MET/BASE Version 6.01 November 1999

This file contains information about the Version 6.01 release of MET/BASE.

What's New in V6.01?

New Drivers

The following FCSs have been added to this release. MET/CAL now supports the following instruments:

- 5520A-SC11 FSC for the 1.1GHz option for the 5520A.

- 2620T FSC for the Fluke 2620T Recording Thermometer.

- 2635T FSC for the Fluke 2635T Recording Thermometer.

- 34420 FSC for the Hewlett-Packard 34420A Multimeter including the PRT and SPRT.

- 33120 FSC for the Hewlett-Packard 33120A Function Generator.

Required Instruments List Before Procedure Execution

A list of required instruments is now shown before procedure execution. This allows the operator to terminate or continue the procedure. The feature can be disabled by setting "show_req_instr = no" in [Startup] section of initialization file.

BIT Function in MATH FSC

Bit values can now be tested using the MATH FSC. See the MATH help file for more information.

Optionally Disable Search of Port 0 in Test Run

In V6.00 and earlier Test Run always searches IEEE-488 port 0 prior to each procedure execution. In V6.01 you can specify "tr_search0 = no" in the [Startup] section of the initialization file. This will cause Test Run to search port 0 only the first time after the application starts, or after each modification to the System Configuration File.

By default Test Run will work as it did in V6.00 and earlier. "tr_search0" is an optional parameter. Not specifying "tr_search0" is equivalent to "tr_search0 = yes".

There is some risk involved in setting "tr_search0 = no". Procedure developers who use this feature must be aware that any change to the configuration, which MET/CAL is unaware of, can cause problems in procedure execution. Suppose, for example, you want to run a Fluke 5700A-based procedure. If you initially forget to turn on the 5700A, Test Run will search port 0 and not find the 5700A. If you then turn on the instrument and re-run the procedure, Test Run will now not search port 0, and therefore remain unaware that there's an instrument at the address to which the 5700A is set. In the event of an SRQ, MET/CAL will not serial poll the 5700A, and, if the 5700A is responsible for the SRQ, will not be able to clear or handle the service request.

Procedure developers who run with "tr_search0 = no" should get into the habit of either restarting the application or re-writing the System Configuration File after turning on, turning off, connecting, or unconnecting any instrument on port 0.

A variety of bugs where also fixed with this release.