

Virtual Panels II

Administrator Manual

Written for Virtual Panels II Build 1.0.7

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Overview

What is Virtual Panels II?

Virtual Panels II is an add-on software package for VersaCall's VT2000 WebInterface System. It allows for real-time visibility on the production floor by providing ways to display captured information as well as messages and images.

Panels vs. Displays

What is a Panel?

A panel is an individual screen that can later be added to a display. You can create multiple panels and later add them to a single display. VersaCall does not limit the number of panels you can create.

What is a Display?

A display is where you add panels after creating them. You can add single or multiple panels to each display. A display rotates through all the panels you have added to that display. When creating a display, you can specify how long you want each panel to show before flipping to the next. You can have one display run on multiple monitors or you can have a different display run on each monitor. VersaCall limits the number of displays you can create with the product key. To order more displays, please contact your VersaCall Sales Representative.

Messaging vs. Performance

What is Messaging?

Messaging is a term applied to panels and displays that do not require displaying captured data. Messaging panels and displays are limited to displaying images and messages.

What is Performance?

Performance is a term applied to panels and displays that require displaying captured data. For example, you may want to display the duration of active supervisor calls or the day's total production counts. Performance panels and displays provide a method to show information captured by your Call Stations, Data Input Modules, Reason Code Modules or any other module purchased from VersaCall.

Adding Images

In order to include an image on a panel, you first have to upload and configure that image. Follow these steps to include an image in your panel:

1. From the Main Virtual Panels II page, click **Settings** located near the bottom of your screen.
2. From the Panel Administration page, click **Manage Images**.
3. From the **Manage Images** page, click **Browse** and locate your image.
4. Select your image and click **Open**.
5. Click **Upload**.
6. For **Image Name**, enter any meaningful name for your image.

NOTE: A descriptive and easy to remember name makes it easier to select the appropriate image later when creating your panels.

7. Click **Save**.
8. Repeat Steps 3 through 7 to add multiple images.
9. Click **Done** when complete.

Your images will now be available to include in your panels.

See **Adding Information to Cells** for more information on adding an image.

Configuring Shifts

NOTE: Shifts configured in Virtual Panels II are independent of shifts configured in the VT2000 system and other add-on packages. Shifts configured in the Virtual Panels II package are used for Virtual Panels II purposes only.

1. From the Main Virtual Panels II page, click **Settings** located near the bottom of your screen.
2. From the Panel Administration page, click **Edit Shifts**.
3. From the **Edit Shifts** page, click **Add** to add a new shift or **Edit** to modify an existing one.
4. Enter a **Shift Name**. For example, 1st Shift, 2nd Shift, 3rd Shift, Day Shift, Night Shift, etc.
5. Choose a shift **Start Time** and **End Time**.

Hint: Check your “AM/PM” selections.

6. If your shift starts and ends on the same day, select **None**. If your shift crosses midnight select either **Previous Day** or **Following Day**.

Option	Function	Example
None	Your shift starts and ends on the same day.	Your shift starts at 9:00 am and ends at 5:00 pm.
Previous Day	Your shift starts on Day 1 and ends on the Day 2. Day 1 is considered the Previous Day. Day 2 is considered the Current Day. Events on report are attributed to the Current Day (Day 2).	Your shift starts at 5:00 pm and ends at 1:30 am. When you run a report, events appear on Day 2 of the shift.
Following Day	Your shift starts on Day 1 and ends on Day 2. Day 1 is considered the Current Day. Day 2 is considered the Following Day. Events on report appear on Current Day (Day 1).	Your shift starts at 5:00 pm and ends at 1:30 am. When you run a report, events appear on Day 1 of the shift.

7. Click **Save**
8. Repeat Steps 3 through 7 to add more shifts.

NOTE: Configuring shifts allows you to later display information that pertains to the current shift.

Configuring Groups

NOTE: Groups configured in Virtual Panels II are independent of groups configured in the VT2000 system and other add-on packages. Groups configured in the Virtual Panels II package are used for Virtual Panels II purposes only.

1. From the Main Virtual Panels II page, click **Settings** located near the bottom of your screen.
2. From the Panel Administration page, click **Edit Groups**.
3. From the **Edit Groups** page, click **Add**.
4. Enter a **Group Name**.
5. From the list to the right, check the information types you want to include in this group. You can choose one or more of the following:

Option	Description	Applies To
Alarms	Communication alarms such as Machine Down, Maintenance Call, Supervisor Call	All Modules
Information Fields	Fields that require user input such as Employee ID, Scrap Count, Order Number	Data Input Modules Only
Processes	Production processes such as Shifts, Set-Ups, Orders	Data Input Modules Only

6. From the drop down list on the right side of the screen, select the name of the module from which you would like to include information.
7. From the list to the right of the screen, select the alarm(s) you want to add to the group.
8. Click **Add**. Alarm(s) added to the group appear on left.
9. Repeat Steps 14 – 16 until all desired alarms and/or information fields and/or process have been added to the group.
10. Click **Save**.
11. Click **Done** to return to the main Virtual Panels II page.

Setting User Group Permissions

User Groups created in the main VT2000 Web Interface are available for configuration within Virtual Panels II. User Group configuration within the Virtual Panels II add-on package determines user access levels *within* Virtual Panels II.

1. From the Main Virtual Panels II page, click **Settings** located near the bottom of your screen.
2. From the Panel Administration page, click **Edit User Groups**
3. From the **Edit User Groups** page, select the name of the user group to edit and click **Edit**.
4. You may give **View**, **Add**, **Edit**, and **Delete** privileges to the selected user by checking the corresponding box next the desired permission.

NOTE: **My Panels** refers to panels created by the logged in user.

5. Click **Save** when complete.
6. Repeat steps 3 – 6 to set access levels for other user groups
7. Click **Done** to return to main Virtual Panels II page.

Administration

On the Administration page, you can make one or more changes to the Virtual Panels II system.

NOTE: Once you have made all desired changes, click **Save** at the bottom of the page.

Starting and Stopping Service

Certain upgrades and changes to the system may require that you stop and re-start the Windows service that runs Virtual Panels II. To start and stop the service, follow these steps:

1. From the Main Virtual Panels II page, click **Settings** located near the bottom of your screen.
2. Locate **Service Status**
3. To stop the service, click **Stop** then **Refresh**
4. To start the service, click **Start** then **Refresh**

NOTE: You can also start and stop the service through Windows XP by going to **Start → Control Panel → Administrative Tools**. The service is named **Panel Service**.

Configuring a Database

Virtual Panels II supports Microsoft Access and SQL Server databases. To configure a database for Virtual Panels II follow these steps:

Microsoft Access Database

1. Locate **Database Type** and select Access from the list
2. For **Path**, enter the path to the Virtual Panels II database. In most cases it is,
C:\VT2000 Configuration\ReportPackage\VirtualPanelsII.mdb

SQL Server Database

1. Locate **Database Type** and select **SQL Server** from the list.
2. Fill in the fields as follows:

Name Enter the name of the database
Server Name of server that hosts the named database
User Name of user with read and write permissions to the named database
Password Type in a password

Things to Check for when Configuring SQL Server Database for Virtual Panels II:

- ✓ Set-up a Virtual Panels II database in SQL Server before beginning configuration
- ✓ Use SQL Server Authentication
- ✓ Allow remote logins to the Server
- ✓ Make sure the database size is large enough

Setting System Name

1. Next to **System Name**, enter any name for your Virtual Panels II system. Most often the system name is your company's name.

Setting Debug Mode

In certain cases, a VersaCall technical staff member may ask you to put your Virtual Panels II system in debug mode. To do this, check **Debug Mode**. This will generate log files that may help in determining the cause of certain issues.

NOTE: Check **Debug Mode** only when necessary. While in **Debug Mode** the system generates log files that may slow down your system if the files become too large.

Product Key

A VersaCall technical staff member will assign you a product key that corresponds to your purchase. Upgrades to your Virtual Panels II software may require a new product key.

Setting Buffer Size

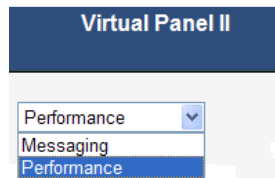
Data used by the Virtual Panels II System is written into memory before displaying onto the panels. Certain cases may require that you increase the buffer size to accommodate large amounts of data.

Creating a Panel

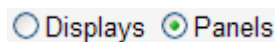
The heart of Virtual Panels II lies in the composition of panels. A user can create multiple panels that can display various types of data captured by the VT2000 System.

Getting Started

1. From the main Virtual Panels II page, select either **Messaging** or **Performance** from the drop down list to view the appropriate panel.



2. Select the **Panels** radio button



3. Click **Add** to create a new panel or **Edit** to modify an existing one. To copy a panel, select the panel to copy and click **Copy**.

The **Edit Panel** page opens.

4. Next to **Panel Name**, enter any meaningful name for your panel.

Saving Your Work

Creating a panel requires repeated saving in multiple locations. Please guard the time invested in your panels by remembering to save **each** the following:

- ✓ Tag
- ✓ Condition within a Tag
- ✓ Condition within the layout configuration of a cell
- ✓ Cell layouts - You must save after creating **each** cell in a panel's layout. Use the **Save** button located at the bottom of page.
- ✓ Entire panel – Use the **Save** button located at the top of page

Remember to save early and save often!

Panel Options

The **Panel Options** section allows you to configure the overall layout of the panel. You can later configure the layout of each individual cell in the **Layout** section. *See **Layout** for more information.*

NOTE: Configurations made in the **Layout** section for an individual cell override the layout options set in **Panel Options**. Configurations made in the **Panel Options** section are considered default settings.

To configure **Panel Options**, click  next to **Panel Options** to expand the menu. You may configure these **Panel Options**:


Panel	<i>Height</i>	Panel height in pixels
	<i>Width</i>	Panel width in pixels
Layout	<i>Type</i>	Choose Table (Grid not yet functional)
	<i>Cell Spacing</i>	Specifies the space (in pixels) between cells in pixels
	<i>Cell Padding</i>	Specifies the space (in pixels) between the cell wall and its contents
Font	<i>Style</i>	Times New Roman (serif) or Arial (sans-serif)
	<i>Size</i>	Font size
Alignment	<i>Horizontal</i>	Sets the default Horizontal alignment for content within an individual cell
	<i>Vertical</i>	Sets the default Vertical alignment for content within an individual cell
Color	<i>Background</i>	Click the box to select a Background color for the panel See Selecting a Color for more information
	<i>Foreground</i>	Click the box to select a color for text in the panel See Selecting a Color for more information
Border	<i>Style</i>	Panel border style
	<i>Color</i>	Panel border color
	<i>Width</i>	Panel border width

Tags [Performance Panels Only]

Tags provide the power and flexibility behind each dynamic web display. They make it possible to pull and display real-time information that comes from the VT2000 System and displays onto the panels.

IMPORTANT: **Messaging** panels do not have the tag functionality. If you require use of tags, please inquire about **Performance** panels and displays.

Creating a Tag

To configure **Tags**, click  next to **Tags** to expand the menu and follow these steps:

1. Under the Tags list box, click **Add** to add a new tag or **Edit** to modify an existing one. To copy a tag, select the tag to duplicate and click **Copy**.

When a tag is in edit mode, the right side of the tag menu becomes enabled.

2. Next to **Tag Name**, enter a meaningful name for your tag.

NOTE: Tag names **CANNOT** have spaces. They are limited to letters, numbers and underscores.

3. From the **Functionality** list, choose one of these:

Preset Value Constant value that for the most part never changes. It is a good idea to use a Preset Value when you are using a constant value in several places. If the value ever changes, you only have to change it once.

Example You have a goal of 100 that is used for several calculations

Duration* Pulls the duration of a specified alarm, process or group.

See below for more information on grabbing data from groups.

Quantity* Captures the *number of incidents* (not to be confused with counts) associated with a specified alarm, process, information field or group.

See below for more information on grabbing data from groups.

State* Returns one of the following:

0 Non-active state
Alarms and Processes

1 Active state
Alarms and Processes

2 T2 active state (i.e., acknowledged state)
Alarms Only

3 T3 active state (i.e., second acknowledged state)
Alarms Only

Most commonly used with an Active Time Period

Count*
(RCMs and Dis Only) Grabs an actual count, Target Cycle Time, Average Cycle Time, or Goal (as specified) from a specified data source.

Data*
(Dis Only) Grabs specified input data from a specified Information Field. Handles text, integers, decimals and time spans.

Properties*

Gets the specified property information from the specified data source

Example Alarm Name, Module Name, Alarm Start Time, Alarm End Time, etc.

NOTE: If more than one property exists for a given tag, the display lists each property separated by a comma.

Formula

Create your own formula using values and tags. Precede all tag names with an exclamation point (!).

Example [uptime] !totalDuration – !downtime

Condition

Create a conditional statement using values and tags. Precede all tag names with an exclamation point (!).

*Example: if !stateTag = 0 then value = 100
if !stateTag = 1 then value = 200*

See **Creating a Condition** for more information on creating conditions

Lookup

Uses **Data Lookup Manager** to get specified information

NOTE: Data Lookup Manager is a separately sold add-on package. Please contact a VersaCall Representative for more information.

System Properties

Gets the specified property from the Virtual Panels II System.

*You can later specify whether you want the tag to include the active information or total/all information for the current shift, day or week. See below for more information

NOTE: Many of the following fields depend on the tag you have selected. Not all of the following steps will apply to the tag you are editing.

- 4. Fill in any fields that apply specifically to the tag functionality. For example, if you chose Preset Value functionality, fill in the Preset Value field.
- 5. For **Time Period**, select a time period from which to grab information.

- Active** Grabs active information from the specified data source
- Current Shift** Grabs information from the specified data source for the current shift
- Current Day** Grabs information from the specified data source for the current day
- Current Week** Grabs information from the specified data source for the current week

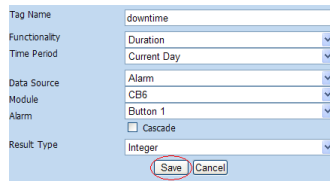
6. For **Module**, select a module from which to grab data
7. Select the **Alarm, Process, Info. Field, or Group** from which to grab data

NOTE: For **Group**, Virtual Panels II will only read either alarms or processes for each tag. In other words, you need separate groups for alarms and processes. For groups consisting of alarms, if you include alarms that belong to a process you must still include that process in the group.

8. Check **Cascade** if you selected a level 1 alarm from which to grab data and you want to include all level 2 and 3 alarms belonging to that alarm in the result.
9. For **Result Type**, choose the data type result you want to use or display.

NOTE: You may be particularly concerned with a result type if you are constructing a formula with the result of the tag.

10. For **Format**, choose the format in which to display your result.
11. To save the tag, click **Save** located beneath the tag's configuration.



The tag name then appears on the left side of the screen.

IMPORTANT: Configured tags become available for layout purposes in the **Layout** section below. After creating a tag, you can then add the tag to the display. See **Adding Information to Cells** below for more information.

Important Notes on Tags

Other things to note about tags:

- ✓ **Tag names cannot have spaces.** They are limited to letters, numbers and underscores.
- ✓ An **exclamation point (!)** precedes a **tag** when creating a formula or including a tag in text

Example *[Tag] !totalDuration - !downtime*
 [Text] Today's downtime is !downtime.



- ✓ **Tags execute from top to bottom.** Keep this in mind when creating formulas that use the result of another tag.



- ✓ If you change the name of a tag and you've used it in the **Layout** section, make sure to adjust the tag in the **Layout** section as well. The name will not always update automatically and may cause errors if not adjusted.

Layout

The **Layout** section of the **Edit Panels** page is where you can add columns, rows and content to your panel. You can configure the layout of each individual cell and change the font, color and border styles based on certain conditions. All layout configurations made here override the layout options configured in the **Panel Options** section.



Adding and Deleting Rows and Columns

To add a row, click  next to **Row**. To add a column, click  next to **Column**.

To delete a row, click  next to **Row**. To delete a column, click  next to **Column**.

IMPORTANT: Rows and columns are always added and deleted at the end of the table *regardless* of the row or cell that is currently selected.

If you are adding rows and columns you can move the column or row to the desired location after it has been added.

If you are deleting a row or column, move the row or column you want to delete to the end of the table before clicking . If you accidentally delete a row or column, simply re-add the row or column by clicking  next to either row or column and it reappears.

See **Moving Cells, Rows and Columns** for more information

Moving Cells, Rows and Columns

1. To move a single cell, click on the cell you would like to move.

	1	2	3
1	Test	1	5
2	!uptime	2	6
3	!systemP	3	7
4	!downtim	4	8

2. Click the arrow for the direction in which you would like to move the cell.



3. Cell moves to the desired location

	1	2	3
1	Test	5	1
2	!uptime	2	6
3	!systemP	3	7
4	!downtim	4	8

Rows and Columns

1. To move an entire row or column, highlight the row or column you want to move by clicking the row or column header (cell with turquoise border).

	1	2	3
1	Test	5	1
2	!uptime	6	2
3	!systemP	7	3
4	!downtim	8	4

2. Select the arrow for the direction in which you would like to move the row or column.



3. Column moves to the desired location

	1	2	3
1	Test	1	5
2	!uptime	2	6
3	!systemP	3	7
4	!downtim	4	8



Merging Cells, Rows and Columns

Merging Cells

You can merge a cell with one or more cells located to the right or below the selected cell.



1. To merge a cell, select a cell.

	1	2	3
1	Test	1	5
2	!uptime	2	6
3	!systemP	3	7
4	!downtim	4	8

2. Click  to merge the cell with a cell to the right or  to merge the cell with a cell below.
3. To merge multiple cells, repeat step 2.
4. Cells merge

	1	2	3
1	Test	1	5
2	luptime	2	6
3	lsystemP	3	7
4	ldowntim	4	

Un-Merging Cells




- To un-merge a cell, click on the merged cell and click  to un-merge horizontally aligned cells or  to un-merge vertically aligned cells.
- To un-merge multiple cells, repeat step 1.

Adding Information to Cells

Getting Started

- Click on the cell to edit. When a cell is in edit mode, its color turns green and the layout configuration box appears below the table.

	1	2	3
1	n/a	n/a	n/a
2	n/a	n/a	n/a
3	n/a	n/a	n/a

Content:	Type	Text	Value	Scrolling	None
Font:	Style	Default	Size	Default	<input type="checkbox"/> Bold Conditions
Alignment:	Horizontal	Default	Vertical	Default	Height 0 Width 0
Color:	Background		Foreground		<input type="checkbox"/> Blink Conditions
Border:	Style	Not Set	Color		Width 1 Conditions
<input type="button" value="Save"/> <input type="button" value="Cancel"/>					

Content

You can add an image, tag, text or a combination of tags and images to any single cell. To add content to a cell, follow these steps:

- Select the type of content to add from the **Type** list.



- Text** Add text to your panel

- Tag** Add the result of a configured tag to your message
*See **Tags** for more information*

- Image** Add a previously uploaded and configured image to your message
*See **Adding Images** for more information*

- Text & Tag** Select **Text** as the content **Type**

Combo

2. For **Value**, follow one of these steps

Text If **Text** is the content **Type**, type in any text

Value	Line 1 Downtime
-------	-----------------

Tag If **Tag** is the content **Type**, **Value** populates with list of saved tags. Select a tag from the list.

Value	None
Size	downtime
Vertical	CountG20 totalTime

Image If **Image** is the content **Type**, **Value** populates with saved images. Select an image from the list.

Value	None
Size	CNC_GG CNC_RR CNC_YG CNC_YY
Vertical	dTime
Foreground	Weld_GG Weld_RR Weld_YG Weld_YY
Color	

NOTE: You must first add an image for it to appear in this list. See Adding Images for more information.

Text & Tag Combo Type in text and tag name directly. Precede any tag names with an exclamation point (!)

Value	Downtime on Line is: !downtime
-------	--------------------------------

3. If you want the content in the cell to scroll, select an option from the **Scrolling** list.

Scrolling	None
	None
	Left
	Right
	Up
	Down

Font

NOTE: The **Default** option for any of the properties below refers to the settings made for that property in the **Panel Options** section above.



1. From the **Style** list, select **Default**, **Times New Roman** (serif) or **Arial** (sans-serif) :
2. From the **Size** list, select a font point size.
3. Check the **Bold** box to make font bold.
4. See **Creating a Condition** for more information

Alignment

NOTE: The **Default** option for any of the properties below refers to the settings made for that property in the **Panel Options** section above.

1. From the **Horizontal** list, select the desired horizontal alignment for the content in the cell.
2. From the **Vertical** list, select the desired vertical alignment for the content in the cell.
3. For **Height**, enter the desired height of the cell in pixels. A 0 value indicates an auto size
4. For **Width**, enter the desired width of the cell in pixels. A 0 value indicates an auto size.


Color

1. Click  next to **Background** and select a color. See **Selecting a Color** for more information.
2. Click  next to **Foreground** and select a color. See **Selecting a Color** for more information.

NOTE:  indicates the default background color chosen in **Panel Options**.

3. Check the **Blink** box if you want the content in the cell to blink.
4. See **Creating a Condition** for more information

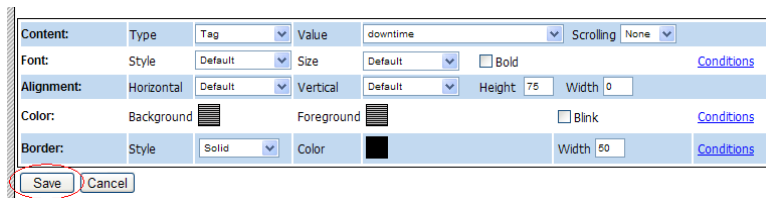
Border

1. For **Style**, choose a style for the cell's border.
2. To change default border color from Black, click  and choose a color. See **Selecting a Color** for more information.
3. For **Width**, enter the desired width of the border in pixels.

Saving Cell Content and Layout

IMPORTANT: You **must** save **each** cell before moving on to edit another one.

1. Click the **Save** button below the cell layout box after editing **each** cell to save its contents.



The screenshot shows a configuration panel for a cell. It has several sections:

- Content:** Type, Tag (dropdown), Value (downtime), Scrolling (None dropdown).
- Font:** Style (dropdown), Size (dropdown), Bold checkbox, and a [Conditions](#) link.
- Alignment:** Horizontal (dropdown), Vertical (dropdown), Height (75), Width (0).
- Color:** Background (color selection icon), Foreground (color selection icon), Blink checkbox, and a [Conditions](#) link.
- Border:** Style (dropdown), Color (black color selection icon), Width (50), and a [Conditions](#) link.

 At the bottom left, there are two buttons: 'Save' (circled in red) and 'Cancel'.

2. When the cell has saved, you will see the updated contents in the cell and/or you will see **Done** on the bottom left of your browser window.

General Options

This section refers to options that are presented in more than one section of the **Edit Panel** page.

Creating a Condition

A condition allows for flexibility in the result of a tag or layout option. You can base the result of a tag or layout option based on another result.

For example, if a downtime alarm has been active for less than five minutes, you may want the cell background to be green, but if the alarm is over five minutes you may want the background to turn red and the text to blink.

To create a condition tag, you will need to arrive at a screen similar to this one:

The screenshot shows a web interface for configuring conditions. On the left, there is a large empty box labeled 'Conditions'. Below it are 'Add', 'Edit', and 'Delete' buttons, along with up and down arrow buttons. On the right, there is a 'Condition' form with two input fields, an equals sign, a dropdown menu, and a 'Value' field. Below the form are 'Save' and 'Cancel' buttons.

1. You can arrive at this screen from one of the following ways:

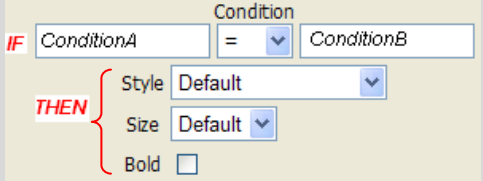
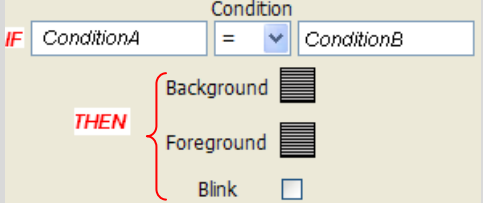
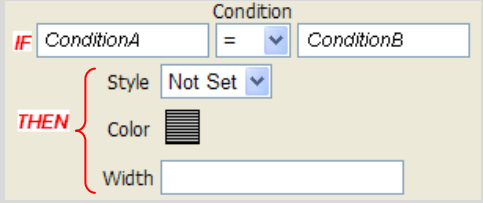
Condition Tag If you are creating a condition tag, this screen appears once you select **Condition** from the **Functionality** list.
See *Creating a Tag* for more information

Layout Condition If you are creating a layout condition, arrive at this screen by clicking [Conditions](#) next to the variable layout option (Font, Color or Border)
See *Layout* for more information

2. Click **Add** to add a condition or **Edit** to modify an existing one

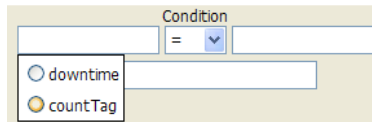
The **Condition** menu to the right becomes enabled. You can then create a condition.

The screenshot shows a 'Condition Format' dialog box. It is split into two sections. The left section is labeled 'Condition Tag'. The right section contains a 'Condition' form with the following configuration: 'IF' followed by a text box containing 'ConditionA', an equals sign, a dropdown menu, a text box containing 'ConditionB', and 'THEN Value' followed by a text box containing 'ResultA'.

<p>Font Condition</p>	
<p>Color Condition</p>	
<p>Border Condition</p>	

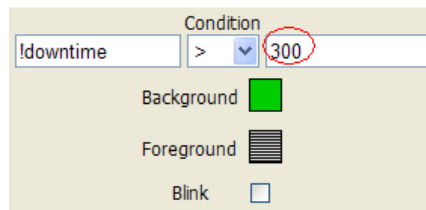
3. In any of the text fields you can add either a tag value or a value that you type in.

Tag Value When you click on a text box, the names of all available tags appear. Click on the radio button next to the corresponding tag name to add it to the text field



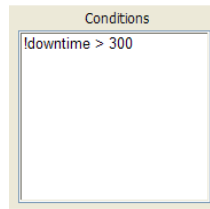
Hard Value You can also add a value that you type in.

NOTE: When you use a time value, use the time in seconds.



- When you complete the condition, click **Save**.

The tag name then appears on the list to the left.



- Repeat steps 2 -4 to add multiple conditions.

IMPORTANT: Conditions execute from top to bottom, so the first true condition is the one that executes. Please keep the order in mind when creating your conditions. To change the order of the condition, select the condition you want to move from the **Conditions** list and click either or to move the condition.

- When complete with conditions, do one of the following:

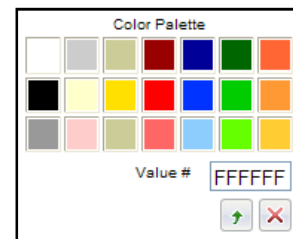
Condition Tag If you are creating a condition tag, click the **Save** button to save the tag

Layout Condition If you are in the **Layout** section, click **Done** to return to **Layout**.

Selecting a Color

There are many places throughout the **Edit Panel** page where you may set a color. Once you arrive at the Color Palette screen, you may:

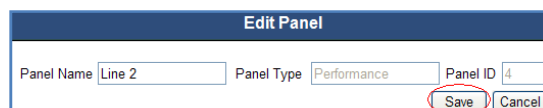
- Click on a color on the Color Palette, *OR*
- Enter an RGB value for an html color next to **Value #**, *THEN*
- Click to accept the color, *OR*
- Click to cancel out



TIP: An internet search for "HTML Colors" produces multiple charts and lists of colors for you to choose from.

Saving Panel

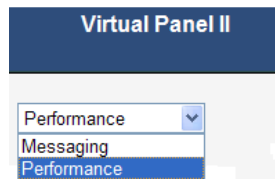
Once you complete all changes in the **Panel Options**, **Tags** and **Layout** sections, you *must also* save the panel itself by clicking **Save** at the top of the page.



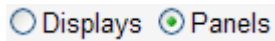
Viewing a Panel

During the panel editing process, you may want to see the results of your edits. Pre-view the panel by following these steps:

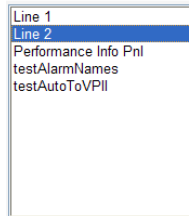
1. From the main Virtual Panels II page, select either **Messaging** or **Performance** from the drop down list to view the appropriate panel.



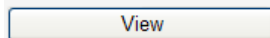
2. Select the **Panels** radio button.



3. Select the name of the panel to view from the list.



4. Click the **View** button located below the panel list.



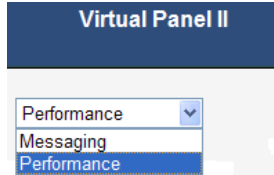
A new window or tab appears with the contents of your panel. A few seconds may pass before your panel appears. If you make changes to a panel, it may take a few seconds for the changes to take effect. The panel times out after two minutes.

NOTE: Panels are limited to a display time of two minutes. If you want to view the panel for a longer period of time, you must first add the panel to a display. See **Creating a Display** and **Viewing a Display** for more information.

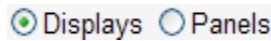
Creating a Display

Once you have created one or more panels, you can create a display. A display, once configured, is the finished product that can be launched onto monitors and desktops throughout the plant. To create a display, follow these steps:

1. From the main Virtual Panels II page, select either **Messaging** or **Performance** from the drop down list to view the appropriate display.



2. Select the **Displays** radio button.



3. Click **Add** to add a new display or **Edit** to modify an existing one.
4. In the Edit Display page, configure the following:

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| Display ID | Leave as is. Do not modify. This is for internal system usage. |
| Display Name | Enter any meaningful name for your display.
<i>Example: Line 1 Display</i> |
| Display Type | This is automatically filled in depending on which panel type you selected in step one. |
| Refresh Rate | Enter a refresh rate (in seconds)for your panel in seconds. The refresh rate is the rate at which the panel updates with new information. |

IMPORTANT: The refresh rate is the *desired* refresh rate. If you have an intense panel it may take longer to gather, process and display all the data. In this case, your refresh rate may not occur as fast as desired.

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| Full Screen | If checked, the display opens in a full-screen browser window when launched. If not checked, the display opens in a browser window that is equivalent to the height and width set in the Panel Options section of one of the panels added to the display. |
|--------------------|--|

Next, you can add one or more panels to a single display. The panels added to the display rotate when the display is launched. Each panel displays for the desired duration before flipping to the next. To continue editing the display, follow these steps:

5. Click [Add a panel...](#) to add a panel to the display.
6. A grid appears with the following:

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| Index | Cannot be modified. This is for internal system usage. |
|--------------|--|

- Key** Cannot be modified. This is for internal system usage.
- Panel** Names of all previously configured panels appear in this list.
Choose a panel to add to the display.
You must add the panels in the order in which they are to display.

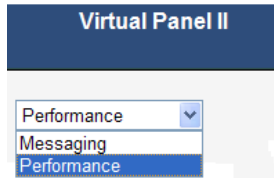
NOTE: If you have not configured any panels, the list will be blank. See *Creating a Panel* for more information.

- Duration** The length of time (in seconds) that the panel remains on the display before the next one appears. Enter a desired time.

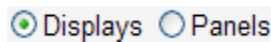
7. Click [Update](#) to save the panel to the display.
8. Repeat steps 5 through 7 to add an additional panel to the display.
9. When you've completed adding all the desired panels, click **Save** at the bottom of the page to save the display.

Viewing a Display

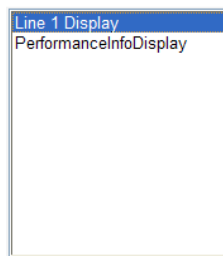
5. From the main Virtual Panels II page, select either **Messaging** or **Performance** from the drop down list to view the appropriate panel.



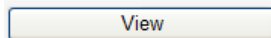
6. Select the **Displays** radio button.



7. Select the name of the display to view from the list.



8. Click the **View** button located below the display list.



A new window or tab appears with the contents of your display. A few seconds may pass before your display appears. If you've made changes to a panel in the display, it may take a few seconds for the changes to appear.

Launching a Display to Production Floor

To launch a display onto monitors on the production floor, follow these steps:

9. From your desktop, make note of the URL to the display which is as follows:

<http://<IP Address>/WebInterface/ReportPackages/WebPanelView/showdisplay.aspx?displayid=<Display ID>>

*IP Address and Display ID vary

10. Connect to the terminal for the monitor on the production floor.

NOTE: Monitors on the production floor typically do not have a mouse and keyboard attached, so you will need to either attach them or log in remotely to each terminal.

11. Launch the browser (ideally, Internet Explorer) and type in the URL noted above.
12. To view the browser in full screen mode, press F11. To exit full screen mode, press F11 again.
13. To launch displays on multiple browsers, repeat steps 9 -11

Hardware and LCD Monitor Requirements

Overview

The display of information on a Plasma or LCD screen must be driven from a P/C that is LAN connected. The minimal P/C requirements are defined below. For multiple screens in a facility, depending upon the information that is displayed on the screens will determine the number of P/Cs required. There are some options when all of the screens are displaying the exact information that you can drive as many four (4) screens from one P/C. With current technology, the multiple screens are driven from a splitter box and depending upon the splitter technology selected there is distance limitation from the splitter box to the screen – either 75' or 320'. If there are multiple screens in a facility and each of the screens will be displaying different information, each screen will require a LAN connected P/C.

The selection of the size and the type of the display is the responsibility of the customer. It should be noted that Plasma Screens will ghost images- if the same information (image) is displayed on a constant basis. If it is planned that the image displayed on the screen will change continually, then a plasma screen may be a consideration. The LCD screens do not have this ghosting characteristic.

The selection of the screen, installation and cabling is the responsibility of the customer unless contracted otherwise.

NOTE: This is a not a wireless application. The P/C's must be LAN connected and there is cabling from the PC or splitter box to the screens. A wireless LAN can be implemented.

Minimum P/C Requirements

Minimum P/C system requirements for LCD/Plasma Displays

In order to have the correct resolution for your display, you will require a system with a video card that is 8x AGP with a minimum of 128mb of memory. Also since you may want to access the system remotely in order to set up the display it should have Windows XP or better installed.

Minimum Requirements for XP system

- PC with 300 megahertz or higher processor clock speed recommended; 233 MHz minimum required (single or dual processor system);* Intel Pentium/Celeron family, or AMD K6/Athlon/Duron family, or compatible processor recommended.
- 128 megabytes (MB) of RAM or higher recommended (64 MB minimum supported; may limit performance and some features).
- 1.5 gigabytes (GB) of available hard disk space.

Since the system will be used just as a display driver these minimum requirements are just fine.

Browser Requirements

The VT2000 System, including Virtual Panels II, works best with Internet Explorer. VT2000 web pages require JavaScript to be enabled.

Video Card Requirements

Most panels have a standard resolution of 1366x768 and most will also display, natively 1024x768. However, running in this mode will cut down the ability to utilize the displays full capabilities.

With this information in mind you should find a video card that is capable of displaying the standard resolution of the LCD/Plasma display.

Currently, both Nvidia and ATI have basic cards that are able to provide this standard.

Nvidia FX5200 is capable of not only the standard resolution but also has settings available to tilt the display 90 degrees at a time to allow the display to be used as a count/goal/actual board.

Driving Multiple Screens – Same Image

Below are some of the options for driving multiple screens from one P/C:

	Option #1	Option # 2	Option #3 Individual P/C
Hardware	Video & Audio Splitter/ Distribution Amplifier	4 Port Cat 5 VGA Video Splitter Plus Remote Receiver [Req. For Each Screen]	P/C

Estimated Cost	Cost of Splitter Box, Individual Monitor Cables, plus P/C [Approx 500.00 plus P/C]	Cost of Splitter Box [Approx. \$600], Remote [Approx. 400.00 per location] plus P/C	Cost of Individual P/C at Each Location
Distance Limits	75' from Splitter Box	Cat5 Cable -320' from Splitter Box	Up to 75' Cable from P/C

LCD Requirements

October 2006: Large LCD Panels is presently in the technology price curve where the prices are on a significant downward trend. From what we can understand this situation is expected to continue in the foreseeable future [Business Week Oct 4, 2006]. During this period of downward prices, you can expect to see model number changing rapidly so we are not recommending any specific model numbers. We will only outline required input/output standards. Although there are many brands on the market there are only six primary manufactures who have made the investment to produce large LCD screens; Samsung, LG Philips [Joint venture], Sharp, Sony, AU Optronics (Taiwan) and Chi Mei Optronics (Taiwan).

Required Interfaces:

To interface to the VersaCall system, either a DVI or a VGA interface is required.

DVI is Digital Visual Interface is a video interface standard designed to maximize the visual quality of flat panel LCD screens. LCD screen specifications will list the DVI Interface. The screen will have a DVI male connector on the back of the screen.

VGA is Visual Graphic Array has been the video pin out standard for the majority of computer monitors. It is a 15 pin connector. The LCD screen specification will list VGA interface.

Only a VGA Connector or a DVI Connector is the only Requirement for the VersaCall System

Screen Brands to Consider:

- Hyundai
- LG
- Olevia
- Samsung
- Sharp
- Sony
- Vizio

Other Consideration: The mounting hardware – ensure that the screen this purchased matches to the mounting hardware

Guidelines for Viewing Information on an LCD

The below information is intended to be for guidelines only. Each production floor environment is unique and the customer should determine what is appropriate for the requirements.

Selection of Screen Size

The selection of the LCD or Plasma size as well as the letter or number size for the displayed information is both driven by the distance at which the message is to be read.

Rule of Thumb for the Readability of Message:

	Readability
1" Lettering	25 Ft
2" Lettering	50Ft
3" Lettering	100Ft

A 32" LCD is 15" high by 27" wide. Going with the standard of 1" lettering for every 25 feet and at least 1.5" between lines for legible text. We can be safe to say, 6 lines of text would be visible at 25 feet. Now depending on the type of font being used we have a variable number of characters to be place per line. After playing with the display we have in house we have come to the conclusion that 5 characters per cell on a 5 column grid is about the most you can have without appearing too busy and distracting from the legibility of the display.

We can assume that a 40" display will be a couple of inches higher and wider so it might be possible to say that going with the same 1" letter per 25 feet. We should be able to get 7-8 lines of text by 6-7 columns.

Example 32" Display

Title of Display				
Cell 1	Cell 2	Cell 3	Cell 4	Cell 5
Maint	Maint	Maint	Maint	Maint
12345	12345	12345	12345	12345
Qual	Qual	Qual	Qual	Qual
09876	09876	09876	09876	09876

Text Type Guidelines

Guideline	Sample Text
Avoid using all uppercase for large text areas.	RESEARCH HAS SHOWN THAT PEOPLE CAN READ FASTER IF WORDS ARE WRITTEN USING MIXED CASE RATHER THAN ALL UPPER CASE. BLOCKS OF BOLD AND ITALICS TEXT ARE MORE DIFFICULT TO READ. BLACK IS EASIER TO READ THAN COLORED FONTS.
Avoid using bolded text for large text areas.	Research has shown that people can read faster if words are written using mixed case rather than all upper case. Blocks of bold and italics text are more difficult to read. Black is easier to read than colored fonts.
Be careful when using colored text. Use dark text on light backgrounds to provide the most contrast.	Research has shown that people can read faster if words are written using mixed case rather than all upper case. Blocks of bold and italics text are more difficult to read. Black is easier to read than colored fonts.
Mixed-case, black and unbolded is easier to read for large text areas. Use color and bold only to call attention to important items.	Research has shown that people can read faster if words are written using mixed case rather than all upper case. Blocks of bold and italics text are more difficult to read. Black is easier to read than colored fonts.