Vimly Overview

Simple to Setup

Vimly projects do not require hours of work to setup. All definitions, such as aliases, alarms, or trend variables are done in simple to use tables, allowing you to quickly create screens, define alarms and replays without, sort through the definitions or make global changes using the Express Edit feature.

Open Architecture

Vimly was designed from the ground up to facilitate all tasks involved in creating and operating a modern, open and secure industrial control and supervisory system.

Vimly is an integrated development and operation environment, Switching between development and operation mode in seconds is as simple as a matter of a keystroke. Definitions are always accessible and can be changed without disrupting the operation. Vimly projects can be easily hidden to prevent operators from making changes to the project.

Simple Alarm Management

Vimly provides a simple and easy way to manage even large projects. The project wide alarm management screen, making it easy to find a specific operator or table among hundreds of items. In addition, items can be assigned to user-defined groups, allowing for a tailor-made view, that can be recalled with a mouse click.

Zero Maintenance Database Tables

Vimly can log data such as reports, trends, or other histories to an external database system via ODBC. Vimly supports its internal fast and reliable SQLite database engine, and in addition lets you export data to csv (Excel) format. Database logging is completely automatic, relieving the user from manually creating up files, user accounts or maintenance. Vimly automatically maintains data files, and can be configured to separate archives, thus preventing the hard disk from becoming fragmented or full. All this is done without any user intervention whatsoever.

An Affordable and Scalable Solution

Vimly can be used for small projects and can grow with your plant. Vimly does not limit, either by license or by technology, any aspect of your project. It has no limits on the number of tags or installations using the internal SQLite, or ODBC, hundreds of reports and trends, and thousands of alarms. The license you buy is for unlimited power, and even small system includes all development tools you need, just a mouse-click away.

What Makes Vimly Different?

Vimly 5.0 continues to build on the success of previous versions:

- Tag Independence: Vimly does not limit the number of tags. There's no need to get stuck in your computer's Start Menu, helplessly deciphering meaningless icons. Just call up the relevant screen and start working.
- Take your project with you on a Disk on Key (DOK). Use Vimly To Go!
- Vimly can be configured to run from your internet. No need to install files.
- Vimly is clean. The entire Vimly installation takes up less than 20MB of hard disk space. No need to install Java or device drivers in your operating system.
- Vimly's configuration files use big data to any ODBC compatible database server, such as Microsoft SQ. Server, MySql or Oracle.

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Operator screens

Operator Screens

Vimly offers the visual quality to be expected from today's PC's. Based on high-quality vector graphics, Vimly screens provide a visual impact and are easy on the eyes. Line-smoothing, transparency, smooth gradients and true zooming let Vimly operator screens deliver the visual details in a clear and easy way, maintaining legibility. Layer support lets you separate different kinds of elements into separate graphic layers, each of which can be hidden or shown.

Live Graphics

In Vimly you can link real-time values to any element attribute to create stunning animations, dynamically changing colors, placement, rotation, visibility, text, fill-in or any other attribute. You can also select actions to perform on mouse-clicks, such as changing values, switching screens or loading floating dialogs. Vimly's powerful Expression Editor lets even non-programmers or engineer to quickly inspect and change any of the values displayed on screen.

Total Integration

With Vimly it is easy to integrate real-time and historical values in a single user interface using operator screens. Beyond the normal way of displaying tables, trends, and alarms, you can also visualize this data in operator screens. Report data can be replayed in screens, instead of real-time values, thus providing an easy way to investigate incidents. Charts can be superimposed on screens, thus displaying real-time or historical trends. Even recipes can be recalled, downloaded and uploaded from operator screens for a seamless user experience. Current alarms can be displayed in operator screens.

Secure Operation

Vimly always makes sure only authorized users are able to perform actions on the process. Operator screen actions can be limited to certain actions can be configured to require a password, or can be set for a minimal user-level. Operator actions can be logged to a user actions database table.

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Screens designer

Rapid Screen Creation

Vimly includes an integrated screen designer for rapidly designing and editing screens. Screens can be created from scratch or using a wizard, allowing the user to switch to a different application or even a different window. An extensive, customizable library of ready-to-use objects, such as valves, pumps, tanks, and many more, can be used to represent such as valves, pumps and motors to schematic symbols and text boxes. All symbols come with links included, so the only thing left to do is provide a variable address. To add these symbols to your screen, simply drag & drop them in the desired location.

Powerful Drawing Tools

The vector-graphics based screen designer lets you draw anything from simple lines to complex shapes, easy to use alignment tools lets you separate compound of hundreds of shapes. The concise, easy to use appearance and property panels lets you make changes to visual appearance, and see those changes immediately reflected on your screen, without needing to hit an OK or Apply button. Unlimited undo/redo extra detailed history panel lets you revert any changes. The screen designer includes tools to align, rotate, group, flip, duplicate and otherwise manipulate objects easily. You can also use bitmap images in your screens and change backgrounds for outdoors elements.

Easy Linking

Vimly lets you define the glue that connects real-time values to screen elements, letting you create rich animations to reflect the process as it unfolds. With Vimly Express Edit, you can define a variable address, or link to a tag, or even define a complex expression to change any attribute of any element in any way you wish, and you can use as many links as you'd like on an each element. You can also define actions to be performed on mouse-clicks, such as changing values, switching screens, opening floating panels or performing complex scripts.

Powerful Expressions

Vimly lets you reference any valid item in the PLC address space, without having to define a variable first. Moreover, easy to use alarm table lets you separate the screen addressing from the PLC. You can also specify complex expressions and scripts to define the visualization and automation of your operation.

Maximum Object Reuse

Vimly takes the concept of object reuse to the maximum. With relative addresses you can define complex object behavior and then reuse objects with only a single variable address change. This can be done in a few seconds, and can be applied to many different objects, or even to a whole screen.

Easy Replace

The property panel lets you find any address, element name or value by simply typing the search term in the search box. You are immediately presented with a list of all objects containing the search term. To replace all instance of the term, click the Replace button and enter the replacement string.

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Alarms

Stay Informed

Vimly provides a straight-forward system for monitoring process alarms. Alarms can be assigned to groups, and alarm conditions are constantly evaluated against static or dynamic set-points. Alarm groups can be assigned colors to provide a quick overview of the status of alarms. Each alarm point can be individually configured to perform different actions, such as popping up the alarm summary screen, displaying a flag in the PLC, playing an audio file, or sending out an SMS or email message.

Current Alarms

When a new alarm occurs, the alarm summary window pops up, and remains on top of all other windows, so it is always visible on your single desk. You can then acknowledge the alarm, add a comment, alarm name, alarm group, status, or description. In addition, you can use the relex feature to get rid of alarms which have returned to normal the moment. Clicking the Refresh button will replace all active alarms to the list. Acknowledging alarms can be done for all active alarms or for individual alarms.

Unlimited History

Alarms can also be logged to the alarm log, a database table automatically created by Vimly. The alarm log contains information such as alarm start and times, the process value, acknowledge time and the duration of the alarm in seconds. The alarm log table uses alarm colors for displays and lets you export the data to .csv files, filter the data by date or quickly search for a specific alarm in the log.

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Trends

Simple, Usable Trends

Vimly can handle literally thousands of trend variables, and offers a sampling interval of up to 100 seconds per second. Trends are logged to regular database tables and can be displayed in a tabular view. You can sample anything from simple analog tags to complex expressions or complex expressions or formulae. Just like reports, trends are automatically archived to conserve hard disk space and relieve the user from the tedious task of manually creating archive tables. Ad hoc charts can be generated on the fly for arbitrary variables by having multiple trading windows in operator screens.

Simple, Effective Visualization

Charts let you watch up to 8 values together in a single graph. For each pen, you can define a color, a scale and units to be displayed. Charts can be integrated into operator screens, allowing the user to quickly see real-time or historical trends. Vimly's powerful Expression Editor lets you define a trend, a legend, or scale. Moving along the time axis or zooming in and out can be done by direct manipulation with the mouse in operator screens.

Lightning Fast Display

Charts are never meant to wait for data to appear. Vimly can fetch tens of thousands of samples per second and draw them quickly, allowing you to view time-based trends for scales of months or even years. Unlike other PC-based programs, Vimly doesn't hang while fetching data. Charts can be zoomed, panned, and even have other actions such as jumping to a different time, zooming in or out, or closing the window.

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Reports

Easy Reports

Vimly places no limit on the amount of variables you can put in a single report, or on the conditions for logging. A simple table can hold any old variables to a table, and you can also use expressions to anywhere else in Vimly. Reports can be created according to a schedule or by event or condition. The report header and footer are automatically normalized so that for example reports based once an hour will be taken on the hour. Reports can be logged to the internal high performance SQLite database or to an external data base using ODBC, letting you easily share information between Vimly and other applications.

User-Friendly Tables

Reports are stored in Vimly give you all the power you needed without any fuss. Quickly sort your information any way you want, search for a specific value or range, or even use the filter. You can also export reports to .csv file for use in Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Access, or any other database software.

Recipes Logging

Vimly lets you visualize historical data in operator screens to easily and effectively find the optimal recipe. Recipes can be logged to a single recipe table, or logged unfold in animation on your screen, displaying sampled values and animating recipe changes. Vimly also lets you control the speed of the animation, making sure you can catch any small detail.

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Recipes

Simple Effective, Recipes

Recipes can be downloaded to large quantity of arbitrary variables to PLC's. Vimly, recipe management is as simple as it gets. Recipe values are stored in database tables, and can be recalled using a key value. As with other Vimly places no limit on the number of columns in a recipe table.

Recipe Logging

In Vimly, recipes can be logged using the intuitive, easy to use recipe loader. Recipes can be downloaded and uploaded recipes. You can also edit recipes in tabular view, for performing global changes. Recipe values can also perform other complex scripting operations including exporting and importing records. Recipes can also be visualized and automatically updated, so you can see the speed of the animation, making sure you can catch any small detail.

Scheduled

Recipes can be managed using daily and yearly schedule.

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Communication

Patch Data. Fast.

Vimly's drivers are in industry leading high-performance communication engine and includes an extensive collection of drivers for PLC's. Vimly performs data requests in parallel PLC's simultaneously using multi-threading in order to ensure that you'll get your data as fast as possible. There's no need to predefine data blocks. Vimly does the rest. Vimly does all the rest.

Data Integrity

Vimly knows when your data is always up-to-date. In the case of communications error or timeout, your data is immediately updated to reflect the problem. When communication is restored, Vimly will only when needed, only upon a change of data, thus minimizing network traffic. You can design your network to work in peer-to-peer mode, or in a client/server mode. Vimly network communication can also be configured to encrypted.

Complex Expressions

In addition to letting you define aliases to use instead of addresses, Vimly lets you define complex expressions to perform calculations, or even complex scripts to perform functions. Vimly includes a rich set of mathematical and strong functions that let you perform complex transformations on your data before it is displayed or logged.

Setup and Go

Communication setup is as simple as selecting a driver and a number of communication parameters. There's no need to restart Vimly for changes to take effect. In fact, you don't even have to click OK button. Changes you make to communication setup are immediately reflected. The settings pane in the data sources window also lets you easily customize the behavior of ports, such as balancing write and read operations, block fragmentation or automatically disabling communication to problematic stations on multi-drop connections.

Up to Date. Statistics

The data sources window also provides a host of statistical information about communication ports, such as plus free packet performance, or isolate communication problems. The information displayed includes the update rate, the number of read and write, read rate, write rate, throughput and response time.

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