Getting Started with Keysight M8070A Plug-ins

Getting Started Guide

KEYSIGHT TECHNOLOGIES

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This chapter describes how to install, uninstall, update and launch the plug-ins through the M8070A system software.

Introduction

A plug-in is a piece of software application that acts as an add-on to the main software and enhances its capability. plug-in allows the software to host additional functionality without undergoing a major modification or enhancement. A plug-in is not a permanent part of the software, hence can be installed, uninstalled and updated as and when required.

The M8070A system software for the M8000 Series of BER Test Solutions supports plug-ins. Thus, the present capabilities of M8070A can be further enhanced by simply adding the required plug-ins.

The M8070A comes with a **Plug-in Manager** to simplify all the tasks related to plug-in management. For details, see Plug-in Manager on page 7.

Prerequisites for Plug-ins Installation

- M8070A software version 2.5 or later with software license ("M8070A-0TP" or "M8070A-0NP") installed.
- Plug-in file which can be downloaded from Keysight webpage: www.keysight.com/find/m8000
- Plug-in license (if required). For details on the license and its accessibility, please refer to the respective plug-in's *User Guide*.

License Information

The plug-ins can be freeware or licensed. For the plug-ins which require license to operate, you need to install the plug-in license in the M8070A software. For details on the license and its accessibility, please refer to the respective plug-in's *User Guide*.

Locate Documentation

After installing the M8070A software, you will find M8020A documentation by clicking **Start** > **All Programs** > **Keysight M8070A** > **Keysight M8070A Documentation**.

For plug-ins related documents, click **Start** > **All Programs** > **Agilent** > **M8070A** > **Plug-ins**.

You can also visit www.keysight.com/find/m8000 to find the latest versions of related manuals.

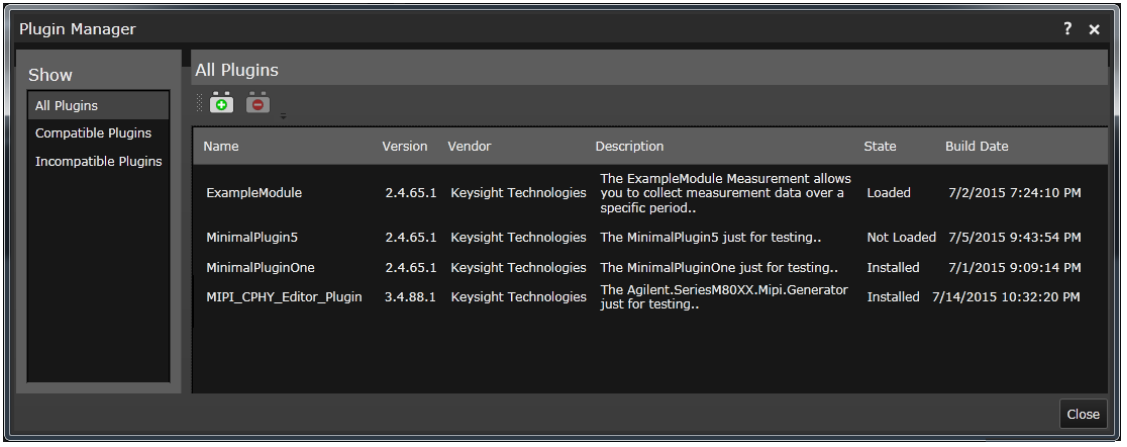
Contact Keysight Technologies

For more information on Keysight Technologies' products, applications or services, please contact your local Keysight office. The complete list is available at: www.keysight.com/find/contactus

Plug-in Manager

The Plug-in Manager simplifies all the tasks related to plug-in management. It displays list of plug-ins that are installed in the software. For each plug-in, it displays the information such as Name, Version, Vendor, Description, State and Build Date. In addition, the **Plug-in Manager** also allows you to install, uninstall and upgrade the plug-ins.

To launch **Plug-in Manager**, open the M8070A user interface and then go to **Menu** > **Utilities** and then **Plug-in Manager**. The **Plug-in Manager** window will appear as shown in the following figure:



The **Plug-in Manager** window displays two types of plug-ins:

- **Compatible Plug-ins** – plug-ins which are compatible with the current version of software.
- **In-Compatible Plug-ins** – plug-ins which are not compatible with the current version of software.

The **Plug-in Manager** window displays the following information of each plug-in:

- **Name** - Name of the plug-in
- **Verison** - Version no. of the plug-in

- **Vendor** - Vendor/publisher of the plug-in
- **Description** - Brief description of the plug-in
- **State** - State of the plug-in. For details on different plug-in states, see Plug-in States on page 8.
- **Build Date** - Build date of the plug-in

Plug-in States

There can be the following plug-in states:

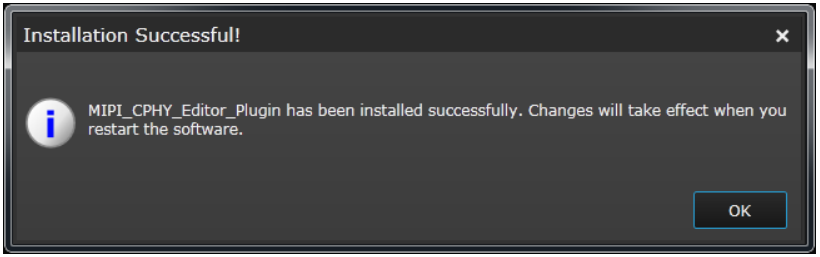
- **Installed** - When the plug-in is installed but the M8070A software is not re-started. In this case, the installed plug-in is not loaded or it cannot be used. You have re-start the M8070A software in order to load the plug-in.
- **Loaded** - When the plug-in is installed and the M8070A software has been re-started. In this case, the installed plug-in is ready to be used. Remember, you have to restart the M8070A software in order to load the plug-in.
- **Not Loaded** - When the plug-in is installed and but failed to load. In this case, the installed plug-in cannot be used.
- **Version In-Compatible** - When the version of the installed plug-in is not compatible with the current version of M8070A software.

How to Install a Plug-in

The **Plug-in Manager** window allows you to install a plug-in.

To do so;

1. Download plug-in file from Keysight webpage: www.keysight.com/find/m8000
2. Click on **Install Plug-in from File** button. A Window's standard **Open** dialog will appear.
3. Locate the plug-in file (*.M8KP) you want to install and click **OK**.
4. On the successful installation of plug-in, the following message will appear:



5 Restart the software. Once you restart the software, the plug-in state will change to **Loaded**. See Plug-in States on page 8.

NOTE Ensure to restart the M8070A software for the changes to take effect.

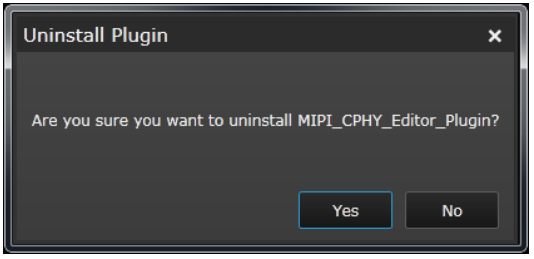
How to Uninstall a Plug-in

The **Plug-in Manager** window allows you to uninstall a plug-in.

To do so;

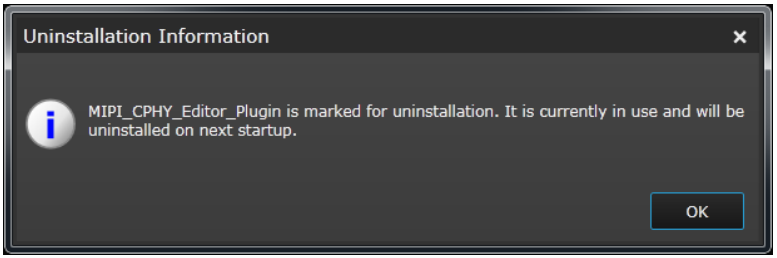
1 Select the plug-in from the list.

2 Click on **Uninstall Selected Plug-in** button or right-click on the selected plug-in. The **Uninstall Plug-in** dialog will open.



3 Click **Yes**. If the state of plugin is **Installed**, then it will be immediately uninstalled from the software.

4 However, if the plug-in is currently in use (**Loaded** or **Not Loaded**), then you will receive the following message.



5 Restart the software. The plug-in will be uninstalled on software startup.

How to Update a Plug-in

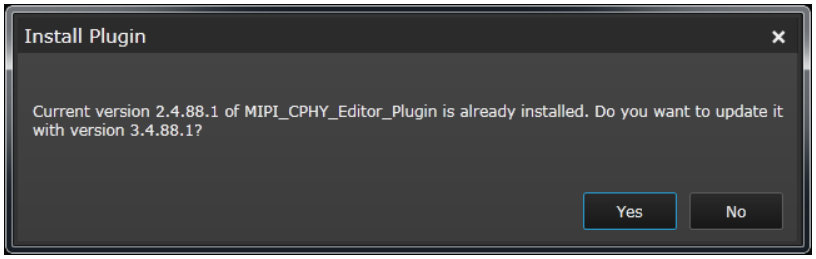
The **Plug-in Manager** window also allows you to update an already installed plug-in.

Following the given steps to update the plug-in with its higher version:

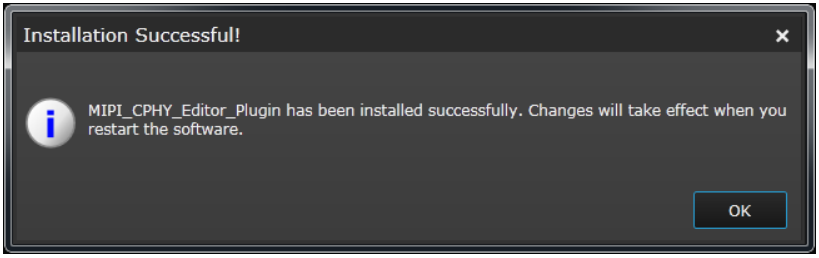
1 Download plug-in file from Keysight webpage: www.keysight.com/find/m8000

2 Click on **Install Plug-in from File** button. A Window's standard **Open** dialog will appear.

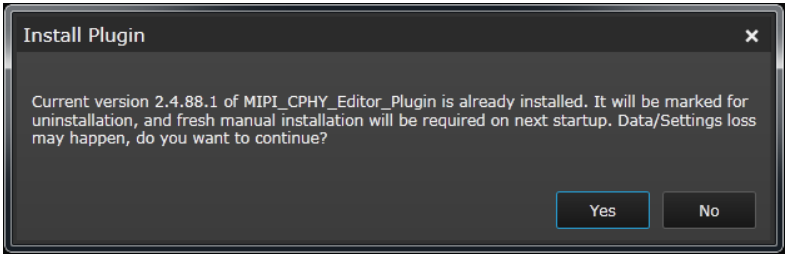
3 Locate the plug-in file (*.M8KP) you want to update and click **OK**. You will see the following message:



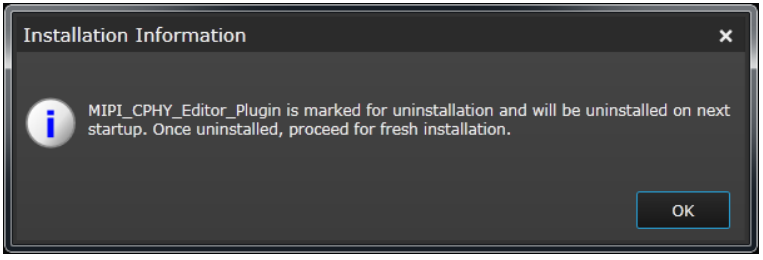
4 Click **Yes**. If the state of plug-in is **Installed**, then it will be immediately updated and the following message will appear:



5 However, if the plug-in is currently in use (**Loaded** or **Not Loaded**), then you will receive the following message.



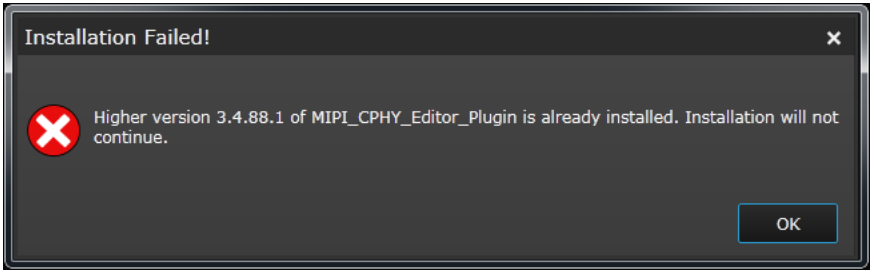
6 Click **Yes**. The following message will appear:



7 Click **OK**. The selected plug-in will be uninstalled from the software. You can now install the new version of that plug-in. For installation procedure, see How to Install a Plug-in on page 8.

NOTE Ensure to restart the M8070A software for the changes to take effect.

The **Plug-in Manager** window does not directly allow you to update an installed plug-in with previous (lower) version. If you try to do so it will give the following error message:



In this case, you have to uninstalled the plug-in and then install the previous (lower) version of that plug-in again.

How to Access an Installed Plug-in Through M8070A User Interface

Follow the steps to access an installed plug-in through M8070A user interface:

1 Launch M8070A software user interface.

2 In the M8070A user interface, go to **Menu Bar** and then click **Application** menu. It will list all installed plug-ins.

3 Select the plug-in.

4 The plug-in user interface will appear in the M8070A software.

For complete details on how to operate plug-in user interface, refer to the respective plug-in's *User Guide*.

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