

Technical Support  
Knowledge Center Open

# How Can I Build Non-modal Popups?

# Notices

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Dialog boxes introduced in HP VEE 3.0 have proven popular, but some users have found that their implementation is strictly modal, that is, when the program pops up a dialog box then everything stops running until the user makes it go away or a timeout occurs. There are occasions where a pop-up is desirable, but the program needs to continue running (non-modal).

VEE 3.X and later revisions also allow you to display a "pop-up" User Function in a non-modal fashion -- meaning it allows the rest of the program to keep on running -- by using the "showPanel()" function to display the User Function, then using the "hidePanel()" function to hide it again.

For example, you can create a User Function named "PopUp" that consists solely of a Label object containing the text "Please Wait ... ", glued to the Panel View of the User Function. Then write the following program:

```
+-----+
| Start |
+---+---+
|
+-----+-----+
| showPanel( "PopUp" ) |
+-----+-----+ +-----+
| | AlphaNumeric |
+-----+-----+ +-----+
| For Count [ 5 0 -1 ] +---->| |
+-----+-----+ +-----+-----+
| |
+-----+-----+ +-----+-----+
| hidePanel( "PopUp" ) | | Delay (1) |
+-----+-----+
```

Put the Start button and the AlphaNumeric display on the Panel View. When you invoke Start, the pop-up instructs you to "Please Wait ... " while the count increments down to 0, and then closes.

Note that optional parameters can be provided to "showPanel()" to specify the placement and size of the pop-up. The pop-up will be centered if parameters are not specified.

The "showPanel()" and "hidePanel()" functions free the HP VEE user from having to connect all the user-interface components to the HP VEE Panel View. This capability can be used to good advantage in a number of user applications.

