Virtual Control Panel Software Installation Guide

INTRODUCTION

The Virtual Control Panel (VCP) is a software application that provides a graphical user interface to control various members of the **RGB Spectrum** product family. This PC application uses the Windows operating system, and communicates to the **RGB Spectrum** devices via a serial RS-232 connection.
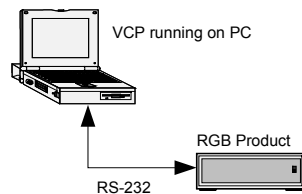

VCP running on PC

RGB Product

RS-232

Figure 1. Using VCP with an RGB Spectrum product

The VCP software may be installed as a free demonstration copy to operate for a 30 day trial period or for an unlimited time if purchased. This procedure describes the installation procedure for both of these options.

INSTALLING VCP SOFTWARE

You may have received your VCP software on CD ROM, floppy disk or as a file transfer (email or FTP for example), but regardless of the distribution method, the installation process is the same.

Installing the software uses an install wizard in a similar manner to most Windows applications.

Use the following steps to install the VCP software on your PC.

- **Set Up VCP application**
  - The VCP application install files are contained inside a Zip file labeled with the target product name. (for example a DGx VCP install file would be named "DGXInstall.zip") To begin the installation open the zip file by double clicking on the file.
  - To begin the installation process double click the SETUP.EXE file located inside the zip file. This will launch the install wizard.
  - Follow the wizard prompts and complete the installation by pressing the wizard "Finish" button.

    If you follow the wizard default settings, the software will be placed in a new directory in the Program folder. The location of the software will be found in the folder Program Files/RGB Spectrum/xxxxxVCP (where xxxxx represents the product name).

STARTING THE VCP APPLICATION

Following installation, VCP software can be used immediately in the evaluation (demonstration) mode. If you have purchased a copy of VCP software your copy will have to be licensed for your machine, which involves obtaining an "Init code" from **RGB Spectrum** (see "Licensing the VCP application" section). You will have the full 30 day evaluation period in which to license your machine before the software will stop functioning.

- **Launching the application**

    Launch the VCP application by double clicking the file icon or shortcut icon. The VCP License Manager screen will appear for a period of 5 seconds. If the program is licensed or within the evaluation period and you take no action during this time the application will automatically start. Clicking the "Unlock Application button" in the License manager window during this interval will cancel the automatic loading of the application. To continue, make sure that the "Enter Application" button is set and then press the "Continue" button.

LICENSING THE VCP APPLICATION

If you have purchased the VCP software you will need to license the software for each machine that you are going to run it on. Switching the software from demonstration mode to licensed mode requires an unlock procedure. The unlock procedure requires entry of an "Init code" that will be provided to you by **RGB Spectrum**. This section describes the procedure that you should follow to license your copy of VCP.

- **Unlock the program**

    - Launch the VCP program by double clicking the file icon or shortcut icon. The VCP License Manager screen will appear as shown in **Figure 2** below. You should click the "Unlock application" button within five seconds, or the screen will automatically disappear. (If the License Manager screen disappears before you are able to make the selection simply exit the application and re-launch it).

    - When first launched, the program opens in the evaluation mode. This allows you to immediately use the application for the length of the evaluation period indicated in the field labeled "Days Left".

        NOTE: To avoid uninterrupted use of the program it is important to unlock the application prior to the expiration date of the evaluation period.

Machine ID (MID)and Site code numbers – These numbers are required in order to provide you with an Init code
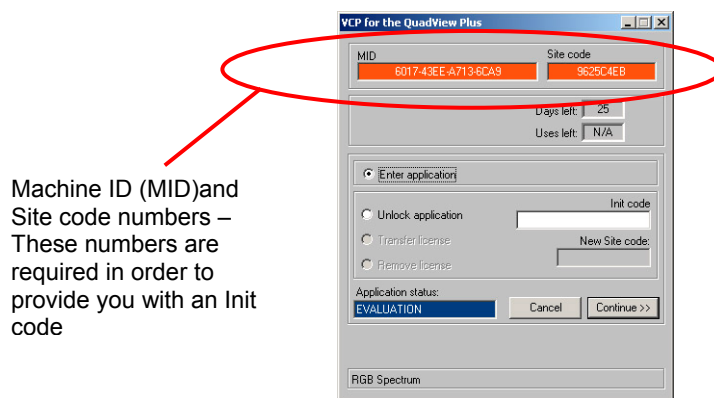

Figure 2.   VCP License Manager – Evaluation mode

- Find your MID and Site code numbers

    To unlock the application it will be necessary to enter a unique code number (init code) that will be supplied to you by **RGB Spectrum**. At the top of the VCP License Manager screen you will see two fields highlighted in red. These numbers are unique numbers related to the machine on which you are installing VCP. (see **Figure 2**)

- Contact **RGB Spectrum**

  You will need to provide the following information to **RGB Spectrum**.

  - Serial number of **RGB Spectrum** product (to be used with the VCP)
  - Machine ID number (from the VCP License manager)
  - Site Code number (from the VCP License manager)
  - Payment method (if applicable)

  The easiest way to accomplish this is to email the information to **RGB Spectrum** Customer Service, but if preferred you can also accomplish this by phone or FAX..

  Email: upgrades@rgb.com
  Phone: (510) 814-7000
  Fax   (510) 814-7026

  Supply the appropriate numbers in your email message. **RGB Spectrum** will email you back with the needed "Init" code.

- Enter the Init code

  When you have received your "Init" code, you can unlock the application. If you are currently using the software in evaluation mode, it will be necessary to return to the License Manager screen. To accomplish this, first close the application, and then restart it so that you see the screen as shown in **Figure 2**.

  Switch the License Manager to unlock mode by clicking on the "Unlock Application" button as shown in **Figure 3**.

  Enter the Init code you received from **RGB Spectrum** into the "Init code" entry field which is located to the right of the Unlock application radio button. (it is easier and more reliable to cut and paste the number from the email that **RGB Spectrum** sent to you).
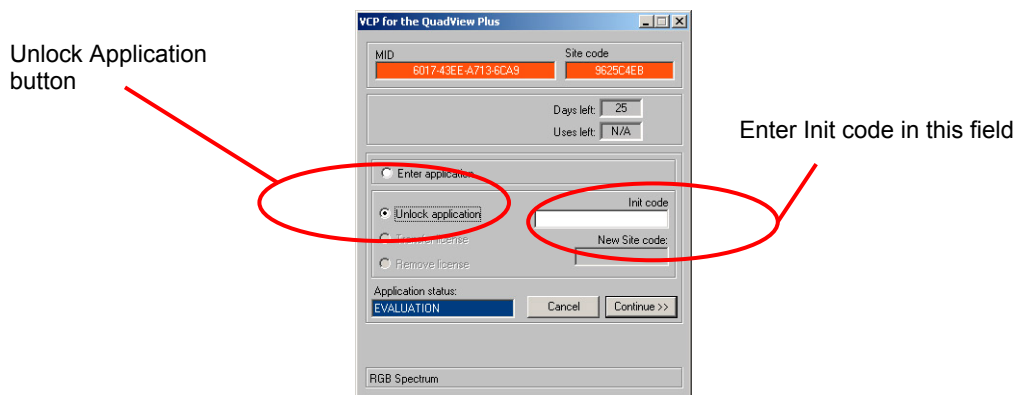

Figure 3.   VCP License Manager – ready for Init code entry

- Press the "Continue" button

  The software should now be installed, unlocked and ready to use.

  NOTE: Take care to keep a record of the Init code in case you should need it in the future.

CONVERTING DEMONSTRATION *VCP* SOFTWARE TO LICENSED *VCP* SOFTWARE

When you first install VCP software on your PC is set up to operate in evaluation (demonstration) mode. In this way you can sample the complete functionality of the product for a period of 30 days. If you wish to convert the evaluation copy so that you can continue to use it beyond the evaluation period this can

be accomplished by obtaining an "Init code" from RGB Spectrum. This can be accomplished even if the evaluation period has expired.

To convert your demonstration copy to a licensed copy follow the "Licensing VCP software" procedure described in the previous section.

TRANSFERRING VCP LICENSES

A VCP license is associated with a specific machine. If you wish to use the license on a different PC this can be accomplished by transferring the license to the other PC. This is accomplished simply by installing the VCP on the new computer and calling RGB Spectrum for a new "Init code".

Contact **RGB Spectrum** Customer Service for information.