



Agilent E2094G/ E2094J I/O Libraries for Windows

Data Sheet

- Supports the VXI plug&play Win, Win 95/98/NT/2000 Frameworks
- Works with VXI plug&play compliant equipment
- Works on external and Agilent VXI embedded PCs
- Supported by Agilent VEE, BASIC, LabVIEW, LabWindows, and other languages

Description

The Agilent Technologies E2094 I/O libraries for instrument control for PC 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 Win, Win 95/98/NT/2000 Frameworks for external and Agilent VXI embedded PCs, the E2094 I/O libraries support Agilent VEE, BASIC, and Borland C/C++, MS Visual Basic (16 and 32 bits), MS Visual C++, NI LabVIEW/LabWindows 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 products.

VISA I/O libraries are available for most Agilent I/O products. This product is provided with GPIB interfaces (except the Agilent 82335B) and VXI Slot 0 interfaces. Otherwise, if you are purchasing a standalone PC and need RS-232 support, you must also purchase the Agilent E2094.

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



What is VISA?

As an innovator in test and measurement technology and a leader in setting and supporting standards, Agilent 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 (see VXI*plug&play* tutorial). 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 most 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 Win 3.1/95/NT I/O Libraries for Win 95/98/NT 4.0/2000	E2094G E2094J

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.

Agilent Technologies' test and measurement service/support commitment

Agilent strives to maximize the value our test and measurement products give you, while minimizing your risk and service/support problems. We work to ensure that each product is realistically described in the literature, meets its stated performance and functionality, has a clearly stated global warranty, and is supported at least five years beyond its production life. Our extensive self-help tools include many online resources (www.agilent.com).

Experienced Agilent test engineers throughout the world offer practical recommendations for product evaluation and selection. After you purchase an Agilent product, they can provide no-charge assistance with operation verification and basic measurement setups for advertised capabilities. To enhance the features, performance, and flexibility of your test and measurement products—and to help you solve application challenges—Agilent offers free or extra-cost product options and upgrades, and sell expert engineering, calibration, and other consulting services.

Phone and fax

United States: Agilent Technologies (tel) 1 800 452 4844

Canada:

Agilent Technologies Canada Inc. (tel) 1 877 894 4414

Europe:

Agilent Technologies Test & Measurement European Marketing Organisation (tel) (31 20) 547 2000

Japan:

Agilent Technologies Japan Ltd. (tel) (81) 426 56 7832 (fax) (81) 426 56 7840

Latin America: Agilent Technologies Latin American Region Headquarters, U.S.A. (tel) (305) 267 4245 (fax) (305) 267 4286

Australia/New Zealand: Agilent Technologies Australia Pty Ltd. (tel) 1 800 629 485 (Australia) (fax) (61 3) 9272 0749 (tel) 0 800 738 378 (New Zealand) (fax) (64 4) 802 6881

Asia Pacific: Agilent Technologies, Hong Kong (tel) (852) 3197-7777 (fax) (852) 2506-9284

Data Subject to Change © Agilent Technologies 2000 Printed in the U.S.A. 06/2000 Publication No.: 5965-5502E

