

NI TestStand™ 4.0 Quick Start Guide

This document provides NI TestStand system requirements, installation instructions, descriptions of the TestStand licensing options, and suggestions for learning to use TestStand.

Installing TestStand

TestStand installs in approximately 30 minutes. Refer to the *NI TestStand Release Notes* for additional installation information.

Recommended System Requirements

National Instruments recommends the following system requirements to run TestStand 4.0. Minimum system requirements follow in parentheses.

- Windows 2000 Service Pack 4 or Windows XP Service Pack 2
- Pentium 4/M or equivalent processor (Pentium III, Celeron 866 MHz, or equivalent minimum)
- 1 GB of memory (256 MB minimum)
- 1.8 GB of free hard disk space
 - 1 GB of free hard disk space for TestStand
 - Additional 260 MB (x86) or 610 MB (x64) of free hard disk space for Microsoft .NET Framework Version 2.0 if not already installed
 - Additional 580 MB of free hard disk space for device drivers from the National Instruments Device Drivers CD
- SVGA resolution or higher video adapter (800 × 600 minimum video resolution for small fonts or 1024 × 768 minimum video resolution for large fonts)
- Microsoft Internet Explorer version 6.0 Service Pack 1 or later (version 5.5 minimum)
- Microsoft-compatible mouse

Use the following National Instruments application development environments (ADEs) with TestStand 4.0:

- NI LabVIEW 7.1.1 or later. You must use LabVIEW 8.2.1 or later to create custom sequence editors.
- LabWindows™/CVI™ 7.1.1 or later. You must use LabWindows/CVI 8.1 or later to create custom sequence editors.
- Measurement Studio 7.1 (or later) Enterprise Edition for integration with Microsoft Visual Studio .NET 2003 or later and Measurement Studio 8.0.1 (or later) for integration with Microsoft Visual Studio 2005 or later. TestStand supports Microsoft Visual Studio Standard but does not support Microsoft Visual Studio Express. The .NET and MFC examples use projects and solutions created in Microsoft Visual Studio 2005. If you are using an earlier version of Microsoft Visual Studio, create new projects and solutions from the source files TestStand provides.

Installation Instructions



Note If you saved LabVIEW VIs that call the TestStand API with a version of LabVIEW earlier than 5.1.1, you must compile and save the VIs in LabVIEW 7.1.1 or later before you install TestStand 4.0. If you do not compile and save the VIs in LabVIEW 7.1.1 or later, the VIs do not load correctly after you install TestStand 4.0.

You must install TestStand in a directory where users of the software have write privileges. Unless you specify another location during installation, the TestStand installation program copies files to <Program Files>\National Instruments\TestStand 4.0.

National Instruments recommends that you exit all programs before running the TestStand installer. Applications that run in the background, such as virus scanning utilities, might cause the installer to take longer than average to complete.

Complete the following steps to install TestStand:

1. Log on as an administrator or as a user with administrator privileges.
2. Insert the TestStand 4.0 installation CD and follow the instructions that appear on the screen.

National Instruments recommends that you install the complete TestStand program. If you perform a custom installation and do not install all the TestStand features, you can run the installation program again later to install additional features.

Activating TestStand Licenses

After you install TestStand, you must use the NI Activation Wizard to activate the software.



Note When you activate TestStand 4.0, you need the product serial number and the name of the product for that serial number. You can find both of these items on the proof-of-ownership and registration card that you received with the product.

Refer to the *Activating Your Software* topic in the *NI TestStand Help* for more information about how to activate TestStand. Access the *NI TestStand Help* by selecting **Start»All Programs»National Instruments»TestStand 4.0»Online Help»NI TestStand Help**.

National Instruments offers a variety of TestStand licenses for the different ways you can use TestStand in development and deployment applications. In general, you can select from the following types of licenses: the TestStand Development System License, the TestStand Custom Sequence Editor License, the TestStand Debug Deployment Environment License, and the TestStand Base Deployment Engine License.

In most cases, when you first install TestStand, you activate a TestStand Development System License. Use the other licenses to activate TestStand on machines to which you deploy TestStand custom sequence editors or operator interfaces that you develop.

Use the following descriptions only as a reference for the TestStand licensing options. Refer to ni.com/activate for more information about activating TestStand licenses. Refer to ni.com/teststand to purchase a TestStand license. Contact your local National Instruments representative for more information or for questions about specific licensing needs.



Note This document does not replace the National Instruments Software License Agreement installed in the <National Instruments>\Shared\MDF\EULAs\NIReleased directory.

TestStand Evaluation Package (350863-00)

When you run TestStand in Evaluation Mode, the software expires after 30 days. The software runs as a fully functional Development System for the first 7 days of the evaluation period. After 7 days, TestStand runs with the following restrictions:

- Sequence execution time limit of 10 minutes
- Continuous application usage time limit of 1 hour

You can activate a TestStand license at any point during or after the 30-day evaluation period.

TestStand Development System License (777777-03)

Activate the TestStand Development System License to develop and edit test sequences and to save TestStand sequence files within the TestStand Sequence Editor, within a TestStand Custom Sequence Editor, or programmatically using the TestStand API. This license also grants the ability to develop custom sequence editors and operator interfaces.

TestStand Custom Sequence Editor License (777775-01)

Activate this license to develop and edit test sequences and TestStand sequence files within a TestStand Custom Sequence Editor or programmatically using the TestStand API.

TestStand Debug Deployment Environment License (900851-01)

The TestStand Debug Deployment Environment License offers the most flexibility for deploying TestStand and LabVIEW-based, LabWindows/CVI-based, and Measurement Studio-based systems.

Activate this license to install the development versions of TestStand, LabVIEW, LabWindows/CVI, Measurement Studio, and any corresponding add-on toolkits on a single test station so you can debug deployed test applications on the test station. This license grants the ability to make minor edits to fix bugs in deployed test applications but does not grant the ability to perform any development tasks using TestStand, LabVIEW, LabWindows/CVI, or Measurement Studio on the test station.

TestStand Base Deployment Engine License (777774-09)

The TestStand Base Deployment Engine License is the minimum license required for all deployed TestStand-based applications. Activate this license to deploy the TestStand Engine, a TestStand Operator Interface, and TestStand sequence files to the single test station to which the license applies. This license does not grant the ability to perform any development tasks using the TestStand Sequence Editor, a TestStand Custom Sequence Editor, or the TestStand API.

Learning TestStand

The best way to familiarize yourself with TestStand is to explore the *Guide to TestStand Documentation* topic in the *NI TestStand Help*, which contains links to all the TestStand documentation in electronic format. Access the *NI TestStand Help* by selecting **Start»All Programs»National Instruments»TestStand 4.0»Online Help»NI TestStand Help** or by selecting **Help»NI TestStand Help** in the TestStand Sequence Editor.

National Instruments recommends completing the following tasks to get started with TestStand:

- Review the *NI TestStand System and Architecture Overview Card* to familiarize yourself with the various system components and the flow and structure of sequences, process models, and executions.
- Read the *NI TestStand Release Notes* to familiarize yourself with the new features in TestStand, upgrade information, behavior changes, and documentation resources.
- Read Chapter 1, *Introduction to TestStand*, of the *Using TestStand* manual to familiarize yourself with TestStand concepts and features, then complete the tutorials in *Using TestStand*.
- Read Chapter 1, *TestStand Architecture*, of the *NI TestStand Reference Manual* and familiarize yourself with the other chapters in that manual.
- Refer to the *Using LabVIEW with TestStand* manual and the *Using LabWindows/CVI with TestStand* manual to learn how to use TestStand with National Instruments ADEs.

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