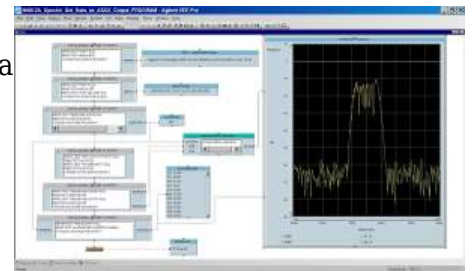




# Keysight announces Windows 10 support for VEE

Martin Rowe - April 06, 2016

I'm a regular follower of an e-mail group for [Keysight VEE](#). If you're unfamiliar with VEE (Visual Engineering Environment), it's a graphical programming environment for test automation. It competes with [LabVIEW](#), but doesn't get quite the same visibility. VEE has a small but loyal following, mostly from test engineers.



The other day, the e-mail group—called VRF—lit up when someone [posted the following](#) from Keysight.

Keysight Technologies is committed to ensure that our VEE customers have continued Microsoft Windows OS support and eventually a transition path to future Keysight software solutions.

- Today's VEE version 9.32 supports Windows XP, 7 and 8.
- There will be a new version of VEE that supports Windows 10 by Q3 2017. *(Beyond product improvement, there will be no additional functionality planned for VEE. This new VEE version will support Microsoft .NET framework up to version 4.6*

The thread that followed resulted in several people becoming convinced that this was the beginning of the end for VEE, which started on Unix in 1991 as HP VEE, becoming Agilent VEE in 1999 and Keysight VEE last year. To find out Keysight's plans for VEE, I spoke with Keysight's Jeff Smith, Product Manager and Christopher Cain, Director of R&D Industrial Solutions Group.

Manufacturer	Major Release Version	Release Date	Operating System								Features
			HP/UX	Solaris	Windows 3.0	Windows 3.1	Windows 95	Windows NT	Windows 98	Windows 2000	
HP	A.00.00	09. Mai 91									First implementation on HP Series 300 platform, UX 7.x/8.x
	A.00.01	07. Okt 91									First implementation on HP Series 700 platform
	2.0/8.00.00	17. Dez 92									UX 8.x/9.x
	2.1/8.01.00	11. Mrz 93									Implementation on Sun SPARCStation, Ported to Solaris
	2.2/8.02.00	02. Nov 93									Ported to Microsoft Windows™ Platform
	2.3/8.03.00	21. Jun 94									Moved to Microsoft Windows 3.1
	3	02. Feb 95									Colors, Fonts, Hotkeys, Panels, Bitmaps, Dialogs, and Resizing of objects.
	3.1	03. Apr 95									VXI support, Programmatic Control knobs
	3.2	22. Feb 96									Enhanced Performance, more Colors, Toolbar, and Workspace panning, Unlimited use of runtime, and PVWave link for Analysis.
	4	05. Mrz 97									Completely rewritten interface, Runtime performance, MDI, Program explorer, and Debugging.
	5	01. Mai 98									ActiveX, multiline formula, user functions, Instrument Manager, display indicators, savePanelImage.
	6	27. Mrz 00									2 versions: VEE Pro and VEE OneLab for students, MatLab® script, Real32 datatype.
Agilent	6.1	11. Mai 02									Changed licensing to node locked requiring license file from web, MatLab® R12 compatibility
	6.2	21. Jul 03									Switched back licensing from node locked to product key.
	7	10. Mrz 04									Programmatic .Net use, Undo, Object property editing, LAN/USB support, IVI-COM support, Descriptions and panel edit.
	7.5	14. Mai 05									Excel Add-in, NI DAQ support (PXI and PCI), Embedded Sample programs, .NET Operations builder, and For Each object.
	Lite 7.54	19. Apr 06									Same as VEE except supporting USB devices only and without MatLab® engine, later developed into VEE Express branch.
	8	31. Jan 07									Watch window, code completion, Programmatic properties, Minimap, Home function, Multiple transaction enhanced
	8.5	20. Okt 07									Modern IDE, New Instrument Manager, New #QB, MatLab® 2007a, I/O monitor, Color coding, Dynamic Visa address, and Office 2007 support
	9	27. Okt 08									Multithread and multicore, SCPI completion, Private user functions, Database support, Conditional breakpoints, and Call stack.
	9.2	15. Apr 10									Like 9.0 plus Windows 7 support
	9.3	11. Nov 11									Sneak preview at VEE Day 2011

**VEE release history, courtesy of Keysight Technologies. Click on image to enlarge.**

"We will bring Keysight VEE to fully support the features of Windows 10 and to integrate with Office 365," said Cain. "The next version of VEE will be compatible with the latest version of Microsoft .NET Framework and be fully compliant with all flavors of Windows 10."

Keysight plans to keep sustaining VEE as it has since porting VEE from Unix to Windows in 1993. "Mainstream support for Windows 7 [ceased in January 2015](#) and we want to support our users going forward. Many are still using Windows 7." Windows 7 computers are [still available](#).

When asked if the next revision of VEE, due out in late 2017, will add new features on top of supporting Windows 10, Cain replied "We always look at sustaining issues such as bug fixes. We will look to see if there are any enhancements we should make for the next release. But, the focus of this next release is to ensure support for Windows 10."

I asked VEE users on the VRF if anyone is already using Windows 10, several replied that they are. One even noted that he's using VEE 6 on Windows 10. Thus, you can likely upgrade to Windows 10 now with little or no problems.

I then asked why Keysight (and HP/Agilent before it) doesn't put more effort into marketing VEE. Smith explained that VEE is one of several Keysight software products that support test automation. He noted that the company offers [TestExec SL](#) and the company keeps upgrading its [IO Libraries Suite](#) for instrument control and [BenchVue](#) for quick bench measurements. "We're trying to support a broad set of users," said Cain. "Let the customer choose what's best for an application." While the traditional VEE user is a test engineer, others use it for bench automation as well. "I've used VEE on the bench," noted Cain. Its dataflow representations work well on the bench."

Given that the next version of VEE is over a year away, I conclude that VEE isn't going away, but I do encourage VEE users to speak up if you think Keysight should add new features.

Are you using Windows 10 for test automation? Still using XP? Tell us why you have or have not upgraded.

To subscribe to the VRF, send an email to [vrf-request@general.lists.keysight.com](mailto:vrf-request@general.lists.keysight.com) with the word subscribe in the message body (no long signatures and plain text only).