GE Fanuc
Automation

Proficy* HMI/SCADA – iFIX* 4.5
Listening to you...

Proficy HMI/SCADA – iFIX 4.5* delivers a wide range of features and benefits to address virtually every market and class of user, from end user customers to the largest OEMs. We focused on making both infrastructure improvements, long requested usability updates, and added some exciting new capabilities.

This release supports:
- Microsoft® Windows® 2000 (Professional or Advanced Server Edition)
- Microsoft® Windows® XP Professional
- Microsoft® Windows® Server 2003
- Microsoft® Windows® Vista™ (Business, Enterprise, or Ultimate Edition)
- Microsoft® Windows® XP Tablet Edition (iClient Only)
- Microsoft® Windows® Vista™ Ultimate Edition for Tablet PCs (iClient Only)

Features delivering value for all customers:

Support for the Newest Microsoft® Operating System

iFIX 4.5 supports operation on the Microsoft® Windows® Vista™ operating system. iFIX automatically adopts the latest operating system look and feel throughout all of its applications and dialogs. iFIX clients operating on Vista enable you to expand systems with iFIX SCADA Servers operating on other operating systems. iFIX 4.5 continues to support backward connectivity with earlier versions of iFIX SCADA servers.

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Expanded Support for iClients

iFIX 4.5 now supports up to 200 continuous connections to a single SCADA Server. This doubles the previous limit of 100 simultaneous connections.

Graphic Dynamo Management

Previously, each Dynamo instance added to a picture was unique, and the Dynamo Library was just a place to store them for later use. iFIX 4.5 delivers Dynamo Management: the ability to use Dynamos from the Dynamo Library, and retain connections so they can be updated in the future. If you improve the Dynamo in the Library, you can then search your entire application or displays of choice and update the instances automatically. There are new tools to support this feature: a Dynamo Toolbar, a Build Dynamo Wizard, a Dynamo Updater Wizard, and a Quick Dynamo Updater. All Dynamo update processes are displayed and documented in a log file. Dynamos now include names, version numbers, and instance names. Dynamo connections and dimensions are automatically retained throughout the process.
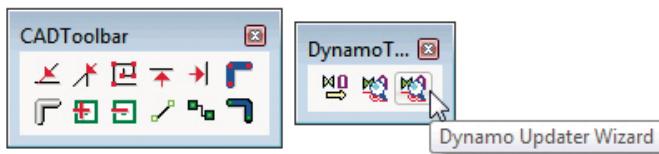
Enhanced Functionality for Multi-Monitor Environments

The management of an application across multiple monitors can be challenging. iFIX 4.5 delivers several features to make this easier. First, the iFIX WorkSpace will automatically span multiple monitors when entering run mode. iFIX now supports the ability to create multiple instances of a graphic, each with its own unique set of tags (through the use of Tag Groups). This means you can now have a graphic for a Production Line, or a PID Loop - opening it as many times as necessary to display multiple lines at the same time, or manage multiple PID Faceplates simultaneously. Finally, a new Coordinate Tool aids in the placement of displays by showing mouse coordinates that you can copy and past into commands to launch a display.
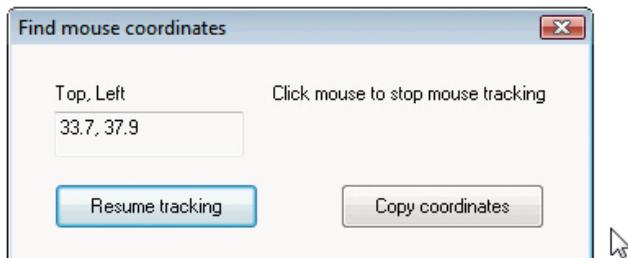
Higher Precision Math

The iFIX 4.5 Process Database now offers higher precision math capability. Calculations are performed with up to 15 digits of precision. The range of numbers iFIX will manage extend to +- $3.40282300000000 \times 10^{38}$. The iFIX Process Database has always been ideal for intensive math and logic with its Function Block orientation. Now, with enhanced precision, it delivers excellent support for applications involving Steam Tables, Flow equations, or extended Totalizations. This new functionality is delivered through additional block fields (E_CV for example for Extended Current Value) enabling compatibility with existing iFIX installations.

iFIX 4.5 with Change Management Delivers Advanced Difference Reporting

The integration with Change Management now offers Process Database Difference Reporting. Reporting also now applies to user.fxg files, VBA scripting in pictures, and Dynamos files and associated Dynamo scripting.
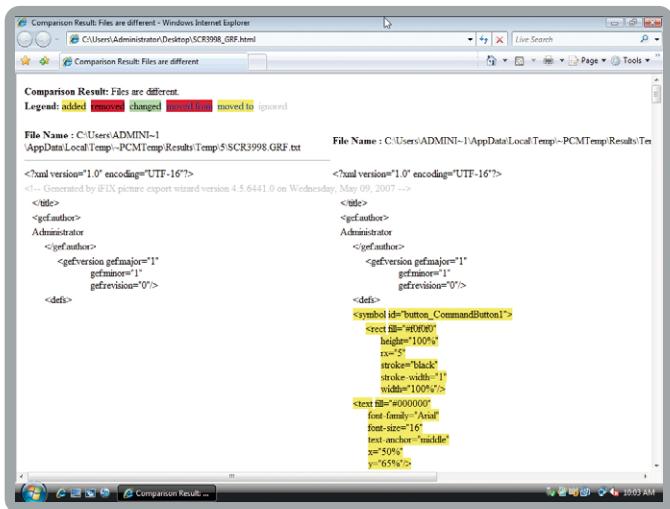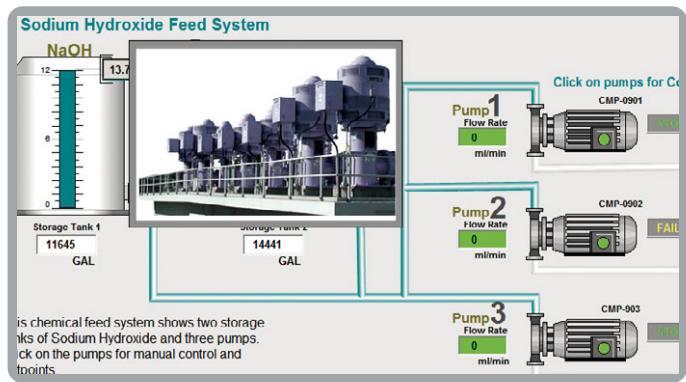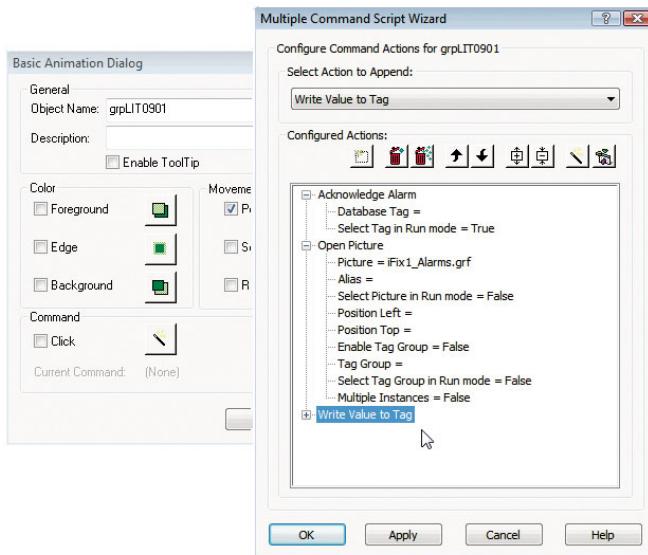
Block Alarm and Alarm Summary Enhancements

iFIX 4.5 Process Database Blocks now deliver an Alarm Occurrence Counter, counting the number of alarm transitions between acknowledgements. Operators can now be aware of the complex lifecycle of an alarm, prior to acknowledging the last instance. To support this feature, two new database fields, "A_ALMOCCUR" and "F_ALMOCCUR," were added to every block that supports alarms. Additionally, the Alarm extension fields now support upper and lower case data. The Alarm Summary display has been enhanced for an improved operator experience. Column fonts are now selectable, the User Defined Fields now support the new Alarm Counter and Alarm Summary text is available for Dynamic Language Switching.

Auto Alarm Manager Supports TCP/IP

The Auto Alarm Manager (AAM) enables a SCADA node to connect to a remote Client node through either a dial-up or WAN connection, and then transfer Alarm Messages. Alarms can automatically be acknowledged upon a successful transfer. Support exists for both primary and backup connections. While past support required NetBIOS networking, the AAM in iFIX 4.5 requires TCP/IP communications. This offers excellent support for managing remote sites, building management systems or remote manufacturing processes (such as in specialty gas production or well sites).

Enhanced Click Event Wizard

The new Multiple Command Script Wizard enables you to create a sequence of commands, using one or more Command Experts, triggered by one of these types of events: a mouse click on an object in a picture, a time-based or event-based Scheduler entry, or a Key Macro. The Multiple Command Script Wizard generates VBA in the background. All Click Event Wizard VBA created by the Wizard can be customized in the Visual Basic editor. This Wizard, in addition to maximizing ease of use, is a very effective way to learn VBA expressions, customizing what was generated automatically for your specific needs.

OPC Enhancements

OPC Servers are now in compliance with the OPC Foundation's "Self Tested" program. In iFIX 4.5, we ran a series of OPC tests to verify compliance. In addition, the iFIX 4.5 Process Database offers greatly enhanced connectivity to OPC data sources through OPC Client Driver browsing and tag selection. As a result, your use of OPC data in a Process Database block is extremely easy to implement.

Other Enhancements to Improve the Engineering Experience

iFIX now supports up to 24-bit resolution for color graphic images. Also, iFIX supports in-line Text editing. The VisiconX grid now supports millisecond time display; a typical use includes retrieving and displaying Millisecond time stamped Alarms from the Proficy Historian. iFIX delivers fully searchable online help. Project Management has been enhanced by improving the System Configuration Utility. Creating new projects and managing existing projects is simpler and logical. The SCU has also been updated to adopt the styles of your Windows Desktop. Right Click functionality for access to Tag Status and Quick Trends is now under iFIX Security control. And, iFIX continues to support the FIX Desktop, now available on Microsoft® Vista™, offering the ideal migration path for existing FIX installations.

Special Features for Large Installations and OEM Customers:

Installation Customization

iFIX 4.5 delivers several features enabling installation customization. These features include the ability to create a scripted install, where all installation questions are answered by the script. The setup.exe includes new command-line options. You can install additional SIMs with your iFIX install, or other programs. You can include a different initial graphic (splash screen) that displays when you first load the iFIX product install CD. The iFIX 4.5 installation panels can be customized to the user requirements, highlighting their particular installation or use of the iFIX product. The installation menu can be customized, adding or removing installation choices and launching additional CD content. Finally, the iFIX CD has been organized to cleanly accept additional content (typically application files or user utilities), enabling their installation along with the iFIX installation.

Remote Management

iFIX 4.5 now supports the remote management capabilities of Microsoft SMS (Systems Management Server). You can now stop iFIX, install SIMs, restart iFIX, remotely and automatically through the use of Microsoft SMS.

Custom Product Branding

In special cases, where Vendors use iFIX as a component of their own more complex offering, it becomes beneficial to rebrand iFIX, removing most of its identity and replacing it with a new brand. This has been done many times in the past. iFIX 4.5 offers special branding tools making this easier than ever before. iFIX is available today, under many different product names, addressing vertical market needs around the world. This level of Branding is only available through our OEM Edge program.

In Summary

iFIX 4.5 is a exciting addition to the GE Fanuc HMI/SCADA family geared to delivering value to our installed base while also differentiating iFIX for use in the worlds largest applications at an end–user site or through OEMs. Many customers only upgrade systems every 3 or 4 years. If you still have not upgraded, iFIX 4.5 – combined with the features of iFIX 4.0 and iFIX 3.5 – deliver a very compelling reason for upgrading your systems.

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GlobalCare – Total Service and Support

Complex business environments have complex support needs, and GE Fanuc's GlobalCare Support offering is the best and most comprehensive way to optimize your investment. We developed GlobalCare Support to function beyond the scope of a traditional, reactive support model to provide you with fast, effective solutions throughout the product lifecycle. As a result, we provide a continuously high level of service for your complex support requirements.

GE Fanuc's GlobalCare provides a consistent worldwide backbone of professionals that offer business hours and 24 x 7 emergency support, software version upgrades and advanced tools to keep you operational and productive. GlobalCare Support is available in two levels, Complete and Assist, allowing you to adopt the support solution that best meets your needs. To learn more about GlobalCare services or the full line of automation solutions from GE Fanuc, visit gefanuc.com or call 1-800 GE Fanuc (434-978-6036 outside the U.S.).

About GE Fanuc Automation

GE Fanuc Automation Corporation, a joint venture between GE and FANUC LTD of Japan, delivers automation hardware and software designed to help users reduce costs, increase efficiency and enhance profitability. With solutions and services for virtually every industrial segment, GE Fanuc Automation provides a diverse array of capabilities and products, including controllers, embedded systems, advanced software, motion control, CNCs, operator interfaces, industrial computers, and lasers. Headquartered in Charlottesville, VA, GE Fanuc Automation is a part of GE Industrial and combines the diverse global strengths of the GE family with the local presence customers need to design, develop and maintain their automation investments.

Contact Us

Contact your local GE Fanuc Sales Representative for more information, or to request an iFIX Product CD to demo the new features of version 4.5.

Proficy Software Modules:

Real-Time Information Portal
Proficy Real-Time Information Portal

Plant Performance and Execution
Proficy Efficiency
Proficy Production
Proficy Tracker
Proficy Machine Tool Efficiency

Integrated Quality
Proficy Quality
Proficy Non Conformance Reporting
Proficy Shop Floor SPC

Process Solutions
Proficy Process Systems*
Proficy Batch Execution
Proficy Batch Analysis
Proficy RX™

Plant Data Repository
Proficy Historian

Asset Management
Proficy Enterprise Asset Management
Proficy Remote Monitoring & Diagnostic
Proficy Change Management

HMI / SCADA
Proficy HMI/SCADA – iFIX*
Proficy HMI/SCADA – CIMPLICITY*
Proficy View – Machine Edition

Programming & Control
Proficy Logic Developer
Proficy Motion Developer – Machine Edition

GE Fanuc Support & Services:

GlobalCare Support
Professional Services
Training

GE Fanuc Automation Information Centers

Americas:
1 800 GE FANUC or 434 978 5100

Asia Pacific:
86 21 3222 4555

Europe, Middle East and Africa:
800 1 GE FANUC or 800 1 4332682
or 1 780 401 7717

Europe, Middle East and Africa (CNC):
352 727979 11

Additional Resources

For more information, please visit the GE Fanuc web site at:

www.gefanuc.com