

SAS Console Button Legends

A long time ago in a console far, far away... the evil galactic empire decided to change formats... and add an HD channel. OK, the legend we're talking about is not some sci-fi spoof, it's the button labeling for that bus assign button that just went from blank or UTIL2 to HD. One of the keys to making a console user-friendly is making the button legends (labels) make sense. All SAS Console models feature easy to customize button legends. The lens caps on our consoles can be removed with simple hand tools, the existing legend can be removed and a new and improved (or just more accurate) legend can be inserted.

What you will need:

A generic pair of pliers

A flat blade jeweler's screwdriver (a greenie or reddie works well)

An Exacto knife

A sharp pair of scissors

Laser or inkjet transparency film (get the good stuff like 3M)

A compatible printer for the transparency film

Microsoft Word on a Windows PC

Downloaded Fonts and Word Templates from the SAS website.

<http://www.sasaudio.com/downloads/buttonlegends.zip>

We use three sizes of button assemblies - .400 and the larger .500 are the two sizes that generally get customized legends – the .625 size is used for On and OFF buttons. The .400 lens caps are used extensively on most console modules, with the .500 size used on some turret panels, console button panels, and intercoms. They all come apart the same way, so although these instructions are illustrated with photos of the .400 series buttons, the process is the same for both sizes.

Install the ttf fonts supplied in the SASbuttons.zip file. Font installation in windows is done under Fonts in the Windows Control Panel. If you are unfamiliar with the process, get help from an IT person.

Load the correct Template into Word and edit the contents of the labels.

Always populate a few more labels than you think you will need.

Print. Then carefully cut them out. They fit best if you cut just inside the lines; don't leave even a trace of the line edge in your cut-out legends. If you make them too large they will be difficult to use and really tough to remove later if you need to change them again.



Once you've printed and cut out your legends, start removing the buttons you want to re-legend. For best results, grasp the lens with the pliers and wiggle them slightly as you pull the cap straight up. Usually the entire cap assembly will come off, sometimes just the lens cap, and sometimes the lens cap, the white diffuser chip, and the lens base will separate from the assembly base.



Pull straight up.



Sometimes you just get the lens.



Assembly base, lens base, diffuser, and lens.



Sometimes a greenie helps, but usually you can grasp the base, and pull the lens off gently with the pliers. Once the lens is removed, the white diffuser chip will probably fall out – don't lose it. Next, you'll need to get the old legend out. If you're lucky it will fall out when you open up the lens cap. Usually you have to help it out. An Exacto blade or sometimes even a greenie screwdriver can make this easier. We have the best luck with the Exacto, but it's easy to scratch the inside of the lens if you get in a hurry, and they hurt a lot when you jam one into your fingertip. Or so we're told... Try to find an edge or corner of the legend that you can get under with the fine tip of the blade and it should come out without further fuss.



Re-assembly with the new legend is simpler – put the new legend in (make sure it reads right from the front), replace the white diffuser, and snap the lens and base back together.

