



## Hewlett-Packard Announces Major Upgrade to HP VEE

*HP VEE 4.0 Enables Execution Speeds Up to 400% Faster, Features Simplified Professional Development Environment*

Palo Alto, CA., February 24, 1997 -- Hewlett-Packard today announced HP VEE 4.0, a major revision of HP's popular visual programming language for developing test and measurement applications. HP VEE 4.0 provides performance and ease-of-use features that enable users to build programs faster in manufacturing test, design characterization and verification and data acquisition applications.

### **New Compiler Increases Execution Speed**

HP VEE 4.0's new compiler encodes HP VEE programs for faster execution. A typical computation-intensive routine will now execute 40 times faster than in previous versions of HP VEE. A typical test and measurement application, where execution speed is constrained by I/O performance and instrumentation characteristics, will execute between 150% and 400% faster than applications lacking a compiler feature.

### **Professional Development Environment Makes HP VEE Instantly Familiar**

Also new in HP VEE 4.0 is a professional development environment complete with a new program explorer, multiple document interface, and debug capabilities.

This graphical user interface (GUI) also provides navigation tools, including Find, that facilitate the management of large programs,

such as those used to control complex systems that test multiple products.

"With HP VEE 4.0, we wanted to give test engineers, particularly first-time users of graphical programming languages, a familiar 'look and feel.' Our new navigation and debugging tools and the multiple document interface are accepted GUI's driven by Microsoft's human interface for Windows 95/NT and Visual C/C++," said Bill Heinzman, HP VEE project manager. "HP VEE 4.0's Program Explorer will be immediately familiar to anyone using the Windows Explorer. We designed HP VEE 4.0's professional development environment to make it easier and faster for users to learn, and to encourage a broader range of users to reap the benefits of this powerful test programming language."

### **Automatic Instrument Configuration Leads List of Ease-of-Use Enhancements**

HP VEE 4.0 increases test engineering productivity by simplifying and automating routine test tasks such as instrumentation configuration and control, operator interface development, test sequencing and debugging, and final test program distribution.

HP VEE 4.0 's instrument manager searches for instruments connected to the computer and automatically handles all addressing regardless of whether the test engineer is using drivers or controlling instruments directly. Users can manage serial, GPIB, VXIa, LAN-based, and GPIO instruments easily and quickly. HP VEE 4.0 fully supports VXIplug&play; drivers, providing the user with quick and easy access to instrument functionality. In addition, Hewlett-Packard now allows customers to use HP VEE programs to create distributed applications, without purchasing additional runtime versions of HP VEE, providing a more cost effective path for manufacturing companies to standardize on HP VEE 4.0.

### **New Distributed Integration Capabilities Using ActiveX**

With HP VEE 4.0, users can integrate HP VEE objects into other commercial applications, or into proprietary test systems written in standard text-based languages, such as C. A new ActiveX control encapsulates HP VEE 4.0 user functions for integration into OLE-compliant applications such as Microsoft Excel and Visual Basic. The ActiveX feature makes integrating remote instrument control, test, and measurement capabilities of HP VEE into applications as easy as the "drag and drop" process users are familiar with.

For engineers using C to develop test programs, HP VEE 4.0 provides a simple library that offers the same capability as the ActiveX control. With this library, users can integrate HP VEE functionality into their C program without needing to learn OLE.

## Better Source Documentation

HP VEE 4.0 provides new source documentation functionality, allowing users to print out and archive the design and structure of an HP VEE program.

## Free Evaluation Kit Plus Internet Technical Support

Evaluation copies of HP VEE 4.0 can be downloaded from the Internet (<http://www.hp.com/go/hpvee.com>) beginning on March 15, 1997. Users can also download a variety of application notes, user tips, and other HP VEE technical information.

## U.S. Price and Availability

HP VEE 4.0 for Windows95/NT (HP E2120E) is \$1295. HP VEE 4.0 is also available on HP-UX (HP E2111E) for \$2495. In North America, HP VEE 4.0 can be ordered directly from Hewlett-Packard by calling 800-452-4844. HP VEE 4.0 is available now. Delivery is 4 weeks ARO.

For companies interested in standardizing on HP VEE, site licenses for 50 users or more is \$35,900, and includes one year of phone and update support.

HP VEE 4.0 is also available from Data Translation (800-525-8528), Computer Boards Inc. (508-261-1123), CyberResearch (800-341-2525) and Meilhaus Electronic, GmbH (49 89/89 01 660). All three companies sell HP VEE as a companion product to their lines of PC plug-in boards for data acquisition applications.

Hewlett-Packard Company is a leading global manufacturer of computing, communications and measurement products and services recognized for excellence in quality and support. HP has 110,800 employees and had revenue of \$31.5 billion in its 1995 fiscal year.

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