

VMDC Version 7.0 (Build 22)

General Description

Vicon is releasing VMDC version 7.0 (Build 22) for VMDC and VN-DECODER-2 version 6-based systems. This updated version fixes problems reported from the field and test lab, and improves overall system performance and stability. VMDC 7.0 (Build 22) includes "Drivers 940" covered in a separate release note.

This version also includes a few enhanced features to improve the overall support of open standard cameras within the VMDC system.

This version is backwards compatible with ViconNet 4.x, 5.x and 6.x. In parallel to this release, an updated IP device package is also being released for some devices and an update to that should be done in parallel to ViconNet (see separate release note).

Important notes:

1. The installation/upgrade process may take a while (typically 5-8 minutes).
2. This version includes all hotfixes that were formerly released for version 6.x.
3. There is no separate installation of drivers included in this package. All 6.x based systems should perform a full update if needed.

The same software is running on the VN-DECODER-2 and all changes apply to this product as well.

Vicon Production

The new version of VMDC is now in production and will be installed on any system going forward. The software for existing users will be made publicly available online.

Field Installation

The installation of VMDC 7.0 on existing VMDC and VN-DECODER-2 6.x systems requires re-licensing of the software. Systems covered by Vicon's software enhancement program will receive the license for free. For systems not covered contact Vicon sales.

Following the controlled release period, users who wish to update their existing systems may download the new installation from the Vicon website (Support - Technical Support - Software Downloads) or order a CD/DVD through the sales channel.

Vicon Release Notes

The upgrade from older ViconNet versions will only work from versions 5.6d and 6.x and should be done according to the installation instructions; it maintains all system settings and configuration (if a lower version is being upgraded, it will require updating to a supported version prior to installing this version).

Users may choose to keep running with their current version if they feel comfortable with it after reading the solved issues list and establishing there are no advantages in this version (make sure to follow Vicon instructions and install Microsoft .NET 4.5 if a decision to stay on version 6.6SP1 have been made).

As before, a system that has version 6.x installed on any device should upgrade the Nucleus to version 7.0 even if some devices are still running an older version (Nucleus should always run the latest version). Vicon Surveyor HD and 16 channel encoder firmware need to also be updated using IP devices (see separate release note).

New Features

New High Resolution Display System

A brand new display algorithm has been implemented to allow the VMDC system to display high resolution images in an even sharper and clearer way than before. This new display can also better handle the high data rates involved with this video in a way that won't load the entire display.

Support VMS Masking Feature

The VMS masking feature that was introduced in version 6.7 for workstations is now supported on the VMDC system as well.

The new display is only supported on the receiver monitor and not when the main VMDC user interface is switched to ViconNet mode.

Smart Memory Watch Dog

To eliminate performance issues related to memory consumption, this version includes a smart Watch Dog function that continuously monitors the memory management and, if signs of abnormal memory management are detected, will restart the application and clear memory.

An indication will be provided to the user of the pending restart and provide an abort option.

Enhanced Support Running on 64-bit-based Windows OS

When running on a 64-bit-based Windows OS (see datasheet for approved versions), the application will take advantage of the additional RAM option.

Arecont Driver

An update to the Arecont driver was done to better set the GOP size when viewing cameras and to support new models of the panoramic camera.

Vicon Release Notes

Quick Search in Site Lists

A free text search line was added (like in ViconNet 6.7) on top of every site list in the system. This allows typing a device name or a partial name and will highlight the devices in the list that match. It provides Next and Previous item buttons to allow easy navigation between search results.

Note: if the list has devices with multiple channels, the search will work on the main name unless the list was collapsed to show the channels (for example if an encoder is listed, in order for the search to find a specific input, the encoder has to be clicked once so the channels will show on the tree).

Solved Issues

Disconnected Cameras Stay on Display

Occasionally, a camera that dropped off the network would stay as a frozen image on the monitor.

Full HD and up video stream latency

Full HD video (and higher) no longer show latency. This was typically seen when bandwidth exceeded 8 Mbps. On extreme load the system will drop fps.

Controller Acknowledge Issue

On certain sites, where the VMDC controller machine (with the user interface) is also running several local monitors, issues with network acknowledged packets caused the video to slow down (but not due to resource issues).

Preview Windows Issue Playback Showing Black Video

When playing back video onto an RX monitor with the preview window open, video would not display and black frames would show.

Known Issues

This version only fixes the issues listed above and is otherwise identical to VMDC version 6.6.

Wrong error message on controls screen

If a user tried to setup a control and selects a port already being used, the wrong error message is shown "This screen has been idle for a long..."

Group Tree Search

When doing a text search on the groups tree, using numbers is not supported, only letters. This expected to be resolved in version 7.1 later this year.

Vicon Release Notes

Audio sync issue in VMDC

When playing back a synchronized audio and video clip, a slight sync issue might occur.

REW playback of camera causing slow down

Attempting to playback in REW a group of at least four 2MP cameras (or higher) while the same cameras display live will cause a drop in FPS.

New High Resolution Display in ViconNet mode

Support of the new display algorithm for the ViconNet mode UI is expected in version 7.1 later this year.

Availability

The VMDC 7.0 (Build 22) software has been released to production.