



SCADA at WEFTEC

What We Learned from Users and Consultants

Webinar Q&A



Question	Answer
<p>Are multiple Tier-1 (mirrored) historians and Tier-2 aggregation historian supported?</p>	<p>Yes, VTScada's native Historian allows you to easily configure distributed applications with multiple synchronised Tier-1 Historians as well as Tier-2 aggregation Historian fed by VTScada Logger Tags. (Note: Each native Historian requires its own VTScada software license.)</p>
<p>How does VTScada rank against other well known HMI products in terms of quality and price?</p>	<p>VTScada was awarded the Control Engineering 2015 Readers' Choice Award for HMI Software. In 2009, the City of Sacramento, California conducted a review of common SCADA/HMI products that led to the selection of VTScada for their water/wastewater system. See page 5: http://sacramento.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?meta_id=187097&view=&showpdf=1</p>
<p>Do you have an example of VTScada's system redundancy architecture?</p>	<p>VTScada supports unlimited synchronized servers with automatic failover. You can configure any VTScada thick client to be a redundant server in just minutes. You can edit server lists without process interruption. Each server maintains a complete copy of the application's tags, security settings, displays, scripts, networked variables, and configuration history. Historical and alarm history data can also be synchronized across all servers. Some specific examples can be found on our website. https://www.trihedral.com/redundancy-and-automatic-failover</p>
<p>How does one select Radio, Network or Cellular as the highway for data?</p>	<p>(See video for full answer) It depends where do you want to put your cost? Do you want to own your network or lease it? Owning your radio network means you must absorb the upfront cost of radios and towers. Cellular networks require less upfront cost but represent an indefinite monthly expense. As to reliability, cellular networks are less vulnerable to issues like damaged towers but can become choked if there is a major event that drives cell phone use.</p>
<p>How easy is it to have some PLC's communicating via radio or network while some remote sites are using cellular features?</p>	<p>It's not a problem at all. They each use their own port tag, probably TCP ports, so each has its own connection to the remote device. We often suggest using polling drivers so the tags on each device are polled at the same interval rather than haphazardly.</p>
<p>I thought VTScada is cloud based SCADA hosting service. Do I still need to host a local server at my site with VTScada software or can I just host on remote server managed by VTScada?</p>	<p>VTScada is typically sold as standalone licenses installed on individual PCs. Many integrators have used VTScada to develop their own Hosted (or cloud-based) systems where a single application serves multiple clients. These clients typically pay a monthly fee to access their process using VTScada thin clients. You can even create a hybrid system that includes a local installation of VTScada on a customer PC with a cloud-based backup server.</p>



<p>How is process simulation taking care of in VTScada?</p>	<p>VTScada does not include a native data simulator; however, it can accept this kind of input from third-party simulation packages.</p>
<p>Is server configuration saved / backed up with the general configuration? Other SCADA packages do not backup or permit saving the Server config which is a pain!</p>	<p>Needs clarification as to what is meant by server configuration, but yes, in general all configuration is a part of a ChangeSet.</p>
<p>Is it possible to link a VTScada network driver with a specific network adapter? For example: choose the route for two VPN adapter with the same IP range.</p>	<p>VTScada RPC traffic is on a designated registered port. VTScada itself can restrict communication between IPS but network routing is still a system level issue.</p>
<p>Related to the plant process simulation you meant that your software does not include the package, but can link properly with the other simulation packages as well. Is that possible?</p>	<p>VTScada does not include a native data simulator; however, it does accept this kind of input from third-party simulation packages.</p>
<p>Can you define SCADA for outside a plant or both the central plant controls as well as the outside the plant controls (say for water distribution system).</p>	<p>Yes, you can configure VTScada applications for specific plants or you can also include outside sites such as liftstations and elevated tanks. VTScada supports a variety of communication links including radios, Wide Area Networks (WANs), telephone lines, or cellular.</p>
<p>We have a large number of small systems, 200 tags or less. What can VTScada and our company do to sale these systems an up-to-date version of VTScada?</p>	<p>If you or a customer are using an older version on VTScada, contact 1.800.463.2783 or marketing.support@trihedral.com about getting a quote to renew your SupportPlus contract. Our policy on SupportPlus can be found here: https://www.trihedral.com/vtscada-supportplus-service-pricing</p>
<p>What is the real duration which you develop a new version of software? Is it possible to upgrade the software by only purchase the app. instead of up grading the complete software?</p>	<p>New major versions are released about 1 1/2 years apart. However, we are continually adding new features, security enhancements and bug fixes, which are released in minor versions. Staying current with your SupportPlus contract provides you with support and access to the latest versions for on-demand download via our FTP site.</p>
<p>Will there be any coverage on 11.2 vs 11.0 and future additions beyond 11.2 mentioned?</p>	<p>There was a webinar that featured all of the new 11.2 features, you can view that here: https://www.trihedral.com/recorded-webinar</p>

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