

aaz·app

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StopWatch

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1. Introduction

StopWatch is a bundle app consisting of two apps that work in tandem in a Switch flow. The apps are called WatchStarter and WatchReporter. You need both in a Switch flow to have meaningful results!

- **WatchStarter**
Takes all passing jobs and attaches private data to them. This private data contains the exact date and time the jobs are seen passing by.
- **WatchReporter**
Takes all passing jobs and sends them to the data success connection unchanged. At the same time, it records the date and time they passed through. At configurable times, it generates log files about the performance of the Switch flow.

1.1. Versions

The following is a short version overview:

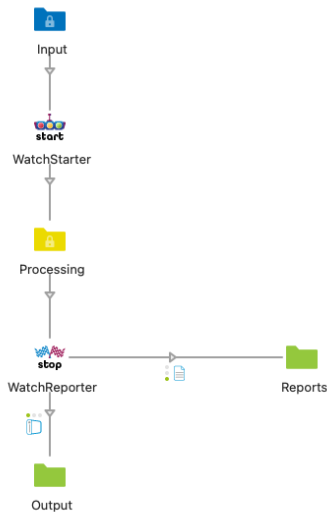
- **Version 1:** initial version of the app.

1.2. Compatibility

Enfocus Switch 2024 Spring Edition and higher for Windows and Mac.

2. How to use

The Switch flow screengrab below illustrates how WatchStarter and WatchReporter can be (and should be) built into a Switch flow.



2.1. WatchStarter

WatchStarter has a single outgoing connection that emits all jobs exactly how they came in, with the addition of a few private data fields:

- The Watch ID configured in the properties indicates the starting date and time you want to measure.
- The current date and time, both in an unreadable (Javascript internal date) format and as a human-readable string.

These private data fields are, well... private. They are not intended for your use but are there to allow WatchReporter to work.

2.1.1. Watch ID

The app has only one property: the Watch ID. This string identifies this WatchStarter point in the flow and upcoming WatchReporter apps. It can be in any format as long as both apps in your flow use the same string.

2.2. WatchReporter

WatchReporter supports (and should have) two types of outgoing connection:

- A data success connection that outputs all incoming jobs completely unchanged.
- A report success connection that outputs any reports generated by the app.

2.2.1. Watch ID

The app measures how long it takes jobs to flow through the Switch flow between a WatchStarter and WatchReporter. You can define multiple pairs of WatchStarter and WatchReporter apps in the same flow; you simply need to ensure that each pair you want to measure uses the same Watch ID. This is set up using the "Watch ID" property.

2.2.2. What is reported?

WatchReporter looks at all jobs passing through and records three metrics:

- The total number of jobs passing through.
- The total processing time for the jobs passing through.
- The average processing time per job for the jobs passing through.

In addition, WatchReporter keeps track of what is happening during the active monitoring period and remembers what happened during the last reported period. This also allows you to see whether processing time or the number of jobs increased or decreased since the last report (and by how much).

2.2.3. Report Formats

Two different reporting formats are supported. Using properties, you can control whether you want to generate them and – if you want – what the report name should be:

- The “Report as JSON” property controls whether JSON format reports are created. By default, if the “JSON name” property is empty, the current date and time are used to name the report. You can also enter your desired report name in this property.
- The “Report as CSV” property controls whether CSV format reports are created. By default, if the “CSV name” property is empty, the current date and time are used to name the report. You can also enter your desired report name in this property.

Remark that you cannot use variables or script expressions in the properties that control the report names. This is not because we don't like those (or you!), but it is a restriction that Switch imposes when using properties during timer-triggered events.

2.2.4. When are reports generated?

You are entirely in control of that. The app has the “Report frequency” property to help you set it up for your needs. Here's what you can choose:

- **After each job**
This is useful for test purposes, as a report is generated immediately after each job is processed. It could also generate a separate JSON file for each processed job to serve, for example, as input data for a database.
- **After a time interval**
In this mode, WatchReporter generates a new report after a specified number of minutes (set using the “Number of minutes” property).
- **Each day at a specific time**
A new report is generated every day at the specified time. This is set up using the “Trigger time” property that takes a 24-hour-based time.

Sometimes, changing schedules is challenging because the information about your schedule is stored in Switch global data, which is... well... quite permanent. So, you can also set the “Report frequency” to the “Remove trigger times” option to remove all that stubborn global data and start over. Of course, this is not a production setting – just set the property to it and activate the flow to get rid of any stored schedule data so you can start over.

2.2.5. Pausing things

However lovely things are, sometimes you simply want to “be on a break.” To accomplish this, use the “Pause” property and set it to “Yes.” Your jobs are still sent to the data success connection, but no reports are generated.

3. More information

3.1. About us

This app was created by **oazapp**. You can find more information about us here: <https://oaz.app>. We're geeks about topics such as print, PDF, prepress, preflight, automation, and a good deal more. We like to share our expertise with others, sometimes by doing paid professional services projects and other times by bundling our knowledge into (often free) Switch apps.

When we build an app and lovingly craft the code, branding, documentation, and everything else that goes into it, it's because we like it and think it will be helpful for other people as well—people like you.

3.1.1. Is it?

Rating our app on the Enfocus app store is quick and easy, but it makes us very happy. It feels like a reward for the time we have invested in the app. So please visit the app store (<https://www.enfocus.com/en/appstore/overview>) and take a second to rate it.

3.1.2. Found a problem?

We don't know your Switch flows, so we can't guarantee that our apps will play nicely with them (however much time we invest in testing before releasing them). Please don't hesitate to reach out to us and ask questions, give feedback, and make suggestions about the apps you're using or about other things that would be useful for you in Switch.

Just send us an email at hello@oaz.app. We'll be with you... ASAP (obviously).

3.2. Sushi

Oh... one more thing!

If you're using our free apps and they are valuable to you, please consider donating a small amount to us. We (the geeks behind **oazapp**) have a tradition of having sushi together in different cities worldwide, and some pocket money to do so is always appreciated!