Backup and recovery LabBook Version 3

Manual version 1.4 - February 2023

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General

Since LabBook 3, LabBook backups and restorations are managed directly from the application under the "root" account. LabBook Config, which was previously used, is no longer part of the LabBook installation. When you are logged in as "root", a "Backup Management" icon appears on the home page

Backup
management

LabBook backups are encrypted using a backup key. This key is copied to the backup media, which allows you to restore your backups on a machine other than the one on which they were created. Naturally, to ensure that your backups are protected, the backup key is itself protected by a backup password that you must keep carefully and that will be indispensable for restoring your data.

The LabBook 3 restore supports backups of previous LabBook versions 2.5 and 2.9. Please note, however, that in order to restore a LabBook 2.9 backup, the backup media must not contain a LabBook 2.5 backup. Please refer to the paragraph on restoration if you wish to restore your LabBook data after installing your system.

LabBook saves on removable media connected to your server. For this media to be accessible, you must connect with the user 'user_labbook' on your system console. Be careful, you must insert the media after the connection.

Before you can back up or restore LabBook, you must set the user's password "user_labbook".

Then for your backups to be operational you must :

- Generate a backup key,
- If necessary, record the time of automatic backups,
- If necessary, initialize a new backup media.

Change the password of "user_labbook"

When LabBook was installed, a user "user_labbook" was created. This user is necessary for you to have access to the backup media that you connect to the LabBook server. You must connect under "user_labbook" from the console of your server. During installation, a trivial password "user_labbook" was assigned to "user_labbook". This password must be changed at the first connection.

Messages will guide you through this process, you will first need to enter the current password (user_labbook):
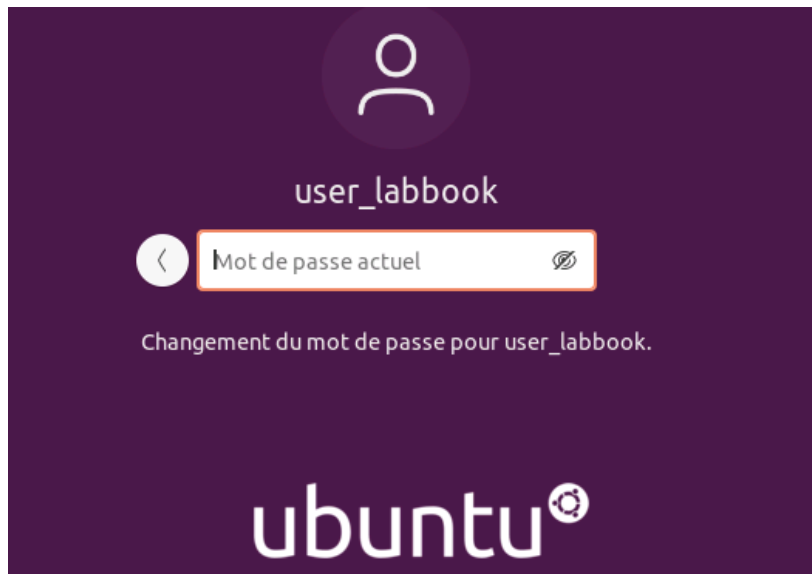
Then you will have to enter and confirm the new password:
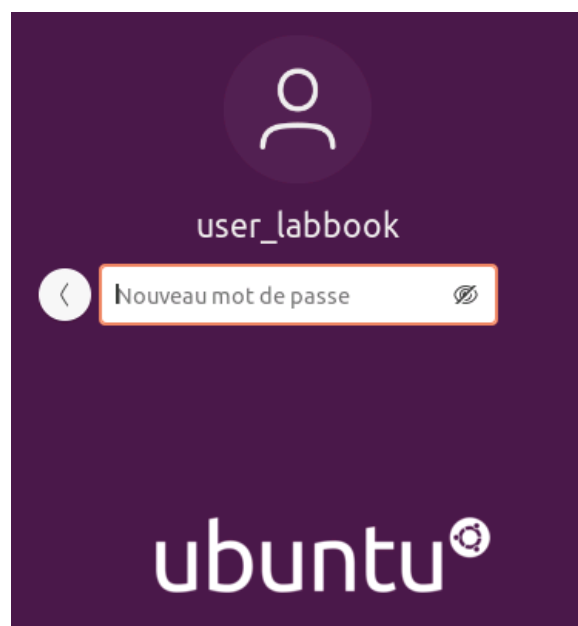
Backup management page

The "Backup Set up" icon or the "Settings > Backup Set Up" menu choice will take you to this page:

Backup setup

MODIFY BACKUP TIME

INITIALIZE THE MEDIA

GENERATE BACKUP KEY

SAVE

RESTORE

Back

Backup time   12:00 ◷

Last backup :

Last backup OK :

On the left you will find the buttons corresponding to the different actions available:

- **MODIFY BACKUP TIME** allows you to set the time for automatic backups.
- **INITIALIZING THE MEDIA** is necessary before you can use new media to save LabBook.
- **GENERATE BACKUP KEY** is required before you can back up LabBook.
- **SAVE** launches an immediate backup.
- **RESTORE** allows you to restore data.

These actions are detailed in the following paragraphs.

The right side of the screen gives information about the status of the backups:

- Backup time displays the time of automatic backups,

- Last backup indicates the status (OK/ERR) and the time of the last backup, whether it was started manually or automatically,

- Last backup OK indicates the time of the last successful backup. This information allows you to check if automatic backups are running correctly.

Save time for automatic backups

MODIFIER HEURE SAUVEGARDE

The button allows you to save the automatic backup at the time indicated on the right side of the screen. If you wish to change the time, you must first change it on the right-hand side and then use the button to activate programming at the time indicated.

You will be asked for confirmation:

Merci de confirmer la modification de l'heure de sauvegarde quotidienne.

Annuler   OK

You will need to provide the password of the user "user_labbook" to perform this action.

Veuillez saisir le mot de passe de l'utilisateur user_labbook   X

Mot de passe système

Valider   Annuler

Note: You must use this function the first time to activate automatic backups after installing LabBook 3. The default time is 12:00 p.m. but automatic backups are not active by default.

NB: An initialized media must be connected when the automatic backup starts. There is no reminder in the application, so it is probably most practical to leave a media connected permanently. If possible, we advise you to use a rotation principle between several media kept in different locations.

NB: If you restart the server, remember to reconnect the backup media by logging in as "user_labbook" on the server console.

Initialize the media

INITIALISER LE MEDIA

LabBook places the backups in a "SIGL_backups" folder at the root of the media. This prevents automatic backups from being written to media that are connected at the time.

The initialization of the media consists in creating this folder.

You will need to provide the password of the user "user_labbook" to perform this action.

Veuillez saisir le mot de passe de l'utilisateur user_labbook   X

Mot de passe système [   ]

Valider   Annuler

You will need to select the media to initialize:

Veuillez sélectionner le média   X

Liste des médias disponibles   USB

Valider   Annuler

NB: for the automatic backup to work, only one initialized media must be connected.

Generate the backup key

Before backups can be made, a custom encryption key must be generated. This key is copied to the backup media, allowing you to restore your backups on a different machine than the one on which they were created.

The backup key is protected by a password that you will be asked for:

Backups can only be restored with the key used when they were created. Unless you lose the password for your backup key, you should not need to generate a new key. If you trigger a new generation, you will be prompted for confirmation:

CAUTION: There is no way to recover a lost encryption key password. If this is the case you must generate a new backup key.

Save

<div style="text-align:center">SAUVEGARDER</div>

The LabBook data backup process creates an archive containing your database as well as the generated and downloaded documents on your system. This archive is encrypted using your backup key and placed on the USB device.

LabBook 3 backups appear on the USB media as files named :

`backup_v30_SIGL_horodatage.tar.gz.gpg`

The timestamp indicates the time the backup was made;

You will need to provide the password of the user "user_labbook" to perform this action:

Veuillez saisir le mot de passe de l'utilisateur user_labbook   X
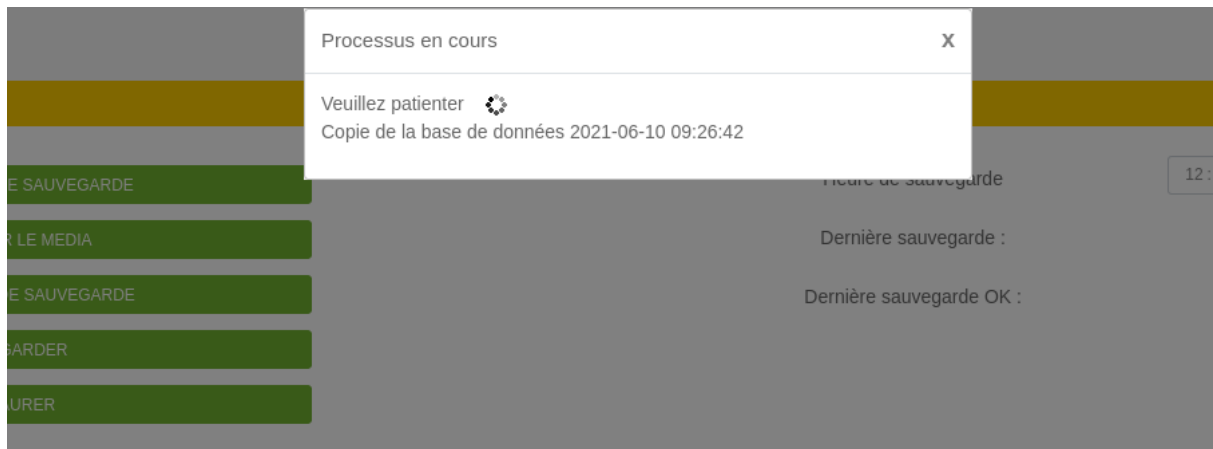
Mot de passe système [   ]

Valider   Annuler

Then choose the media:
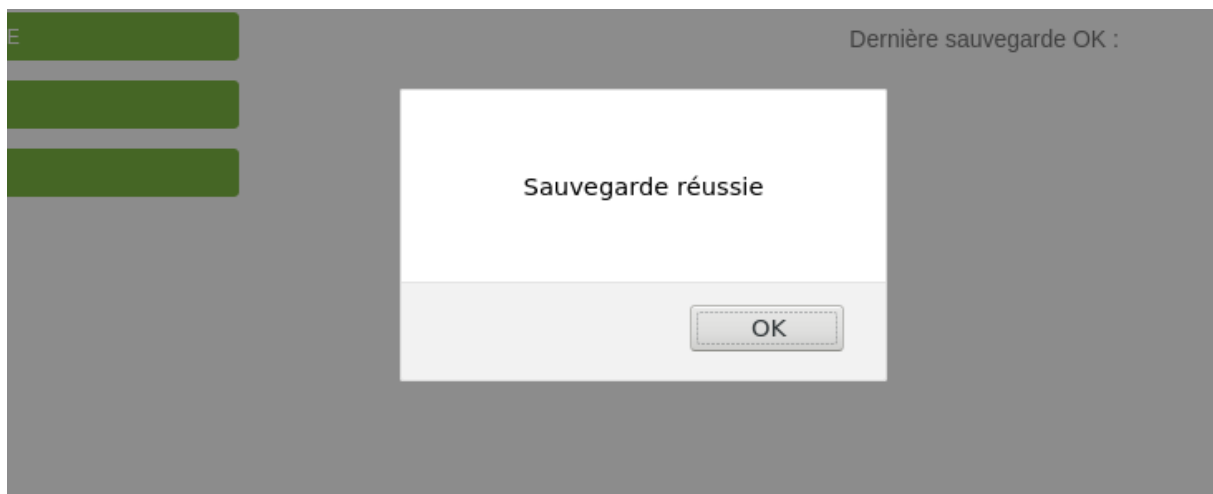
Veuillez sélectionner le média   X

Liste des médias disponibles   [USB ▾]

Valider   Annuler

A patience message is displayed during the backup. It contains an indication of the current operation with its start date and time, which is refreshed periodically:

Processus en cours   X

Veuillez patienter

Copie de la base de données 2021-06-10 09:26:42

E SAUVEGARDE   Heure de sauvegarde   12:

R LE MEDIA   Dernière sauvegarde :

E SAUVEGARDE   Dernière sauvegarde OK :

ARDER

URER

The end of the backup is also indicated:

Dernière sauvegarde OK :

Sauvegarde réussie

OK

Current status of the backup

The main screen of LabBook indicates the status of the last backup, with a green or red indication of whether the last backup was successful or not.
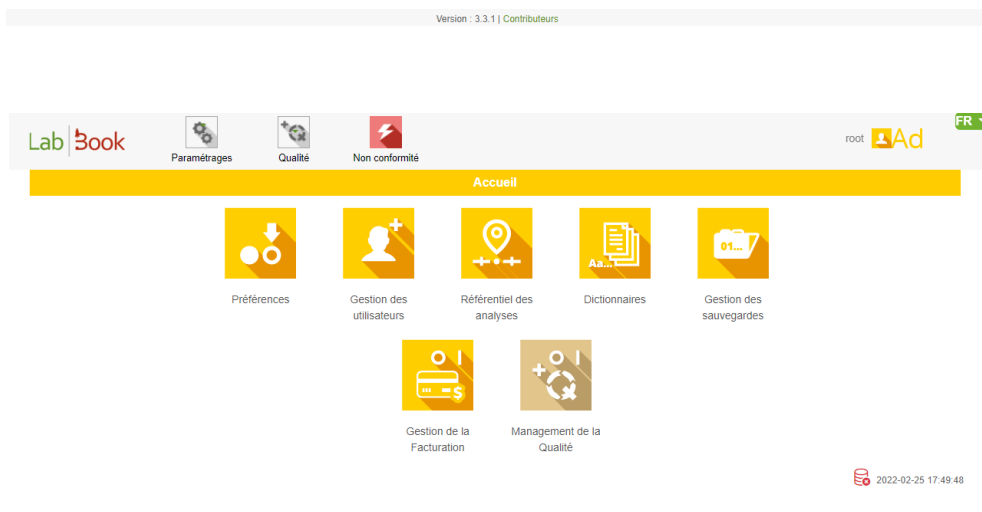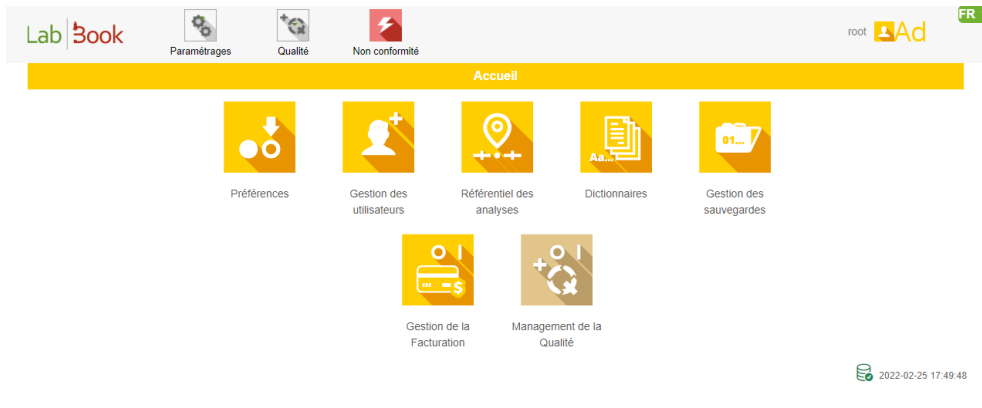
Restore

ATTENTION this operation replaces the current data.

LabBook 3 recovery supports backups of previous LabBook versions 2.5 and 2.9. However, in order to restore a LabBook 2.9 backup, the backup media must not contain a LabBook 2.5 backup.

Note: LabBook 2.5 backups do not contain generated and downloaded documents.

You will need to provide the password of the user "user_labbook" to perform this action:

Then indicate the password of the backup key used during the backup:

Note: this password is not used when you restore a LabBook 2.5 backup.

Then choose the media:

Veuillez sélectionner le média   X

Liste des médias disponibles   USB ▾

Valider   Annuler

Finally the backup to restore:

Veuillez sélectionner la sauvegarde à restaurer   X

Liste des sauvegardes disponibles

backup_v30_SIGL_2021-04-02_12h00m34s.tar.gz.gpg ▾

Valider   Annuler

The restore operation deletes the current data. You will be asked for a final confirmation:

Merci de confirmer le lancement immédiat de la restauration.

Annuler   OK

A patience message is displayed during the restoration. It contains an indication of the current operation with its start date and time, which is refreshed periodically:

Processus en cours	X
Veuillez patienter	
Chargement de la base de données 2021-06-10 09:36:49	
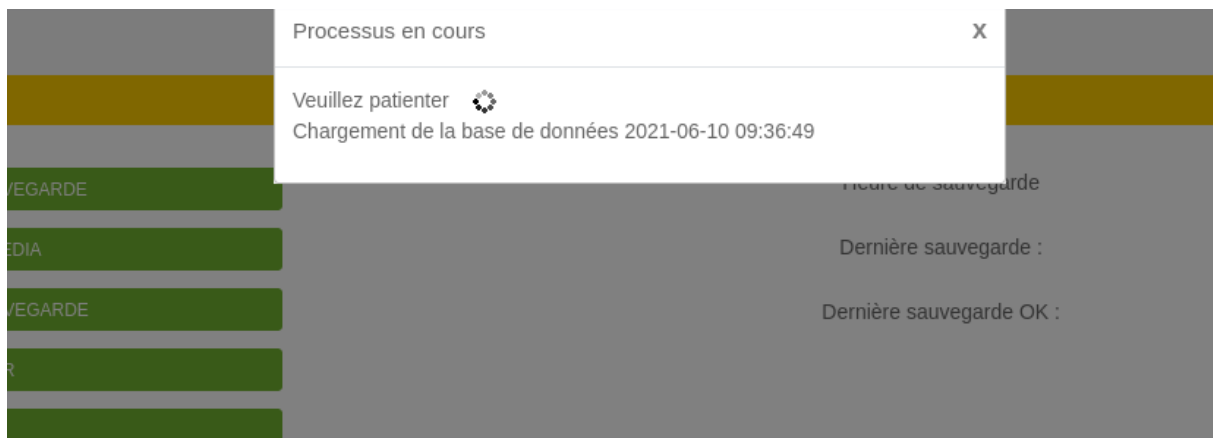
Warning: in some cases the restoration may take several tens of minutes. It is important to be patient while the above message is displayed.

When the restoration is complete, the LabBook application must be restarted. You will be asked to confirm the restart, but except in exceptional cases you must confirm the restart:

> La restauration est terminée, LabBook va redémarrer les services de l'application
>
> Annuler   OK
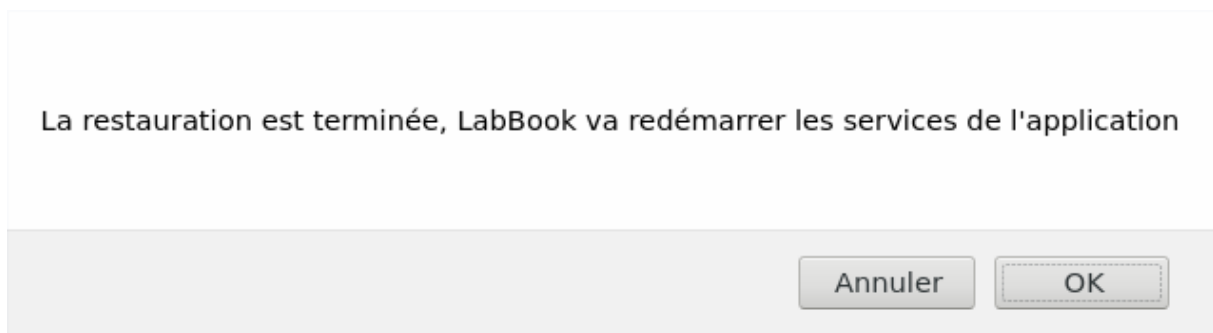
After a few moments you will need to reload the page to continue using the application. A message will indicate this, but please note that it may take a few more moments before the reload works:

> Les services ont redémarré ou une erreur est survenue lors de la demande de redémarrage veuillez recharger la page
>
> OK