What's New in HP VEE

Thank you for using HP VEE. Many features in this version are new or have changed from previous versions, and this section of *HP VEE Help* describes them for you. Scroll through the topics below for a summary of what's new, and an introduction to compatibility issues with your existing programs. Click on the links to get more information about using these features. For detailed information about these and all other existing features in HP VEE, see the *HP VEE Help* Contents or Index.

The HP VEE Web site contains support information, instructions for downloading instrument drivers, and many other helpful resources. You can link to our site from the HP VEE window using `Help` ⇒ `HP VEE on the Web`.

Note

The save file format changed after HP VEE 3.x. If you save your HP VEE 3.x program in HP VEE 4.0 and later, you will not be able to open it in HP VEE 3.x and earlier.

The save file format remained the same from HP VEE 4.x to HP VEE 5.0. However, your programs may not run correctly if you move them between the two versions. For example, if you open your HP VEE 4.x program in HP VEE 5.0 to use new features, then save the program, you can open it again in HP VEE 4.x. However, the new features will be removed, and may corrupt the program.

ActiveX Support

HP VEE for Windows supports ActiveX automation and controls on PCs running Windows® 95/NT® 4.0 or greater (not supported on UNIX).

ActiveX automation lets you use HP VEE as an Automation Controller. This lets you control other applications such as Microsoft® Word, Excel, and Access for activities such as sending data to the applications for report generation. This fully supersedes our current application control solution, Dynamic Data Exchange (DDE), for automation-capable applications.

ActiveX controls, available from various vendors, extend HP VEE's functionality by providing domain-specific services via ActiveX automation properties, methods and events. Most ActiveX controls also provide a user interface that let you manipulate a control such as a Calendar to initiate events based on calendar dates.

Web Monitoring

HP VEE includes a built-in Web server letting you monitor and troubleshoot an HP VEE application from a remote Web browser using standard HTTP protocol. You can use this feature to

- Troubleshoot a system running on the factory floor.
- Retrieve information from an HP VEE program.
- Monitor a test system.

HP VEE Objects and Functions

XY Displays contain several enhancements that let you define scale labels and their spacing, and set number formats.

Knob, Slider and Indicator Objects contain enhancements that let you select logarithmic or linear scaling, set number formats, and control tic mark labels and their spacing.

Formula Object now accepts expressions in multiple lines. When you enter one or more expressions, you can have one expression per line, or split the expression(s) over multiple lines.

UserFunction Menu choices let you automatically generate calls to UserFunctions from the objects and functions most frequently used for calling UserFunctions: `Call`, `Formula`, `If/Then/Else`,

`showPanel()`, and `hidePanel()`.

SavePanelImage Function allows programmatic rendering of an HP VEE UserFunction panel to a file letting you dynamically embed an HP VEE panel in a report.

Development Environment

The HP VEE Development Environment contains several changes including

- `Execution Mode` has changed to `Compatibility Mode` in the `Default Preferences` dialog box; modes are `VEE 3`, `VEE 4`, and `Standard`.
- `Select Function` dialog box is now `Function & Object Browser` (`Device` menu). It is `Function Browser` on UNIX.
- Expanded Clipboard support lets you copy object bitmaps from HP VEE to other Windows applications
- `.vxe` binary file format for smaller files and better security for RunTime programs.
- Better access to online Help information.

Instrument Manager

The button labels on the `Instrument Manager` dialog box have been changed. The `Configuration` area's button labels will change dynamically depending on which node is selected in the `Instrument List` tree view. This gives better information about configuration changes allowed for each node. For more information, see Instrument Manager .