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Agilent Advisor 14.0.0 Release Notes

The Agilent Advisor 14.0.0 release offers increased functionality and performance analysis in the areas of LAN, WAN, ATM, and Gigabit network analysis. The Agilent Advisor software release, with the accompanying modules and/or undercradles, will enhance your productivity by simplifying the troubleshooting and optimization of your networks.

These release notes contain information about new features and enhancements for ATM, WAN, LAN, and Gigabit since the previous (12.0.0) release, including:

- 14.0.0 Supported on "D" and "E" Advisor Models, on page 2
- Hardware and Software Requirements, on page 3
- Platform, WAN, ATM, and LAN — New Features, on page 4
- Voice Quality Tester — New Features, on page 7
- VNC (Virtual Network Computing), on page 9
- For Further Information, on page 10

Agilent Technologies offers a factory update and installation service for your Agilent Advisor, the HP J3957A "Softcare", which is presently available in the United States. Please contact your local field engineer if you want to have the software in your unit(s) updated this way.

Agilent Technologies is committed to customer satisfaction. If you have any problems with the Agilent Advisor, please call 1-800-452-4844 in the United States or call your local Sales Office outside the United States.

5971-5002

February 2002
Printed in Singapore

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14.0.0 Supported on "D" and "E" Advisor Models

The Agilent 14.0.0 Release is supported on these Agilent "D" and "E" Advisor models:

- J2300D/E WAN Mainframe
- J3446D/E Fast Ethernet LAN Mainframe

Software No Longer Supported on "C" Models Without Upgrade

The Advisor 14.0.0 software release does not support the older J2300C, J3446C, and J3754C models. Beginning with 14.0.0, all future Advisor software releases will support the J2300D/J3446D and J2300E/J3446E, and any future models, but will not support the older "C" models unless you upgrade your "C" Advisor.

If you want to continue using software releases on your "C" Advisor hardware, you must order one of the appropriate hardware upgrade kits listed here:

- J4610E — J2300C Enhancement — no SVGA
- J4611E — J2300C Enhancement — with SVGA
- J4612E — J3446C Enhancement — no SVGA

Ordering the upgrade kit is a very cost-effective way to upgrade to the performance of the J2300E/J3446E and continue using software releases 14.0.0 and higher.

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Hardware and Software Requirements

Minimum Operating System Requirements

- Agilent Advisor with Windows 98 Second Edition Installed

When to Upgrade

You need to upgrade to Advisor 14.0.0 software if you have purchased a new undercradle that requires this version of software, or you want to use your Token Ring undercradle on the "E" Series Advisors.

You may want to upgrade the software if you have purchased any of the one-time software upgrades or you subscribe to the Software Update Service.

For details about the compatibility of the undercradles with the J2300E and J3446E Advisor mainframes, see Undercradle Compatibility with "E" Mainframes, on page 5.

Recovery / Installation

Refer to the readme.txt file in the Archives directory on the Advisor CD to create floppy disks to recover or install:

- current BIOS
- installation preparation disk(s)
- operating system emergency boot disks

Software and Documentation

Windows 98 Second Edition, standard Agilent Advisor software, and electronic documentation are installed on the Advisor hard drive at the factory. You do not need to re-install this version of the software.

The Agilent Advisor software and documentation are also included on CD for re-installation or recovery. There may not be a new edition of the documentation CD issued in conjunction with every software release. The documentation CD, however, contains the latest printed material available at the time of each Agilent Advisor release.

Adobe Acrobat Reader Version 5.0

The Adobe Acrobat Reader installation kit has been updated to version 5.0. Use Adobe Acrobat Reader to view the online versions of the product manuals and documentation that are loaded onto the Advisor when you install the Advisor software.

You must have the Adobe Acrobat Reader version 4.0 or greater to view the online versions of the product manuals and documentation.

For more information about the Adobe Acrobat Reader, visit www.adobe.com.

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Platform, WAN, ATM, and LAN — New Features

Platforms — New Features

The graphical user interface (GUI) for all WAN applications, BERT, ATM, LAN, and Gigabit has been localized into Chinese using the simplified Chinese font, which provides additional ease-of-use in the Advisor product family.

Additional support was added to the Advisor protocol suite to flag, highlight in red, and allow searching for protocol decode detected errors, such as IP checksum errors, among others.

WAN — New Features

WAN BERT was previously supported on the older T1, E1, DDS-4, and legacy V-Series interfaces. Now WAN BERT is additionally supported on these modules: J2294D, J2296D, J2298D, J3759A, J3759B, J3762A, J3762B, and the J5457A. In addition, a maximum 4000-byte user pattern is supported on the modules listed here.

Other new features include:

- ISDN Q.931 protocol decoding is supported over V.51/V.52 applications.
- RS-530 is supported on the J5457A High-Speed V-Series interface module.
- The LAN Protocol Distribution measurement, providing network, transport, and application layer statistics, is supported on HDLC and PPP applications. Previously it was supported over the Frame Relay application only.
- The SLIP (Serial Link IP) monitor application monitors the asynchronous Serial Link IP protocol (SLIP) over V-Series interfaces. A J2294D, J2296D, or J2298D module must be installed when running SLIP. These modules have the enabling hardware support that is necessary to monitor SLIP on the V-Series interfaces that are built into the Advisor.

ATM — New Features

AAL-5 CRC errors are now a statistic for troubleshooting ATM networks. These errors are counted and displayed in the VPI/VCI statistics measurement for every VPI/VCI that is tracked in the measurement. A new custom configuration screen has been added for greater user control over this measurement.

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J5458A 3G UMTS W-CDMA Test Software — New Features

New 3GPP version selections in the user interface allow you to select specific versions of the 3G UMTS protocols to use in monitoring and troubleshooting 3G wireless networks.

Protocol display filtering has been added for several 3G-related protocols. This display filtering gives users enhanced capabilities to focus on the higher layer signalling protocols that are active during wireless call setup and tear-down.

LAN and Gigabit Ethernet — New Features

In the Gigabit LAN application, you can now save the results of the Link Negotiation Monitor measurement and the Benchmarking measurement to a text file.

Undercradle Compatibility with "E" Mainframes

The following undercradles, which were not supported for the 12.0.0 release, are supported on the "E" Series mainframes for the 14.0.0 release:

- J2306A and J2306B Ethernet undercradles
- J2307A Token Ring Undercradle
- J2309A and J2309B Ethernet/Token Ring undercradles

All other undercradles are supported with the "E" Series mainframes.

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622Vu Advisor — New Firmware Upgrade

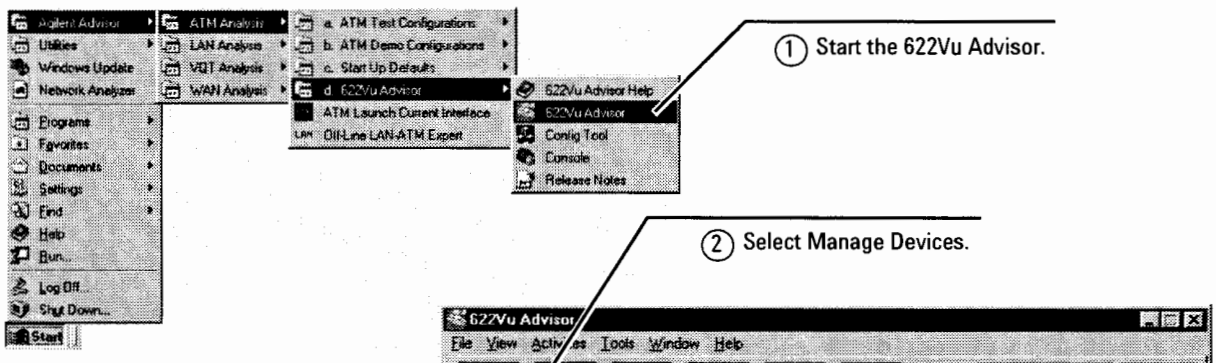
A problem with the SONET TOH H1/H2 pointer values has been resolved. To implement the change, you need to upgrade the firmware, as described below.

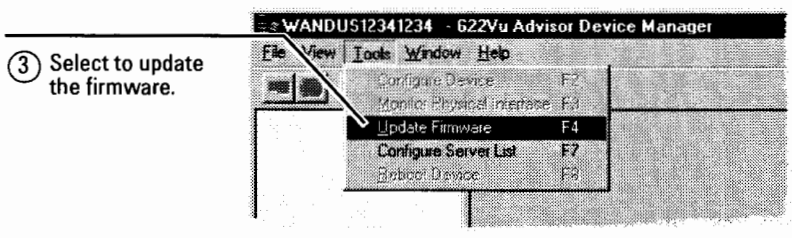
One-Time Upgrade for the 622Vu Firmware

This is a one-time upgrade, and is not performed as part of the 622Vu startup process. The new .fls file is not intended to replace either of the two .fls files that currently reside in the C:\Advisor\622Vu folder. Those files are the previous versions of firmware supplied to Agilent ("hp_firm4.fls" is the Microcode Revision 4.0.1.40, and "hpfirm5.fls" is the Microcode Revision 4.0.1.41).

Connect and Power Up

Before you begin to upgrade the firmware, attach the 622Vu Undercradle to the Advisor and power up the Advisor.

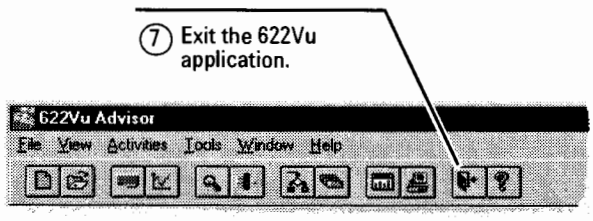




4 In the Flash File dialog box, enter: C:\Advisor\622Vu\hpfirm6.fls and select Upgrade.

5 The upgrade should take approximately 1 minute. When the Firmware Upgrade status box appears, select Restart.

6 Close the Device Manager, then reopen the Manage Devices dialog box. The Microcode Revision field should now indicate 4.0.1.42.



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Voice Quality Tester — New Features

This section describes the features and capabilities of the Voice Quality Tester (VQT) Undercradle for the 14.0.0 release.

New Features and Enhancements

The new VQT features and enhancements described here are available.

Clarity (PESQ) Improvements

Three enhancements to the PESQ versions of the Clarity, Clarity Trend, and Clarity File measurements:

- In addition to the PESQ score, a PESQ Listening Quality (PESQ LQ) score has been added as a primary measurement result. PESQ LQ scores represent a conversion of PESQ scores to a MOS Listening Quality scale as defined in ITU recommendation P.800. The PESQ algorithm was calibrated to a slightly lower scale than MOS. VQT 4.11 includes an internal conversion function, developed by the original PESQ developers, that translates a PESQ score to a PESQ LQ score. The PESQ LQ score will be slightly higher than the PESQ score and will correlate more closely with MOS.
- A new version of the PESQ algorithm, version 1.4, has been included in this release. PESQ version 1.4 produces more accurate results (results that correlate more closely with subjective test results) for scoring during silence intervals.
- Wave files in the "International" directories for Clarity (PESQ) and Clarity Trend (PESQ) testing have been added for VQT 4.11. Specifically, these files have been pre-filtered using a modified IRS filter in accordance with ITU recommendation P.830, and a 3dB gain has been applied. These modifications result in the VQT's voice signal transmissions to be aligned with PESQ specifications.

AutoTasker/TaskList Synchronization

The VQT's AutoTasker Control tool has been enhanced to enable synchronization between TaskLists running in two distinct client windows (for example, running two VQT servers). This feature makes it much easier to coordinate automated voice quality testing between two servers controlled by client windows on a single controlling PC.

Enhanced Command Line Interface

The VQT's existing command line interface (CLI) has been enhanced by the addition of two new command line methods. The VQT's existing CLI (called the **explicit parameters method** in which you can type in a string of commands and arguments to start the AutoTasker on a specific VQT server) is now accompanied by:

- **Scenario File method** — Allows you to invoke a set of configuration parameters (set up in the VQT's graphical user interface) by typing the name of a single "scenario" file.
- **Batch File method** — Allows you to use a pre-defined template batch file to access and control CLI parameters. You can also create your own batch file.

Both new CLI methods provide an easier way to start and synchronize two client windows / servers during dual-server testing.

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DTMF Tone Generator This new tool is used to transmit DTMF tones onto the device or system under test. You can transmit a configurable DTMF string, or you can transmit individual DTMF tone pairs manually as needed. You can use the DTMF Tone Generator to navigate interactive voice response (IVR) systems, complete calls when multi-stage dialing is required, and provide the transmitted signal for any other voice quality testing task in which DTMF tones are required.

DTMF Tone Handshake The VQT now provides the ability to disable DTMF tone handshake strings during Call Control operation. This improves the VQT's call setup flexibility and expands the use of the VQT's "auto-answer" capabilities.

Additional Countries, Complex Impedances Added to Port Setup In the analog (FXO and E&M) Port Setup tool, new countries and complex impedances have been added to the "Countries" and "Line Impedances" parameters respectively. In addition, when you select a specific country, the appropriate line impedance is selected by the VQT automatically. If there is more than one impedance, you can select from a list.

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VNC (Virtual Network Computing)

VNC (Virtual Network Computing) is a remote display system, which allows users to view their computing "desktop" environment on the machine where it is running, and from anywhere on the Internet. This means you can leave your desk, go to another machine, whether next door or several hundred miles away, reconnect to your desktop from there, and finish what you were typing. Even the cursor will be in the same place.

The Advisor 14.0.0 release includes AT&T's VNC freeware product. VNC is an AT&T product, and is provided by Agilent Technologies, Inc. for your convenience. The VNC freeware is not supported by Agilent Technologies, Inc. For support on VNC, go to http://www.uk.research.att.com/vnc/.

Read the VNC document supplied with your shipment in its entirety before loading the VNC installation package.

Loading the VNC Installation Package

When you install the Advisor 14.0.0 software, you can select to install the VNC installation package and documentation. However, before you use the installation package to install VNC, read the documentation. A shortcut to the documentation is located in the Start menu. For details and references, visit http://www.uk.research.att.com/vnc/.

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For Further Information

After the Advisor 14.0.0 software is installed (whether installed by the factory or you), read the "Fixes and Known Problems" file, which is located on the Documentation CD. That file describes:

- Compatibility issues
- Problems fixed since the last release
- Known problems

Press F1 for Help

When using the LAN, WAN, ATM, or Gigabit applications, you can press F1 to display the product Help for detailed information. Pressing F1 displays context-sensitive Help that is designed specifically for each window in the application you are using.

You can also select Help Topics from the File menu to display the complete Help for the application you are using.

Product Support

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