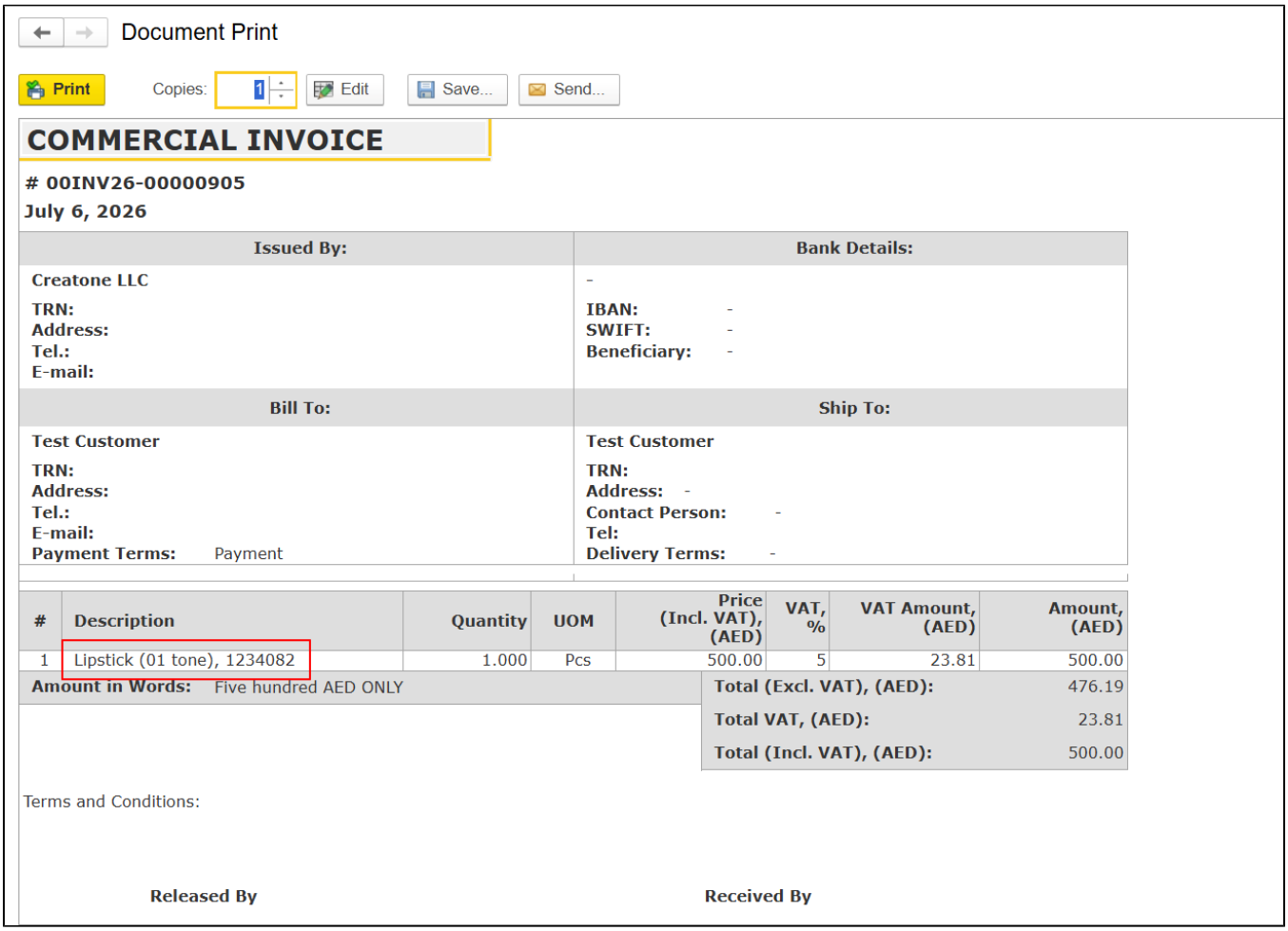
How Print Form Descriptions Are Generated

Scope

This article applies to all standard FirstBIT Software configurations.

It explains how the **Description** field displayed in standard print forms is generated, why it may differ from the selected **Item**, and how changes are propagated to derived documents.



Overview

In standard print forms (such as Invoice, Invoice Received, Credit Note, Tax Invoice, Tax Credit Note, and other standard documents), the **Description** field is **not** populated directly from the **Item** field.

Instead, the print form displays the value stored in the **Content** field of the document line.

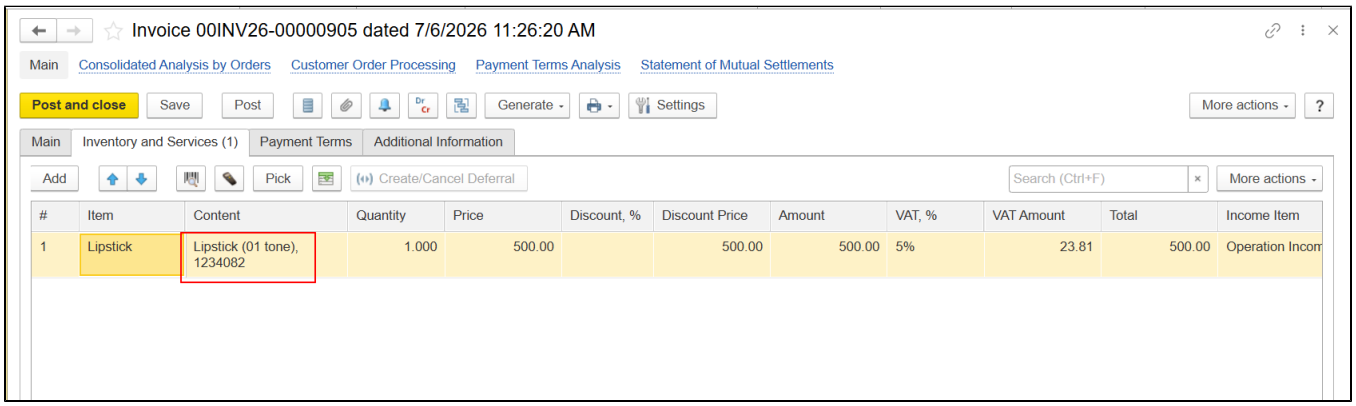
The standard workflow is shown below.

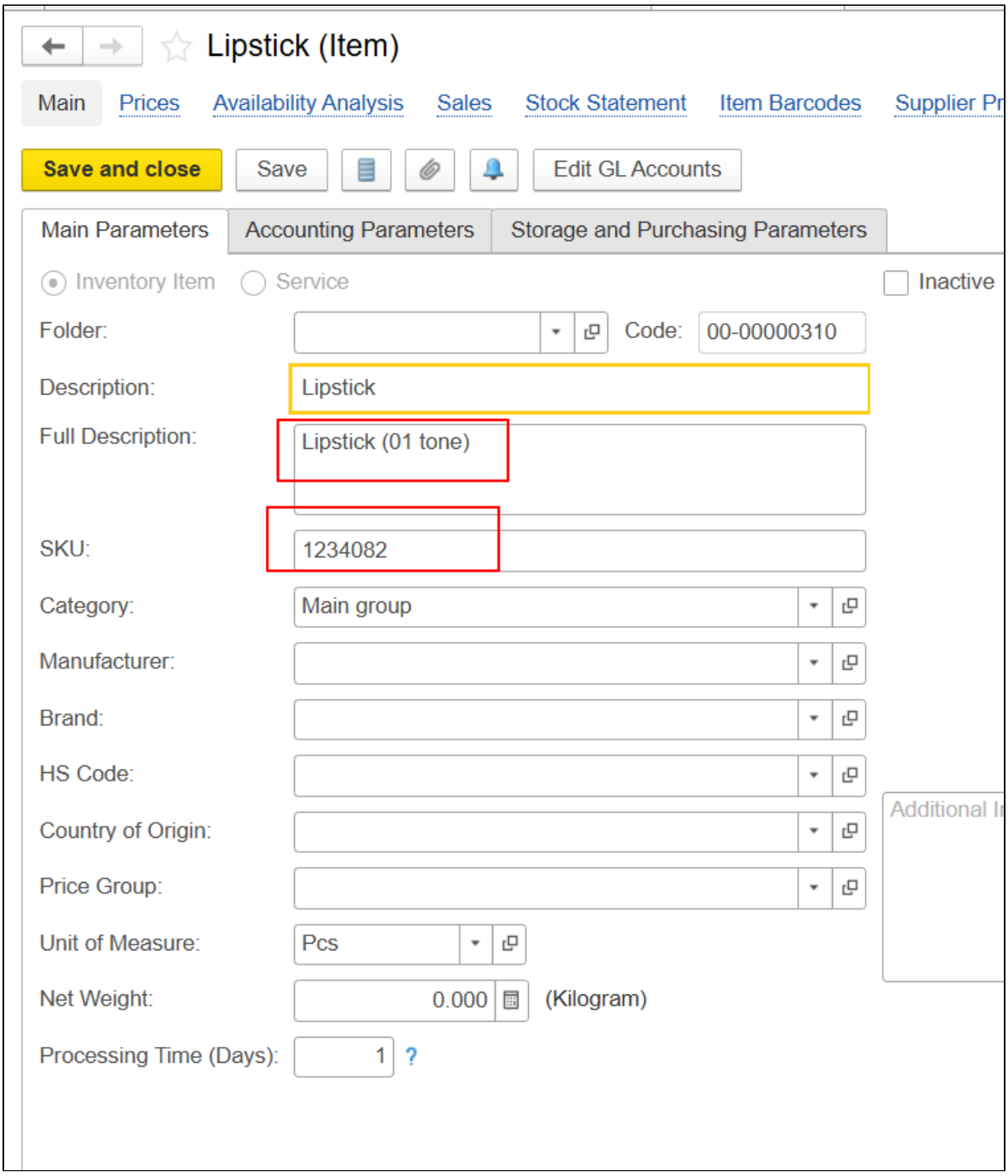
```
User selects an Item


Full Description + SKU
from the Item master


Content field
(Document Line)


Description displayed
in the Standard Print Form
```

Why Does FirstBIT Use the Content Field?

Each field has a different purpose within the system.

Field	Purpose
Item	Identifies the selected product or service.
Full Description	Stores the default description of the Item in the Item master.
Content	Stores the text that should appear in the document line and in the standard print form. **Default value = Full Description+ SKU** from Items master data
Description (Print Form)	Displays the current value stored in the Content field.





This design provides greater flexibility when preparing documents.

For example, users can:

- include additional information in printed documents;
- modify the description for a specific document without changing the Item master;
- preserve document-specific wording while continuing to use the same Item.

How the Content Field Is Populated

When an Item is selected in a document, the system automatically populates the **Content** field using the following information from the Item master:

- Full Description

- SKU

This value becomes the default text that will later appear in the standard print form.

If the document type supports editing, users can manually change the **Content** field.

The standard print form always displays the current value stored in the **Content** field.

Why the Description May Be Blank

The standard print form reads the **Description** only from the **Content** field.

If the **Content** field is empty, the **Description** in the print form will also be empty.

This may occur, for example, when:

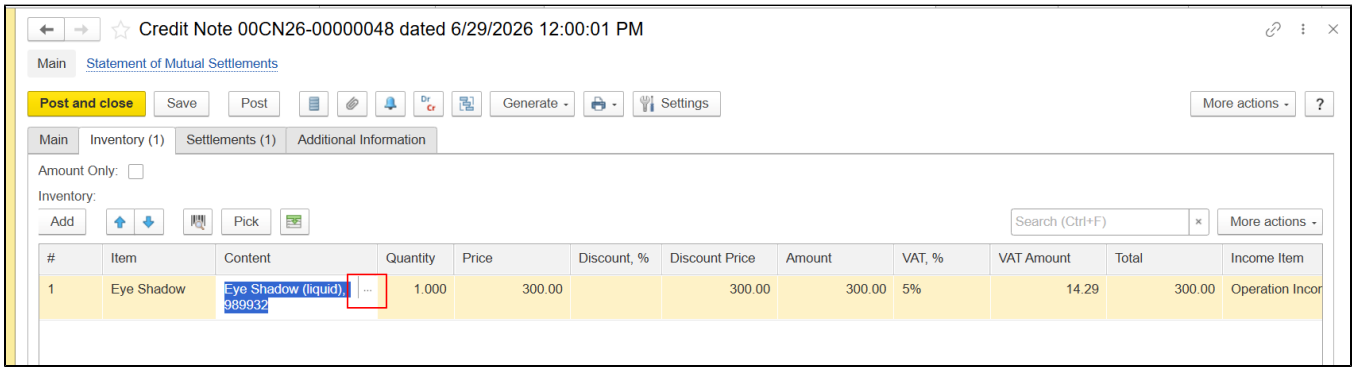
- the Content field was cleared manually;
- imported from Excel data did not populate the Content field;
- custom processing removed or replaced the value;
- the source document already contained an empty Content field.

Selecting an **Item** alone does not populate the Description in the print form if the **Content** field contains no value.

How Changes Propagate to Derived Documents

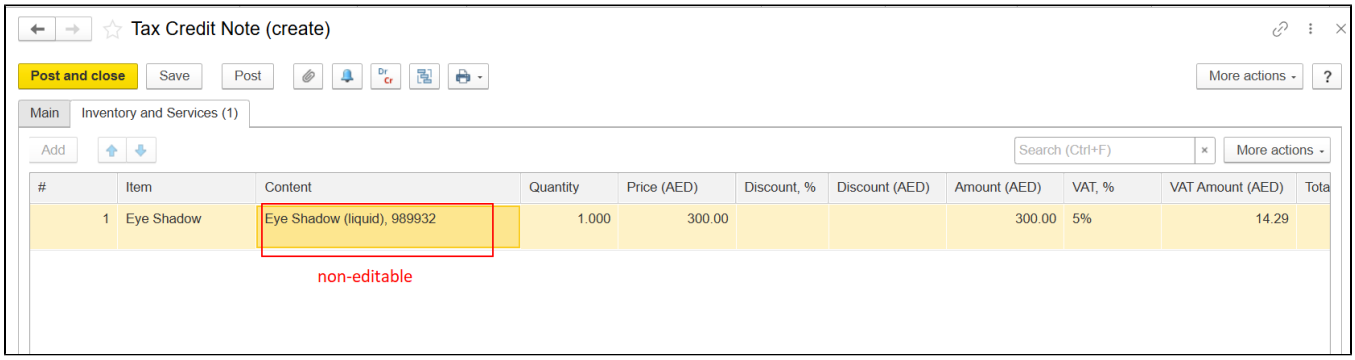
Some document types allow users to edit the **Content** field manually.

For example, users can edit the **Content** field in a **Credit Note**.



Other document types are generated from source documents and inherit their values.

For example, a **Tax Credit Note** inherits the **Content** field from the related **Credit Note**.



The inheritance workflow is shown below.

```
Credit Note
(Content edited)


Tax Credit Note
(inherits Content)


Description
in Standard Print Form
```

Because the **Content** field is inherited, it cannot be edited directly in the Tax Credit Note.

If the Description displayed in the Tax Credit Note print form must be changed:

1. Update the **Content** field in the source **Credit Note**.
2. Refresh or recreate the related **Tax Credit Note** so that it inherits the updated value.

Summary

The **Description** displayed in standard print forms is generated from the **Content** field of the document line, not from the selected **Item**.

The **Content** field is initially populated from the Item master using the **Full Description** and **SKU**, but it can be edited in document types that support manual changes.

Derived documents inherit the **Content** field from their source documents. Therefore, changes to the Description should always be made in the originating document before the derived document is recreated or refreshed.

Thank you for being FirstBIT Customer!