Visionic5 FAQ

How to install remote client?

The minimum system requirements for the remote Visionic station are minimal. It requires a newer Windows operating system (Windows XP or later) and. NET Framework 3.5 or later. The framework is automatically installed with Windows 7.
Before you start installing Visionic, there must exist network connection between remote client and server station. The remote connection uses minimal bandwidth; usually a link of 64KB or even less is enough for majority of systems.
Once prerequisites are satisfied, open a web browser on the remote computer and type this URL:

http://<server IP address>:6062/downloads/visclientsetup.msi

Where <server IP address> is the IP address or computer name of the Visionic5 server. If you have several servers running Visionic, then any Visionic5 server will be ok.
If all is ok, the browser shall offer to save or run MSI file. Once downloaded, install the MSI file. The MSI file needs installation only once per remote computer.
The MSI file installs "minimal" Visionic client. It has no device drivers and only basic Visionic elements and components. It does have a mechanism to open projects from the remote server; during this remote importing process the client will import all device drivers needed for the Visionic station.
Once the MSI file installed, you can connect to any number of Visionic servers from the client station.
The next step is to install Visionic system and present the pages. Click on Start->All programs->Visionic->Tools->Start client only. The Visionic client will fire up and ask to open or download the project. Choose the second option, and check "Create desktop shortcut" if you would like to put an icon that starts the system onto the desktop.
Note: in Windows 7 you should start the program under administrative rights in order to create the shortcut.

Upon clicking ok, the remote client will download the complete project from the server, import it and start it. The download and importing part is required only once, for subsequent starts the client can connect directly to the server without the installation step.

The remote client can be used this way to install any number of or all Visionic systems on a single remote client.

What is the difference between Build and Compile options in Visio?

The Build option is the one you need in 99% cases. It will build complete Visionic project; it is equivalent to "Compile" option in Visionic4. This means Visionic compiler will update server-side, will compile drivers into the project & generally make the project ready for running. The Compile option is used to quickly update the page where you're currently working. This option is very usefull when you're moving small objects on the screen and finishing the GUI design.

For Compile to work, both Client and Server programs should be running in the background. The compilation will simply recompile current page but it will not build the complete project. For example, the Visionic will not compile new device drivers now it will ask server to reload.This Compile option corresponds to the "quick compile" option in Visionic4 and earlier.

For the normal work please use Build function. Once you're confortable with Visionic, try to compile only one page when client & server are running in the background. Please note that Compile option is not as throught as Build option; when in doubt always use Build.

How to see communication between Visionic and a device

You first must determine the **instance number** of the device driver you need. The instance is the "thread" in which server runs the device driver.

On Visionic server, click on "Server console" tab and then type the command:

find "<your device name>"

Make sure that you enclose the device name in quotes! The server will spill out details about the device:

find "UC 2 002"
Device UC 2 002, instance=42, index=0

In this case the instance number is 42.

Next, download the DbgView utility from http://live.sysinternals.com/. This is the utility that will display the message communication. Start this program and you will immediately see **all** communication between Visionic and devices. This will be overwhelming; click on Edit=>Filter Hightligh and then for "Include" type the following:

::<instance number>

The double column sign (":") must be placed before instance number. When you do that, presto, you will see only communication between Visionic and device in question.

Using DbgView you can also save and log communication to hard disk.

NOTE: At the time of writing (2012) , DbgView program (still) has a memory bug so it will starve the machine on which it is running in course of 1-2 days. This means that your server *will crash* if you leave DbgView open indefinitely.

Can I install Visionic5 remote station on the same computer as Visionic4 (local / remote / design) ?

Visionic4 and Visionic5 are not compatible "out of the box". You might be able to connect via different version to the appropriate computer, but the interchange is not supported per se. We recommend to recompile the Visionic4 with Visionic5 compiler and then use all from Visionic4.