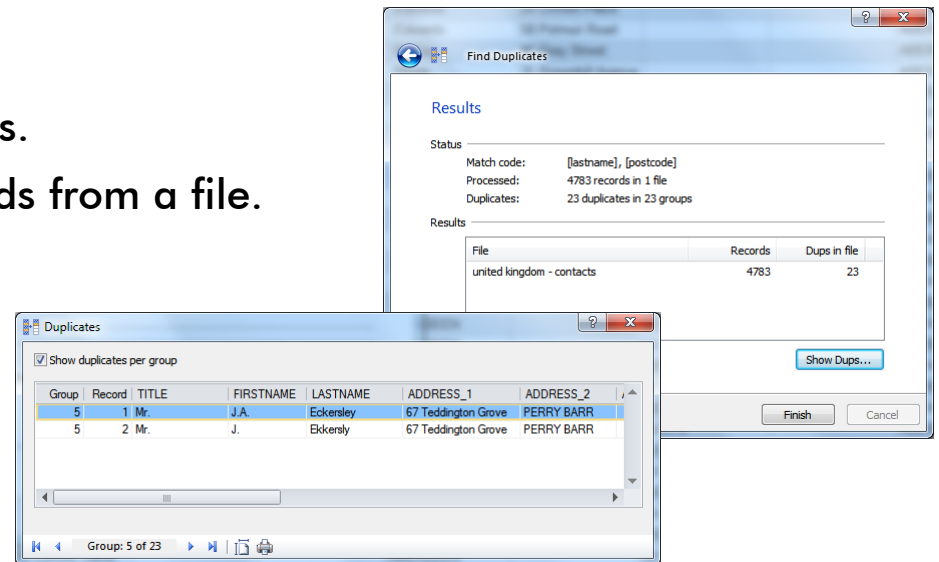
## Data tools

### Selecting and Sorting

- Easy to use filter and sort functions.
- Build filters and sorts by selecting fields on screen or by filling out dialogs.
- Save selections and sort order as queries that can be recalled at any time.

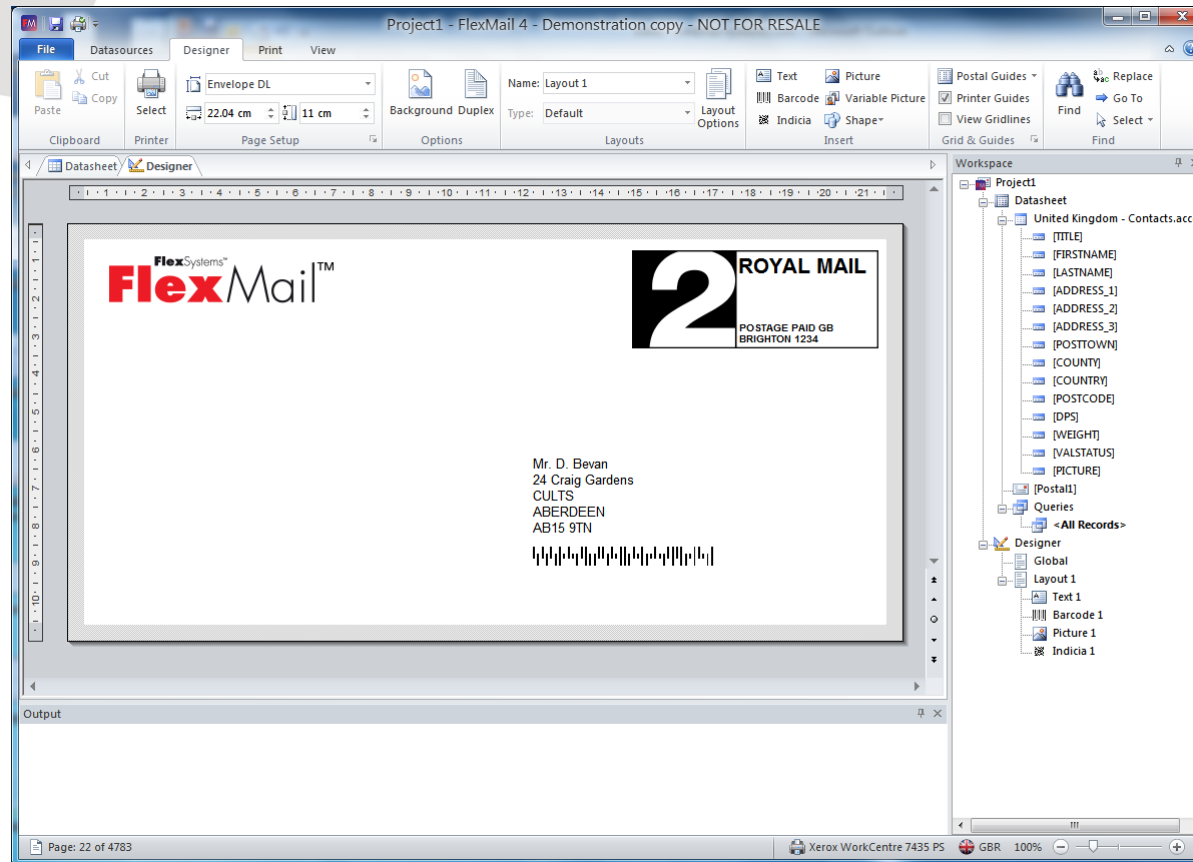
### Data tools

- Define, locate and process duplicates.
- Combine records from different input files.
- Process suppression lists to remove records from a file.
- Export and convert databases.



# FlexMail Designer Overview

Design variable-data documents, labels, and envelopes. Layouts may include variable and static text, any kind of barcode, variable and static graphics, postal indicia, and more.







# FlexMail Designer

## Features

### Layouts

- Work on any paper size. Support for all standard envelopes, paper, label sheets and continuous label sizes, plus user defined sizes.
- Create multiple layouts in a single project. Conditionally select the layout to be printed or print multiple layouts per record in the database. Duplex printing is also supported.
- Add a background image that can serve as background for design purposes, but may also be printed.

### Design Elements

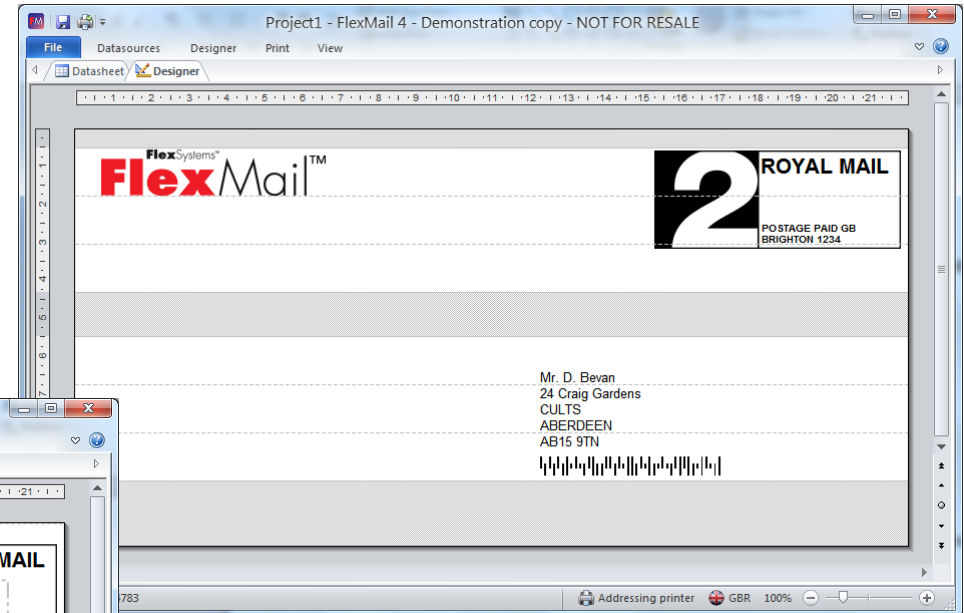
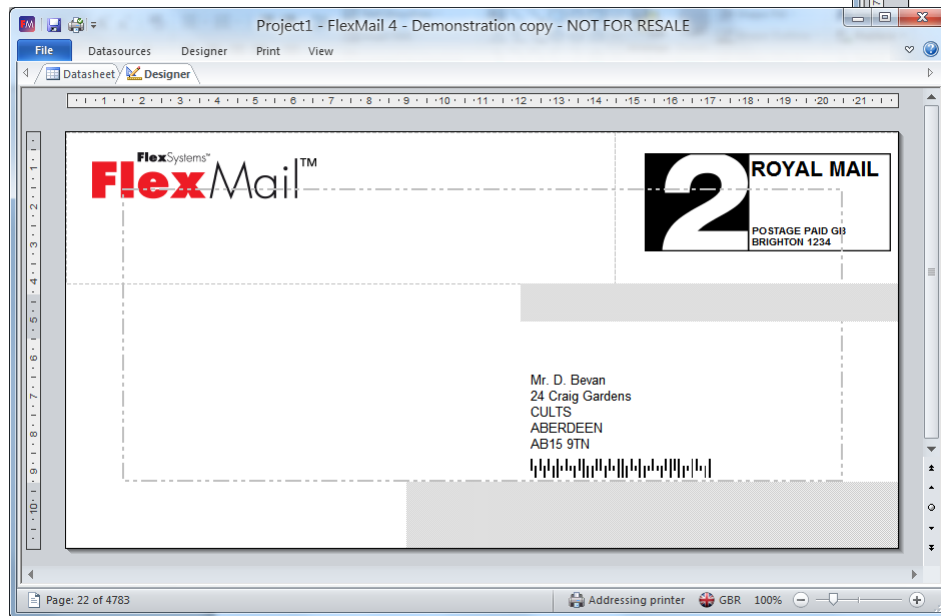
- Fixed or variable text.
- Supports over 80 different barcode (1-D, 2-D, and postal).
- Fixed and variable graphics.
- Add postal indicia for many countries.

# FlexMail Designer

## Printer and Postal Guides

### Guides

- Printer guides help to design a layout that can be printed at high quality and the highest possible speed by your printer.



- For many countries postal guides are available to help you to design mail pieces that conform to the postal specifications.



# FlexMail Printing Features

## Functionality

- Helps the user to optimize the design for the printer.
- Uses the capabilities of the printer without the user knowing it.
- Gives full 'production' control over the printer.

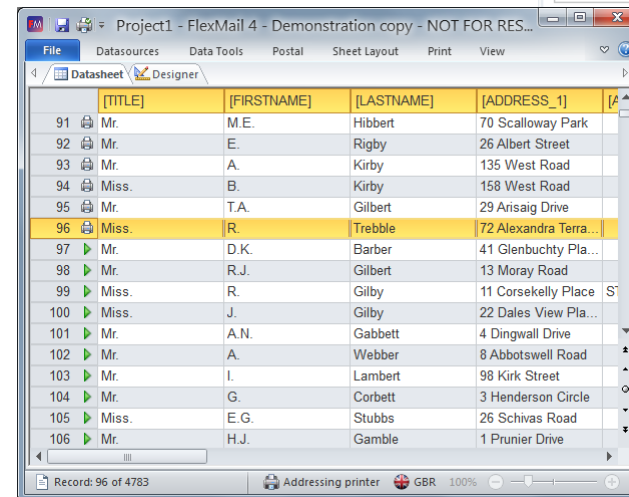
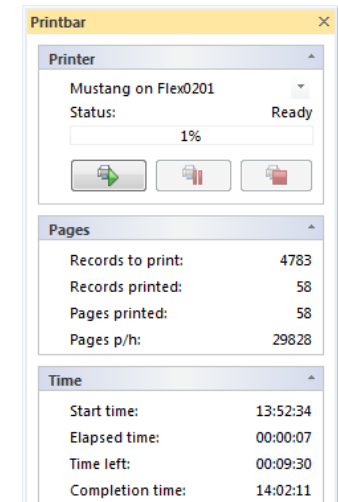
## Features

- Automatic use of overlays / macro's for fixed elements.
- Configurable print breaks / print pauses.
- Pre-purge of print heads.
- Keep-alive function to avoid drying out of nozzles.

# FlexMail Printing Production

## Print Production Control

- Easy to use and flexible queueing mechanism to select the records to be printed.
- Records marked on the datasheet indicating their print status. Synchronized view of designer and/or datasheet with records actually being printed.
- Print bar displaying all available feedback from the printer, including print speed, estimated completion time and more. When available, ink levels are displayed with the possibility to stop at low ink level.
- Support for printing on multiple printers simultaneously.



# FlexMail Printing Scripting

## Production Line Integration

- Read-and-Print
- Synchronized document inserting and printing
- Print verification.

## Functionality

- Connect to external input devices like camera systems and barcode readers and process their input.
- Look-up information in a database, update databases, save information to files,
- Print complete designs,
- Send control signals to other devices.

The screenshot displays the FlexMail Scripting Editor interface. The main window shows a VBM script with the following code:

```
49 objProp = Project.GetDocProperties( DocProperty.ObjectNames )
50
51 If objProp IsNot Nothing then
52     sArray = objProp
53     nCount = 1
54
55     For Each sElement As String In sArray
56
57         nObjType = Project.GetObjProperties( sElement, ObjProperty.Type )
58         Select Case nObjType
59             Case ObjType.Empty
60                 sObjType = "Autoshape"
61
62             Case ObjType.Text
63                 sObjType = "Text box"
64
65             Case ObjType.Picture
66                 sObjType = "Picture"
67
68             Case ObjType.Barcode
69                 sObjType = "Barcode"
70
71             Case Else
72                 sObjType = "Unknown"
73         End Select
74
75
```

The right-hand pane shows the Scripting Catalog with various modules listed. A 'Function Info' window is open, displaying details for the 'WriteBytes Function':

**WriteBytes Function**  
Writes the specified array of bytes to the output buffer.

```
WriteBytes( data As Byte[] )
```

**Parameters**  
*data*  
Byte array that represents the data to be written to the port.

**Result**  
Returns True if the data could be send, otherwise False.

**Remarks**  
Use this method when you want to write to a byte buffer to create output to a serial port.



## FlexMail Technical

- FlexMail is available in Dutch, English, French, German, Italian and Spanish.
- FlexMail runs on Windows XP and newer (all 32- and 64 bit versions) including the upcoming Windows 8 version.
- FlexMail supports printers either by:
  - In-house developed printer drivers (32 and 64 bit versions).
  - Through direct connection to printers (Print Pro I and II modules).
  - Any printer over Windows printer drivers.
- Live update over Internet.



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