



For the Rapid Application Development (RAD) of Supervisory Control And Data Acquisition (SCADA) applications.

## System requirements:

### Design environment requires:

- Windows 2000
- Windows XP
- Vista
- Windows 7

### Created run-time only application can install on:

- Windows 2000
- Windows XP
- Vista
- Windows 7

## Hardware requirements:

- 300 MHz Pentium minimum
- 256 colour video display minimum
- CD ROM drive
- 64 Mb RAM free minimum
- 50 Mb hard disk space free minimum
- Mouse or alternative pointing device

## Hardware Protection Key Notes

The design key (red) supplied with the full version of VisualLink, and the separately available run-time keys (green), are USB types. Windows 95 does not support the use of USB keys. Parallel port keys are available on request when purchasing VisualLink. (There may be a small surcharge for parallel port keys.)

# Installing VisualLink

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## Setup requirements:

If you have a version of VisualLink installed which is below version 4.0 you must uninstall it before installing a new version. Click the **Start** button and select **Settings | Control Panel**. Doubleclick the **Add/Remove Programs** icon and locate **VisualLink** in the list. Highlight it and press the **Add/Remove** button. If prompted to remove shared components select **Remove All**. If asked to reboot the computer please do so before installing the new version.

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## Setup Procedure:

- Do **NOT** fit the hardware protection key at this point! (If one is supplied)
- Insert the CD in the drive. VisualLink Setup should start automatically. If it does not start you need to run the setup program manually. To do this click the *START* button on the Windows task bar and select *RUN*.  
In the dialog box that appears, type the following into the text box labeled *Open*:  
`D:\setup.exe`  
If your CD drive is not drive *D* then substitute the *D* above for your CD drive letter.
- A window will appear with a message stating that the installation files are being installed. This will be replaced by a welcome window which will allow you to continue installation by pressing OK.
- The next window displayed will offer you the option of specifying where VisualLink will be installed. The default location is `C:\Program Files\VisualLink`.  
Change the destination if required and continue by clicking the large button with the computer image icon located on the top left of the window.
- A message will appear indicating that the installation routine is checking that there is enough space to install.
- The next window allows you to select a program group, this will be the menu item name that appears in the Programs section of the *START* menu.  
Change this if required or stick to the default of VisualLink.  
Press Continue.
- The VisualLink Setup will now proceed. This may take a few minutes.
- When complete a message will appear. Click OK.
- Restart the computer.
- Once the computer has been restarted you can fit the hardware protection key. On Windows 98 and ME system message boxes may be displayed as the system detects a USB protection key.

You should not run VisualLink until the computer has been restarted.

## How To Load A Design

There are a number of ways to load a design to use in VisualLink.

You can load the design so that you are in edit mode and can alter the design, or you can load the design so that it just runs like a normal program.

### To load a design in edit mode you can:

- Start VisualLink by clicking the **START** button then selecting **Programs | VisualLink | VisualLink Application**. You can then use the **Open** button on the **VisualLink Tool Window** to locate and load a design.
- or
- Locate the design you want and right click on it and select **Edit** from the pop-up menu.

Note that you can easily open the VisualLink example designs folder by clicking the **START** button and selecting **Programs | VisualLink | Design Examples**.

### To run a design like a program:

- Locate the design file you want to run and double-click its icon.
- or
- Locate the design file you want to run and right-click on its icon and select **Run** from the pop-up menu.

### Example of running a specific design like a program

If you are instructed to run a particular design use the following procedure:

To run (for example) 'Dcell Comms v1':

- Click the **START** button and select **Programs | VisualLink | Design Examples**.
- A new folder window will appear on the screen. Locate the file called 'Dcell Comms v1' and double-click on it.
- This will now launch VisualLink and run the design as if it were a program.

## Getting Help

All help and manuals are on-line. Pressing F1 when VisualLink is running will access the on-line help system.

Also see the **Getting Started** item in the **START | Programs | VisualLink** menu.

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