

Print and apply the labels

The flags on your cables, the plates on your nodes and the strips on your I/O panels, printed from the show you already built. Nothing here is typed twice: every label is the paperwork, in sticker form.

BEFORE YOU START

- A show with cables in it. This guide prints the same **Meridian Hall** rig Guide 08 builds — its labels are the flags Guide 09 tells the crew to trust.
- Die-cut label stock. The examples use Avery 5520 (1" × 2-5/8", 30 to a sheet); a dozen other stocks are built in.
- A printer you can print at **100%** on — no fit-to-page, no shrink-to-fit. Getting that right is section 4 and it only happens once.
- For panel strips: plain paper or sticker sheet, a straight edge, and the same 100%-no-fit-to-page discipline — they carry their own **Caliper test page**.

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FOR THE SHOP

Prints from your show.
Calibrate once, keep it.
About twenty minutes.

Read this first

Guide 09 tells a crew that the label on a cable matches the label column on the cable schedule. **This is where that becomes true.** The Labels tab prints from the same show the paperwork prints from, so a flag that says **U1** and a schedule row that says **U1** cannot disagree — there is only one **U1**.

There are two engines behind one tab, and it is worth knowing which you are in:

- **Die-cut label sheets** — cables, devices, racks, looms and nodes, laid onto a grid of peel-off labels. Needs the right stock and one calibration.
- **I/O panel strips** — cut-out labels at **true physical scale**, at the real connector pitch, for the panel plates themselves. Plain paper and a straight edge, but the same printer discipline: it shares the saved profiles and adds a **Caliper test page** of its own.

Everything on both is generated. If a label is wrong, the fix is in the show, not in the label.

Pick what to print

The row of buttons across the top chooses what you are labelling. Each one lists what your show actually holds, with a search box and filters for rack, location and VLAN or signal. Tick rows, or hit **Select all**.

14 shown · 0 selected · 0 labels

Lightwright-st

Cables Devices Racks Looms Node univ. I/O Panels

search... all racks all locations all signals Select all Clear

	LABEL	DETAIL	RACK	LOCATION
☐	M1	FOH-SW -> FOH-CONSOLE	FOH RACK	FOH
☐	P1	FOH-SW -> FOH-CONSOLE	FOH RACK	FOH
☐	U1	FOH-SW -> FOH-NODE 1	FOH RACK	FOH
☐	U2	FOH-SW -> FOH-NODE 2	FOH RACK	FOH
☐	U3	FOH-SW -> FOH-P3	FOH RACK	FOH
☐	M2	FOH-SW -> PU-XL 1	FOH RACK	FOH
☐	M3	FOH-SW -> PU-XL 2	FOH RACK	FOH
☐	P2	FOH-SW -> FOH-MINI 1	FOH RACK	FOH
☐	P3	FOH-SW -> FOH-MINI 2	FOH RACK	FOH
☐	P4	FOH-SW -> FOH-MINI 3	FOH RACK	FOH
☐	U4	SL-SW -> SL-NODE 1	STAGE RACK	SL STAGE
☐	U5	SL-SW -> SL-NODE 2	STAGE RACK	SL STAGE
☐	U6	SL-SW -> SL-NODE 3	STAGE RACK	SL STAGE
☐	U7	SL-SW -> SL-NODE 4	STAGE RACK	SL STAGE

Per cable: One per end (2) Single

Sheet template

1 Avery 5520 - 1" x 2-5/8" (30/page) + Custom

the standard address grid - most used

2 Start at label 1 of 30. Click a cell on the mini-sheet - hatched cells are skipped (already peeled).

Printer calibration

(no profile - print as-is)

X offset 0 Y offset 0 Units in

Scale % 100

Print calibration test page Save profile

Profiles are per printer and stick around for every show (+X = right, +Y = down, scale fixes printers that shrink).

The Labels tab, cables selected. **1** Six engines — the first five print onto die-cut sheets, I/O Panels is the 1:1 one. **2** Your show's own rows: label, both ends, rack and location. **3** The stock you are printing on.

Print a subset, not the world. The filters are there because you rarely label a whole show at once — you label the FOH rack on Tuesday and the stage rack on Wednesday. Filter to the rack, Select all, print.

The sheet, and where it starts

Pick the stock from the template list, then look at the little sheet diagram beside it. That is your page. **Click the cell you want to start at** — hatched cells are ones you have already peeled — and printing skips straight to it. That is what turns a half-used sheet into a full one instead of scrap.

The preview beside it is not a mock-up: it is the same PDF the printer will get, rendered live — one of each label you have ticked. **Copies each** repeats them on the printed sheet, not in the preview.

Labels Design and print Lightweight-style label sheets for cable and port identification on die-cut stock, calibrated once per printer and reused across all shows.

14 shown · 14 selected · 28 Labels **1**

Lightweight-style label sheets - calibrate once per printer, then print onto the die-cut stock.

Labels Devices Racks Looms Node units I/O Panels

SEARCH: all racks all locations all signals Select all Clear

LABEL	DETAIL	RACK	LOCATION
☒ M1	FOH-SW → FOH-CONSOLE	FOH RACK	FOH
☒ P1	FOH-SW → FOH-CONSOLE	FOH RACK	FOH
☒ U1	FOH-SW → FOH-NODE 1	FOH RACK	FOH
☒ U2	FOH-SW → FOH-NODE 2	FOH RACK	FOH
☒ U3	FOH-SW → FOH-P3	FOH RACK	FOH
☒ M2	FOH-SW → PU-XL 1	FOH RACK	FOH
☒ M3	FOH-SW → PU-XL 2	FOH RACK	FOH
☒ P2	FOH-SW → FOH-MINI 1	FOH RACK	FOH
☒ P3	FOH-SW → FOH-MINI 2	FOH RACK	FOH
☒ U4	SL-SW → SL-NODE 1	STAGE RACK	SL STAGE
☒ U5	SL-SW → SL-NODE 2	STAGE RACK	SL STAGE
☒ U6	SL-SW → SL-NODE 3	STAGE RACK	SL STAGE
☒ U7	SL-SW → SL-NODE 4	STAGE RACK	SL STAGE

Per cable: One per end (2) Single **2**

Sheet template

Avery M20 - 1" x 2.5" (20/page) Custom

the standard address grid - most used

Start at label 1 of 30. Click a cell on the mini-sheet - hatched cells are skipped (already peeled).

Printer calibration

(no profile - print as-is)

X offset 0 Y offset 0 Units in

Scale % 100

Print calibration test page Save profile

Profiles are per printer and stick around for every show (-X = right, -Y = down, scale fixes printers that shrink).

Label content

☒ Flag fold (wraps the cable, text on both halves)

☒ TO: the other end ☒ Signal / VLAN ☒ Length

☐ B/W printer (text code instead of the color bar)

Copies each 1

+ Add 28 to sheet Print 28 labels - PDF

Tip: use Add to sheet to combine consoles, switches, nodes, etc. onto one sheet, then print once.

Live preview

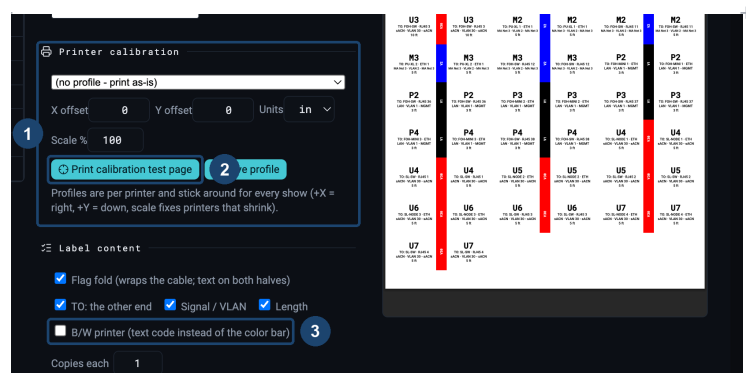
One of each selected label, exactly as it prints. Zoom with the viewer controls. Copies + Print builds the full sheet.

28 labels ready. 1 The running count — 14 cables at two labels each. **2 One per end** gives every cable two flags, each naming the far end; **Single** gives one. **3** The live preview of the actual sheet.

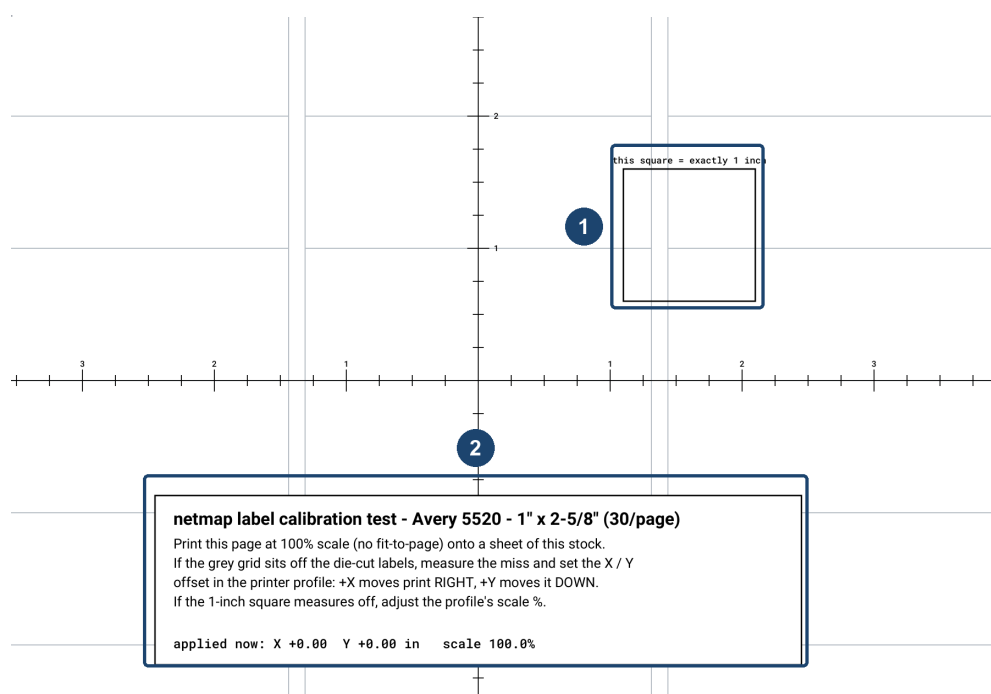
Calibrate once per printer

Every printer lands the page slightly differently, and on die-cut stock a 1 mm drift is the difference between a label and a ruined sheet. So do this once, on plain paper, before you waste any labels.

Print the **calibration test page**, hold it over a real sheet of the stock, and read the miss. **+X moves the print right, +Y moves it down**. If the printed one-inch square is not one inch, that is the scale field, not the offset. Save it as a profile and every future show on that printer is already right.



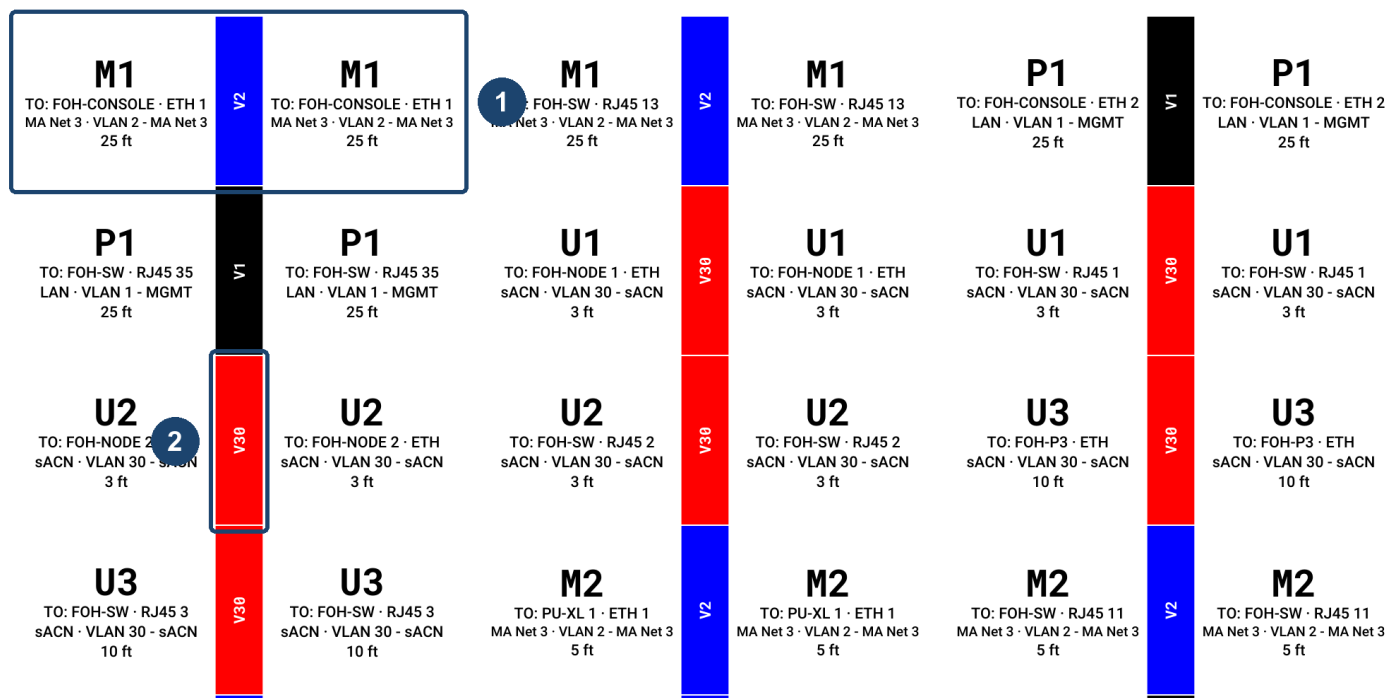
The calibration block. **1** Profile, offsets and scale. **2** The test page. **3** B/W printer swaps the colour bar for a printed VLAN code — a mono laser stops being a problem.



The test page itself. **1** A square that is exactly one inch if your scale is right. **2** The instructions are printed on the page, so the sheet in your hand tells you what to do with it. Print it at 100% or it proves nothing.

What lands on a cable label

A cable label is a **flag**: it wraps the cable and reads the same from either side, with the VLAN's colour down the fold. So one label carries its code twice, the destination once, and the lane colour where you can see it from across a rack.

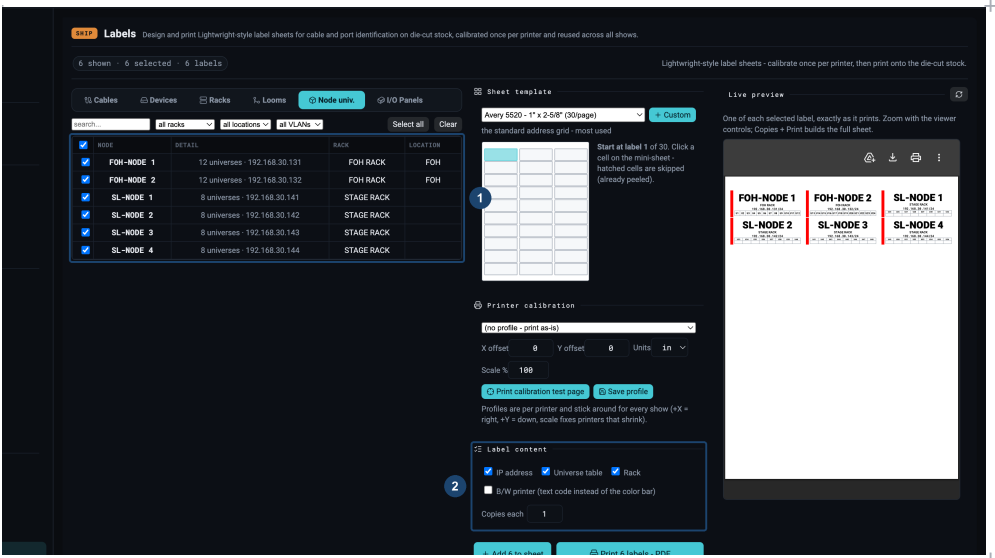


The printed sheet. **1** One label: the code (M1) on both halves, **TO:** the far end, the signal and VLAN, and the length. **2** The colour bar is the fold — it is the legend's colour for that lane, so a red flag is sACN on paper and in the rack.

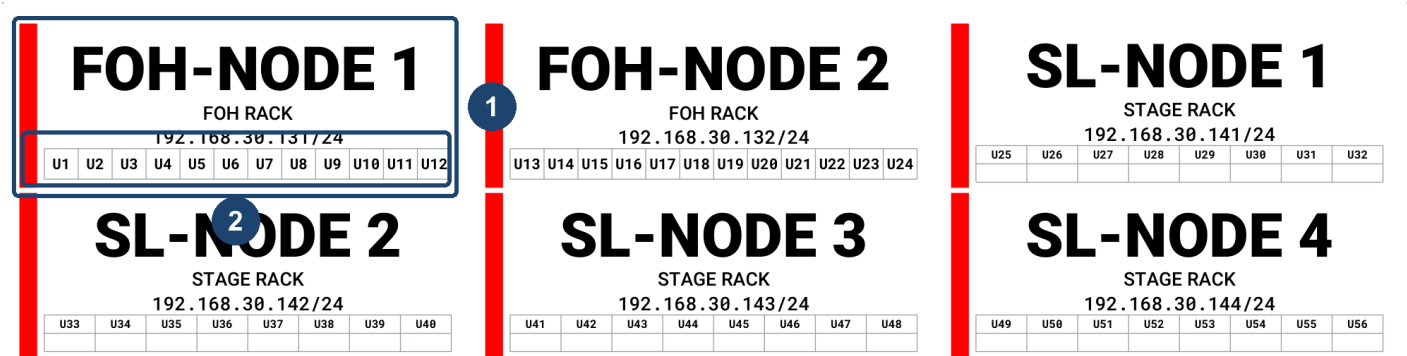
Both ends, not one. With **One per end** each cable gets two flags and each names *the other* end. Standing at either end of a 50-foot run, the label tells you where the far end is — which is the whole question you are asking at 8 AM.

Node labels

Switch to **Node univ.** and the label changes shape: a node's plate carries its name, its rack, its address, and the **universe on every output port**. Stick it on the node and nobody has to open a console to find out what port 7 puts out.



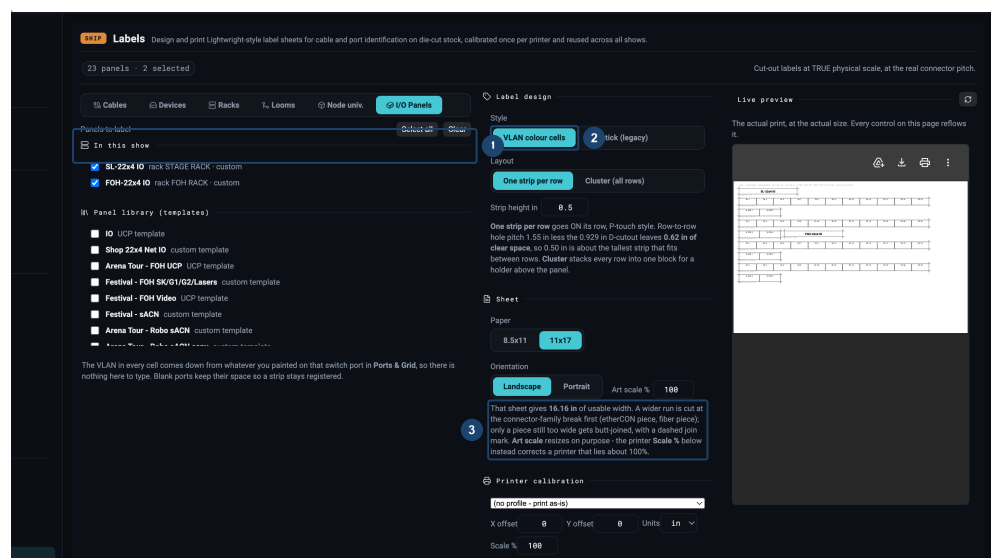
The node engine. 1 Every node in the show, with its universe count and address. 2 The content toggles change with the engine – here IP address, universe table and rack.



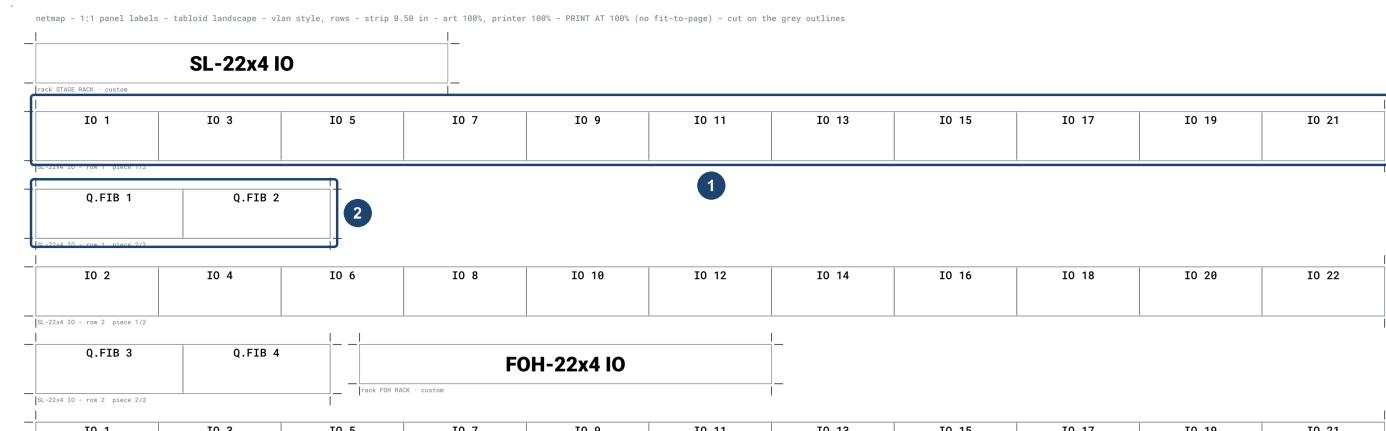
Printed node plates. 1 One node: name, rack, address. 2 The universe table – U1 to U12 across this node's twelve ports, straight off the Nodes tab. The bar is the sACN lane's own colour.

Panel strips: the other engine

I/O Panels is not a label sheet. It draws each panel's connector row at **true physical scale**, at the real hole pitch, to be cut out and stuck on the plate. Nothing is typed here — but the colour has to reach the cell: each connector is **linked to a switch port**, and the VLAN you painted on that port in Ports & Grid comes down the link. A panel whose connectors are not linked yet prints its geometry and no colour.



The panel engine. **1** The panels in this show, found for you. **2** VLAN colour cells fills each cell with its lane; the legacy thin tick is still there. **3** Paper size and art scale — a long row needs the tabloid sheet.



The strips, at size. **1** One row of a 22×4 panel, printed at the real connector pitch. **2** The same row's second piece: a run is cut at the **connector-family break** first, so the etherCON ports and the fiber ports come off as separate strips rather than one impossible one. Cut on the grey outlines.

Measure before you commit a full row. Print the **Caliper test page** and hold it against a real panel: it draws the plate outline, the pitch spans and a one-inch square. A printer 2% off looks fine on the sheet and is a quarter inch out by the far end of a 22-port row — which is the whole reason this engine draws at true size.

Empty cells are not a bug. A cell with nothing behind it prints blank and keeps its space, so the strip still lines up with the holes — which is exactly what the panels above are doing. To fill them, link the panel first: open it in the panel builder and use **Auto-link rack switch** (or pick the switch and a start port). Once a connector points at a port, the VLAN on that port paints the cell.

The Cricut pack

If you cut labels on a Cricut rather than printing and trimming by hand, **Cricut pack** exports the same panel strips as one true-size PNG per piece, plus a read-me listing each piece's exact width and height.

In Design Space, upload a PNG, save it as a **Print Then Cut** image, and **type the width and height from the read-me into the size fields**. Never drag a corner to resize — a strip that is 2% small looks fine on screen and is a quarter inch out by the far end of a 22-port row, which is exactly the error this engine exists to avoid.

When it does not work

WHAT YOU SEE	WHAT IT USUALLY IS
Print lands beside the die-cuts, not on them	Calibration, or fit-to-page. Print the test page at 100%, measure the miss, set +X / +Y in the profile and save it.
Everything is slightly too small or too large	The scale, not the offset. The test page's one-inch square is the measurement to trust.
The colour bar prints grey or muddy	Mono printer. Tick B/W printer and the lane prints as a code instead of a colour.
Only some cables appear in the list	A filter is still set — rack, location or signal. Clear it, or widen it.
A panel strip is wider than the paper	Switch the sheet to 11×17. A full 11-port etherCON run is 13.75 in and never fits letter.
Panel cells print empty	The connectors are not linked to switch ports yet — painting VLANs in Ports & Grid cannot reach them until they are. Link the panel (Auto-link rack switch in the panel builder), then the port's VLAN fills the cell.
The labels say the wrong thing	Fix the show, not the label. Rename in Devices or Cables and print again — the sheet has no separate copy of anything.