

The Virtual Process

CAPE Software

Summer 2001

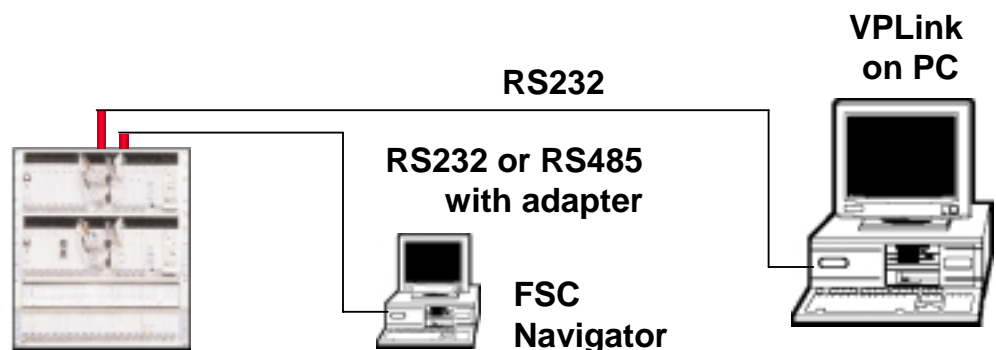
VPLink® for FSC Release 2004D

With the cooperation and support of Honeywell, VPLink utilizes the FSC's proprietary API so that when simulated I/O values are written to the controller, the logic executes exactly as configured for the field. Your validation exercises every branch of code exactly as it is delivered to the plant.

Six Sigma Objectives Achieved with VPLink

Corporations embracing Six Sigma methodology need to know this: Applying VPLink on the stage floor of every automation project will achieve your objectives. Implementing your best practices on every project, globally, is one of your goals. VPLink solves this problem across all DCS/PLC platforms and ESD systems. More on page 3.

VPLink for FSC Applications



How to create a simulation file within five minutes :

- √FSC Navigator Rel.510 exports new fields required by VPLink
- √getiofsc utility script creates simulation database from FSC.DBF file
- √Input points must have FORCE ENABLE=TRUE

VPLink® supports Honeywell Fail Safe Controller with Non-invasive Interface

Cape has delivered to FSC customers over the past year and jointly developed enhancements make the solution ideally suited for the most critical control in the plant. The latest release features plug-and-play ease of use and an optimized read/write rate. Large projects and small all benefit from the Cause and Effect Matrix front end to VPLink: an Excel spreadsheet which creates VPLink scenario files.

Supported Systems

Foxboro I/A Series Systems
 Siemens - Moore APACS+
 Emerson Process Delta V
 Honeywell TPS
 ABB Mod300
 ABB IMS Advant
 RA Allen Bradley PLC5& SLC500
 Honeywell Plantscape
 Siemens TI Series 5x5 PLC
 GE Fanuc Series 6 and 90
 Modicon 984 and Quantum
 Siemens PCS7
 Bailey F&P System 6
 Rockwell Automation PLX
 Rockwell Automation CLX
 Triconex
 Honeywell FSC

Cape Welcomes ...

BASF - Geismar, LA
 Genentech - Vacaville, CA
 Huntsman - Pt. Neches, TX
 Kellogg Brown & Root - Houston, TX
 Coors Brewery - Golden, CO
 Dupont - Waynesboro, VA
 Union Carbide Corp - Wilton, UK
 Optimal - Kerteh, Malaysia
 Iron Ore of Canada - Newfoundland
 The Stellar Goup - Jacksonville, FL
 Hoffman LaRoche - Nutley, NJ
 TOSCO - Trainer, PA
 Air Liquide P&C - Houston, TX
 TAG - Houston, TX

Plug in the Process... ... The Virtual Process

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 is (281) 448-2607. e-mail to :
 mike@capesoftware.com

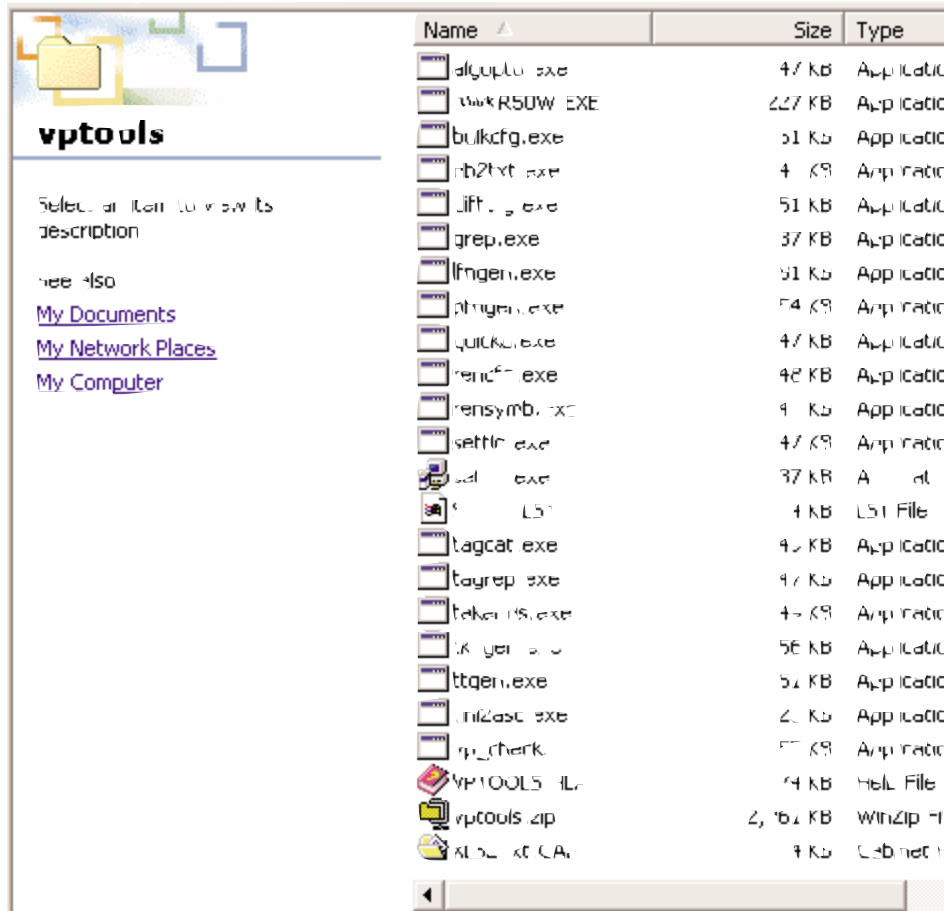
Visit our Web Site

<http://www.capesoftware.com>

The Virtual Process newsletter is published for the benefit of friends and users of VPLink®. Edited by Michael Sullivan.

Technical Tip

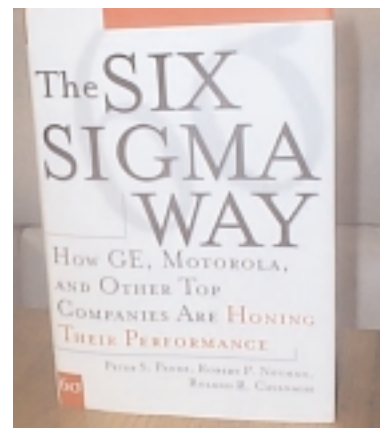
The vptools directory is delivered with VPLink and can be found under \tb40\vp\tools\. These utilities are used regularly by Cape Software staff, yet seldom discovered by our customers. The routines put to work most often are: "vp_check", "diffcfg", "takeflds", "lfnngen", and "pfnngen". Very briefly, here's what you'll find.



takeflds	Copies fields from one file to another based on matching tag names.
pfnngen	Generates VP tags from an XLS spreadsheet of pressure nodes and the vapor flows between those nodes.
tagrep	Extracts VP tags that match a particular expression.
tagcat	Concatenates multiple cfg files.
ttgen	Generates related tags from a template and a data set. A Mail Merge for VP- this utility is well suited for cloning similar units.
diffcfg	Finds differences between two .cfg files. Reports new tags, old tags, and modified tags.
setfld	Applies changes to a .cfg file kept in a separate file.
db2txt	Creates a tab delimited text file from a dBase (dbf) file.

Case History... *Six Sigma Objectives are Realized with VPLink*

Cape Software has always targeted zero defects in our applications. This is one goal of corporations embracing Six Sigma methods in the way they do business. VPLink is congruent with the six themes of Six Sigma (see below) and should be the formalized standard for how every automation project is staged and validated during acceptance testing. From meeting with many project teams over the past 11 years, we have seen variations in quality attributable to the means selected for project checkout. Within a single vendor staging floor, six projects running concurrently might well have six different methods for application verification - a practice which is not acceptable.



Six Sigma Themes

Customer Focus - Interaction between the end user and their test plan is brought to light.
Data & Fact Driven - VPLink creates a Log File to document the test as well as the Test Log File.
Process Focus - VPLink offers a standardized procedure to implement your test plan - not ad hoc.
Proactive Management - Focusing on problems earlier in the development cycle is advantageous.
Drive for Performance - Raising the bar for quality during acceptance testing is our goal.
Boundaryless Collaboration - Bringing the process engineer, the control engineer, and operations staff together for these discussions breaks down barriers - whether in the same company or not.

Clearly, the companies employing VPLink during project checkout are enjoying the “Genius of the And”. This term was coined within “Built to Last” and describes the dimension they found most remarkable among their studied firms: their ability - and willingness - to simultaneously adopt two seemingly contrary objectives at the same time. For example: Big Picture AND Minute Detail; Creativity AND Rational analysis; Stability AND Renewal. In the context of automation projects this is

Expedite Checkout AND Increase Quality

You don't have to be within a Six Sigma organization to enjoy these benefits: reducing costs and minimizing bugs has always been part of VPLink's value proposition, and easily justifiable on its own. Now it's only easier to justify VPLink's application on all projects as part of your company's Six Sigma initiatives.



If you see this car stopped in traffic anywhere from upstate New York to Baltimore, MD wave “Hi!” to Mike Sullivan.

Cape Software's Northeast Expansion

To serve our customers better, we have opened an office in Newtown Square, PA, just outside of Philadelphia. For local support, please contact Mike Sullivan at:

(610) 353-6882 direct

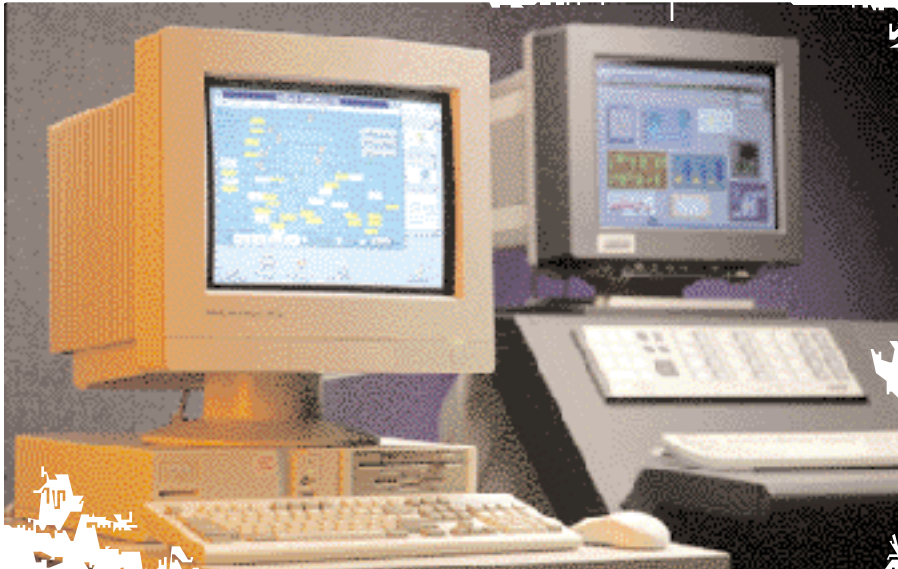
(800) 759-4371 pager

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Look Inside For:



VPLink and Six Sigma

Honeywell FSC Feature

New Office Opens in the Northeast

Technical Talk

VPLink Solves Dynamic Simulation Needs for Engineers:
Control System Validation and Software Verification and
Operations: Board Level Certification for Console Operators.

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