



TECQUIPMENT

VDAS E-LAB FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. **Why should I buy VDAS e-lab rather than simply send my students a file of experiment data?**

VDAS-e-lab forces students to actively engage in the process and allows students to capture their own unique data set in direct response to observing the experiment in real-time. This provides a better learning experience as the student observes the experimental procedure and may often need to request specific changes of the experimental parameters. The possibilities for plagiarism are greatly diminished with lecturers being able to identify exactly who has participated in the experiment and where doubts exist compare data sets between students.

2. **If I already have VDAS software, can I use this remotely?**

No, you will need to download the latest Version of VDAS, VDAS 4.0.0 upwards AND the institution will need to purchase an annual VDAS e-lab license that will enable you to use the VDAS e-lab remote live data sharing functionality.

3. **When I purchase VDAS e-lab, do you send the software by post?**

No, you visit www.tecquipment.com/downloads and then download the latest version of the VDAS software. It is the same version of the software for both the person demonstrating the physical experiment and the student remotely receiving live experiment data. The VDAS e-lab license unlocks the remote capability within VDAS.

4. **Can I use the same VDAS e-lab license on multiple computers?**

The license is specific to the experiment and can easily be transferred to other computers.

5. **If I have a single license for one experiment, can I use it on different physical versions of that experiment? For example I have one Universal Testing Machine on site 1, but I also want to use it with another Universal Testing Machine that is located on site 2 – is this possible with the single license?**

Yes, it is not specific to the physical product, but it is specific to the experiment.

6. Do my students need a license of VDAS e-lab?

If they are receiving the live experiment data, No. Students download the latest version of VDAS, VDAS 4.0.0 upwards and will be given a connection ID from the Demonstrator, who requires the license to be active on their PC.

The Demonstrator could also be a student who has been provided with the license information.

7. How do I renew the annual license?

You will be contacted by TecQuipment near your renewal date about the renewals process.

8. How many students can I stream live data to at any one time?

There is no limit to the number of students you can share live VDAS e-lab experiment data with.

9. What are the computer requirements for students to run VDAS e-lab?

Students and the Demonstrator require each a computer with Windows 8 or 10 operating system and 500MB of hard disc space, plus at least an Intel i5 or equivalent processor.

10. What are the internet requirements for sending and receiving live VDAS e-lab data?

A maximum of 1Mbps is required. For many VDAS experiments the requirement is much less than this.

11. Is the data stored in the cloud?

No, the data is not stored in the cloud. The cloud is used to distribute the data only.

12. How does VDAS connect to the network?

The VDAS hardware connects to a PC, which is then connected to the WiFi/Ethernet, that will connect to the internet and the cloud that will share the data.

13. Is a demo license available?

Not currently, but being investigated.

14. What is the difference between VDAS software and VDAS e-lab?

The VDAS software is part of the entire VDAS solution from TecQuipment, that includes hardware that is either On Board, or available separately. VDAS e-lab is the remote data transfer functionality within the VDAS software. VDAS software is available free of charge, but in order to access the VDAS e-lab remote data transfer functionality an annual license is required.

15. Can experiments be controlled remotely using VDAS e-lab?

No.

16. Can students work independently recording and analysing experiment data?

Yes, because each student is working within their own version of VDAS receiving the live experiment data through the VDAS e-lab functionality.

17. Can experiment data be shared?

Yes, they can either save the experiment data as a .dat file that can be opened within VDAS by another person or exported as an Excel or HTML document. If you are running an online classroom session at the same time, there is the option to share your screen as well.

18. Can an academic supply a student who has missed the live practical teaching experiment session with data?

Yes, they send the .dat file

19. Can the whole session be recorded so a student who has missed it can watch a recording?

Yes, if you are using an online classroom/meeting facility such as Zoom, GoToMeeting etc. you can record the session. To record your screen you can also use free software such as OBS.

20. What teaching equipment can I use VDAS e-lab with?

The teaching equipment needs to be VDAS enabled and have VDAS either On Board or have a VDAS separate hardware unit (VDAS B or VDAS F) connected to the apparatus and a suitable computer running VDAS 4.0.0 or higher.

21. Do I need VDAS integrating hardware (VDAS-B and VDAS-F)?

If the experiment does not have VDAS On Board, you do need to have a VDAS hardware unit connected to the teaching equipment and the Demonstrator's computer running VDAS with VDAS e-lab enabled.

22. Do I need to upgrade my VDAS hardware to use VDAS e-lab?

No.

23. Does VDAS e-lab deliver the FULL functionality of standard VDAS for data capture, recording and analysis?

Yes.



TECEQUIPMENT

VDAS REMOTE VIEW HARDWARE FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Can I run VDAS e-lab separately to the Remote View Hardware?

Yes, they are entirely independent of each other.

2. Can I use the Remote View Hardware with other equipment?

Yes, this is independent to VDAS and VDAS e-lab. You can use it on non VDAS enabled TecEquipment products like the Engineering Science range, or other non TecEquipment teaching apparatus in your labs.

3. Can I use my own cameras?

If the cameras are compatible with the TecEquipment supplied mounts and tripods, yes.

4. Can I use my own tripods?

If they are compatible with the TecEquipment supplied cameras, yes.

5. You recommend using ManyCam to integrate the live streaming of multiple cameras into one visual feed, but can I use other software for this function?

Yes, other options are available on the market. We recommend ManyCam because of its extensive functionality and that it is compatible with the major online meeting classroom platforms.