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Title: VBA
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Microsoft Visual Basic for Applications (VBA) technology has had a major impact on the manufacturing industry — largely because of its ability to allow a user more flexibility and customization. The VBA programming language was introduced in 1993 as part of Microsoft Excel™ and has been part of all Microsoft Office™ products since. Since licensing the scripting language to third party developers, it has been introduced as an embedded scripting language in many software packages across a variety of industries.

In manufacturing, software vendors are just starting to integrate VBA into their own factory floor software packages. VBA allows users to customize off-the shelf software to meet specific requirements of the application with very additional cost. VBA also allows users to integrate programs easily with other VBA-enabled applications, allowing them to create a customized, integrated desktop that can be re-used for additional applications.

RSView32 MMI Package

[1]Rockwell Software recently introduced the first MMI software package to offer Microsoft VBA Scripting capabilities. [2]**RS**View32 has built-in VBA capabilities that allow users to integrate the MMI package with Microsoft Office and BackOffice™ packages, as well as Rockwell Software and other third party VBA-enabled applications. Integrating VBA in RSView32 gives users the choice to purchase an off-the-shelf software package and then customize the MMI to exactly fit their application. It's a cost-effective way to create a custom MMI solution for any application.

Since RSView32 uses an industry standard scripting language, users can leverage their knowledge of VBA in RSView32. Selecting the editor in RSView32 calls up the familiar Visual Basic IDE (Integrated Development Editor). After creating a script (VBA subroutine), users can easily call them by issuing a command to run the subroutine anywhere an RSView32 command is used.

[1] OA 4
[2] OA 1

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Typical applications include creating scripts or VBA Subroutines that do conditional branching, tying RSView32 data to third party applications such as Microsoft Access or SQL Server and controlling RSView32 from within a VBA subroutine by issuing RSView32 commands.

Four Simple Steps To Creating a Custom VBA script in RSView32

Creating, debugging and running VBA scripts is an easy process — and can all be done from within RSView32. Code can also be copied from other VBA enabled applications. The steps below show how simple it is to create a script from within RSView32.

- Double click on the Logic and Control folder icon in the Edit Mode tab of the RSView32 Project Manager.
- Double click on the VBA scripts icon to open the VBA integrated development editor.
- Enter VB code (example code below displays a message box with the value of a tag from the RSView32 database).

```
Subtest()
    Dim Tg As Tag
    Set Tg = gTagDb.GetTag("System\Second")
    MsgBox Tg.FullName & "=" & Tg Value
End Sub
```

- Select "Close and Return to RSView32" from the File menu

Your VBA subroutine now exists within the RSView32 project. Use the VbaExec command to execute the script. For example, enter "VbaExec test" to the action of an RSView32 button in a graphic display. You can also connect the VBA subroutine to an RSView32 event so that it executes automatically when the event's conditions are true.

VBA provides tremendous extendibility to RSView32. In addition to the obvious benefits of a non-proprietary scripting language, VBA allows more interoperability with VBA-enabled

applications, including Microsoft products and Microsoft VBA Partner products like AutoCAD or Visio. The power and ease-of-use that VBA technology provides allows greater productivity for users — both in the development and runtime environments.

Rockwell Software is the world leader in development and support of software for the automation marketplace, with particular expertise in programming, operator interface, components, and communications. Rockwell Software has dual headquarters in West Allis, Wisconsin, and Mayfield Village, Ohio.

Rockwell Automation brings together leading brands to provide a broad range of automation solutions that include Allen-Bradley, Reliance Electric, Dodge and Rockwell Software. Rockwell is a global electronics company with leadership positions in industrial automation, semiconductor systems, and avionics and communications, with projected FY97 sales of approximately $8 billion and 45,000 employees. Rockwell's world headquarters is located in Costa Mesa, in Orange County, Calif.

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