I/O Libraries for HP-UX 10.20

Data Sheet

- **Supports the VXI*plug&play* HP-UX Framework**
- **Works with VXI*plug&play* compliant equipment**
- **Works on HP Series 700 workstations and the Agilent V743 VXI embedded controller**
- **Supported by Agilent VEE, BASIC, and ANSI-C**
- **Included with Agilent I/O products such as GPIB cards and VXI Slot 0 interfaces**
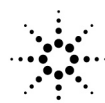
Description

The Agilent Technologies E2091F I/O libraries for instrument control for HP-UX/700 controllers conforms to the latest VXI*plug&play* software. This, a significant industry standard, ensures a high degree of interoperability among VXI vendors providing mainframes and instruments, controllers and interfaces, and software. In addition to providing the HP-UX Framework for HP external workstations and Agilent VXI embedded controllers, the Agilent E2091F I/O libraries support Agilent VEE, BASIC, and ANSI C software languages.

SICL (Standard Instrument Control Library), an Agilent standard I/O library, which preceded the VXI*plug&play* standard VISA, is available for most Agilent I/O interfaces.

VISA I/O libraries (VXI*plug&play* HP-UX Framework) are available for most Agilent I/O interfaces.

This software product is included with the purchase of Agilent I/O products such as GPIB cards and VXI Slot 0 interfaces. The E2091F is required when upgrading an existing system. It supports HP-UX 10.20. For other HP-UX operating system support, contact your local Agilent sales office.

Refer to the Agilent Technologies Website for instrument driver availability and downloading instructions, as well as for recent product updates, if applicable.

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VISA I/O Libraries by Controller and Interface

	GPIB	External Workstations RS-232	LAN	MXI	Embedded Workstation
HP-UX 9.X	SICL only	SICL only	SICL only	SICL only	SICL only
HP-UX 10.X	VISA/SICL	VISA/SICL	VISA/SICL	VISA/SICL	VISA/SICL

What is VISA?

As an innovator in test and measurement technology and a leader in setting and supporting standards, Agilent Technologies created the Standard Instrument Control Library (SICL) in June 1993 as a proposed I/O library standard. As other manufacturers in the industry recognized the value of a standard I/O library for test and measurement, the VXI*plug&play* Systems Alliance was formed. The alliance developed the specification for an I/O library similar in features and functionality to SICL. This library is called the Virtual Instrument Software Architecture, or VISA. Agilent joined the Alliance as an active participant in specifying and bringing these new standards to our customers.

VISA is based on the frequently used I/O function calls. The calls are similar to SICL calls—for example, *iopen* in SICL is *viopen* VISA. You can continue using your existing SICL applications while adding VISA for new ones.

What about SICL?

Agilent is committed to supporting SICL as well as VISA. You can continue to use SICL for all your current program applications, and use VISA for new applications. Your SICL-only programs can run on the same system as VISA-only programs if the programs are talking to different instruments, whether or not the instruments are on the same interface.

One of the main benefits of SICL and VISA continues to be portability between Windows and HP-UX environments. Applications written on HP-UX run under Windows with a simple recompile of the code.

VISA and the VXI*plug&play* Systems Alliance Frameworks

The VXI*plug&play* Systems Alliance divides systems into several Frameworks. The most active of these provides VXI*plug&play* compatibility for the Microsoft Windows environment. The HP-UX Framework is another framework that is especially important to Agilent customers. The HP-UX Framework is designed to be POSIX-compliant. As with SICL, portability between VXI*plug&play* Frameworks is an important part of VISA functionality.

How to Upgrade from SICL to VISA

As you add new VXI*plug&play* devices to your system, change the I/O function calls from SICL to VISA. Although SICL and VISA function calls may be written into the same application program, this is not an Agilent-supported configuration.

Ordering Information

Description	Product No.
I/O Libraries for HP-UX 10.20	E2091F
Telephone Support	E2091F H00

Related Literature

2000 Test System and VXI Catalog CD-ROM,
Agilent Pub. No. 5980-0308E (detailed specifications for VXI products)

2000 Test System and VXI Catalog,
Agilent Pub. No. 5980-0307E (overview of VXI products)

1998 Test System and VXI Products Data Book,
Agilent Pub. No. 5966-2812E

Online

Internet access for Agilent product information, services and support
  www.agilent.com/find/tmdir

VXI product information
  www.agilent.com/find/vxi

Defense Electronics Applications
  www.agilent.com/find/defense_ATE

Agilent Technologies VXI Channel Partners
  www.agilent.com/find/vxichanpart

Agilent Technologies' HP VEE Application Website
  www.agilent.com/find/vee

Agilent Technologies Data Acquisition and Control Website
  www.agilent.com/find/data_acq

Agilent Technologies Instrument Driver Downloads
  www.agilent.com/find/inst_drivers

Agilent Technologies Electronics Manufacturing Test Solutions
  www.agilent.com/go/manufacturing

Get assistance with all your test and measurement needs at
www.agilent.com/find/assist
**or check your local phone book for the Agilent office
near you.**

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help tools include many online resources (www.agilent.com).

Experienced Agilent test engineers throughout the world offer practical
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