RELEASE AND UPGRADE NOTES

# LabVIEW™ Datalogging and Supervisory Control Module

## Version 8.6

This document describes the system requirements and the process of installing the LabVIEW 8.6 Datalogging and Supervisory Control (DSC) Module and the DSC Module 8.6 Run-Time System. This document also describes the new features available with version 8.6 and compatibility and upgrade issues you might encounter when you use version 8.6.

To upgrade the DSC Module from 7.*x* or earlier, refer to the *LabVIEW 8.2 Datalogging and Supervisory Control Module Release and Upgrade Notes*. The *Upgrading from the LabVIEW DSC Module 7.x* section provides important information for upgrade users. Refer to the National Instruments Web site at ni.com/info and enter the info code dsc820 to access the *LabVIEW 8.2 Datalogging and Supervisory Control Module Release and Upgrade Notes*.

Refer to the *Getting Started with the LabVIEW Datalogging and Supervisory Control Module* manual for exercises you can complete to familiarize yourself with the DSC Module.

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# System Requirements

To use the DSC Module, your computer must meet the following minimum system requirements:

- Windows Vista, Windows XP Service Pack 2, or Windows 2000 Service Pack 4.
- 800 MB free disk space.
- 512 MB of RAM. National Instruments recommends 1 GB of RAM.
- LabVIEW 8.6 Base, Full, or Professional Development System. Refer to the *LabVIEW Release Notes* for the LabVIEW system requirements.

The DSC Module does not support Windows NT/Me/98/95/Server 2003.

# Installation Instructions

Refer to `ni.com/support` if you encounter errors during installation.

You can install the DSC Module 8.6 by using the LabVIEW Platform DVDs or the CDs.

The LabVIEW Platform DVDs contain LabVIEW, the DSC Module, other add-ons, and device drivers. You can install and activate both LabVIEW and the DSC Module by using the LabVIEW Platform DVDs. If you installed LabVIEW, the DSC Module, and the appropriate NI device drivers from the LabVIEW 8.6 Platform DVD, you do not need to reinstall using the CDs described in this section. Refer to the *LabVIEW Release Notes* for more information about installing the LabVIEW development system.

The CDs contain the DSC Module only. Complete the following steps to install the DSC Module from the CD.

1. Log in to the development computer as an administrator or as a user with administrative privileges.
2. Install LabVIEW 8.6 from the LabVIEW 8.6 installation CD. Refer to the *LabVIEW Release Notes* for information about installing the LabVIEW development system.
3. Install the DSC Module from the LabVIEW 8.6 DSC Module installation CD. Follow the instructions that appear on the screen.
4. Follow the directions on the screen to activate your DSC Module. Refer to the *Activating the LabVIEW License (Windows)* section of this document for more information about activating LabVIEW.
5. Restart the computer.

The DSC Module installs program files, documentation, and examples.

**Note** By default, the NI Keyboard Filter Driver is not installed. The NI Keyboard Filter Driver activates special security features, including the ability to restrict users from switching between applications by pressing the <Alt-Tab> keys. This driver does not work on laptop computers or on computers with hibernation enabled.

# Activating the LabVIEW License (Windows)

**Note** **(Mac OS and Linux)** LabVIEW does not require activation.

National Instruments uses activation to better support evaluation of our software, to enable additional software features, and to support license management in large organizations. To find out more about National Instruments software licensing, visit `ni.com/activate` to find frequently asked questions, resources, and technical support.

You can activate licenses you have purchased for LabVIEW, modules, and toolkits during installation. If you do not activate a valid license for LabVIEW or any modules or toolkits that you install, the unlicensed product operates in evaluation mode. After you install the product, the evaluation begins the first time you launch the product and lasts 30 consecutive days. When the evaluation period expires, you must activate a valid license to continue using the product.

To activate the product license, use the serial number you received on the Certificate of Ownership included in the software kit. If your software kit does not include a Certificate of Ownership, you can find the serial number on the product packing slip or on the shipping label. You can activate the LabVIEW license in any of the following ways:

- During installation, enter the serial number when prompted and complete the installation and activation process.
- After you launch LabVIEW in evaluation mode, click the **Activate Products** button in the LabVIEW dialog box.
- Select **Help»Activate LabVIEW Components** while LabVIEW is running in evaluation mode or select **Start»All Programs» National Instruments»NI License Manager** to launch NI License Manager. The license activation does not take effect until you restart LabVIEW.

If you do not activate LabVIEW, modules, or toolkits during installation, LabVIEW prompts you for activation when you launch LabVIEW. After you activate the licenses for all LabVIEW products you installed, you no longer see this prompt.

## Evaluating LabVIEW, Modules, or Toolkits

You can access all the tools, VIs and functions, help, and examples available to the LabVIEW Professional Development System and most modules or toolkits in a free 30-day evaluation mode.

After the evaluation period for a module or toolkit expires, you are no longer able to perform the following actions:

- Run VIs that use VIs from the module or toolkit.
- Run VIs from the module or toolkit.
- Build VIs that use VIs from the module or toolkit into an executable or shared library.
- Access menus, tools, or palettes installed by the module or toolkit.

When you install a module or toolkit for evaluation, you install the help for the module or toolkit. The help for the module or toolkit remains installed after the 30-day evaluation period. Also, the NI Example Finder displays all module or toolkit examples after the 30-day evaluation period. You must uninstall the module or toolkit to remove the help and examples.

If you run LabVIEW in evaluation mode, you receive functionality of the Professional Development System. If you then purchase and activate a LabVIEW license, you receive full functionality of the development system you purchase. For example, if you create a VI using tools and subVIs that are only available in the Professional Development System and then you purchase and activate the Full Development System, the VI you created using Professional Development System features will be broken.

## Single-Seat and Multi-Seat Licensing

LabVIEW supports both single-seat and multi-seat licenses. Single-seat licensing is the use of LabVIEW on up to three computers but by only one user. Multi-seat, or volume, licensing is the use of LabVIEW on several computers or by several users. Each seat using LabVIEW must have a valid license from a license server. Refer to the National Instruments Web site at `ni.com/license` for more information.

# New Features in the DSC Module 8.6

The following sections describe the new features in the DSC Module 8.6. Refer to the *LabVIEW Help,* available by selecting **Help»Search the LabVIEW Help**, for more information about using these new features.

## Enhancements to the NI Distributed System Manager

Use the NI Distributed System Manager to create and monitor shared variables, network variables, processes, and I/O servers. You also can use the System Manager to manage security and aliases. In LabVIEW, select **Tools»Distributed System Manager** to launch the System Manager.

The DSC Module adds the following features to the System Manager:

- Configuring alarms by using the **Auto View** and **Probe** views.
- Monitoring alarms and events by using the **Alarms** and **Events** views.
- Acknowledging alarms and events by using the **Alarms** and **Events** views.

## New Example VIs

The DSC Module provides the following two new example VIs:

- **Boiler**—This example simulates a boiler HMI monitoring station.
- **HVAC**—This example simulates a heating and ventilation air conditioning (HVAC) system.

Use the NI Example Finder, available by selecting **Help»Find Examples**, to launch these and other example VIs.

## Performance Improvements

LabVIEW 8.6 improves the edit-time and run-time performance of shared variables. LabVIEW also improves the launching performance and robustness of the **Shared Variable Properties** dialog box. The DSC Module 8.6 takes advantage of these improvements.

# Compatibility Issues

If you open a VI saved in the DSC Module 8.2 or earlier, the VI might be broken if the VI contains an indicator, constant, or control created from the **shared variable value change notification** output of the following VIs:

- Cancel Value Change Notifications VI
- Enable Value Change Notifications VI
- Request Value Change Notifications VI

To fix the broken VI, delete the indicator, constant, or control. Then create a new indicator, constant, or control from the **shared variable value change notification** output and wire it to the appropriate parameter.

# Considerations for the DSC Module Run-Time System

To run applications built with LabVIEW, the DSC Module, and the LabVIEW Application Builder on a computer without the DSC Module installed, you must install the DSC Module Run-Time System on that computer. The DSC Module Run-Time System contains components that enable the DSC features in the built applications.

To use the DSC Module Run-Time System, a computer must meet the following minimum system requirements:

- Windows Vista, Windows XP Service Pack 2, or Windows 2000 Service Pack 4.
- 700 MB free disk space.
- 512 MB of RAM.

Complete the following steps to install the DSC Module Run-Time System.

1. Log in to the computer as an administrator or as a user with administrative privileges.
2. Install the DSC Module 8.6 Run-Time System from the LabVIEW 8.6 Platform DVDs or LabVIEW 8.6 DSC Module Run-Time System installation CD.
3. Follow the instructions that appear on the screen.
4. Restart the computer.

# Known Issues

Refer to the `readme_DSC.html` file, available by selecting **Start»All Programs»National Instruments»LabVIEW 8.6»Readme** or on the DSC Module installation media, for information about known issues with the DSC Module.

Refer to the `readme_DSC_RTS.html` file, available by selecting **Start»All Programs»National Instruments»LabVIEW 8.6»Readme** or on the DSC Module Run-Time System installation media, for information about known issues with the DSC Module Run-Time System.

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