



MAK Data Logger 5.5 Release Notes

This document provides the following release-specific information:

Systems Supported.....	2
Logger API	2
Qt Toolkit Compatibility	2
Starting MAK Applications on Windows 10	2
Compiler Compatibility on Windows	3
License Manager.....	3
ODBC Driver Support.....	3
Network Compatibility.....	4
RTI Support	4
Support for HLA Evolved	4
FOM Support.....	5
New FED File Naming Convention	6
Backwards Compatibility	8
New Features	9
Documentation Updates.....	9
Bug Fixes	9
Known Problems	10
Playing HLA 1.3 Logger Files in HLA 1516 Federations.....	11

Copyright © 2017 VT MAK, 150 Cambridge Park Drive, 3rd Floor, Cambridge, MA 02140 All rights reserved. VR-Exchange™, VR-TheWorld™, VR-Vantage™, DI-Guy™, and DI-Guy Scenario™ are trademarks of VT MAK. MAK Technologies®, VR-Forces®, RTIs Spy®, B-HAVE®, and VR-Link® are registered trademarks of VT MAK.

Document ID: LOG-5.5-2-170712

Systems Supported

Table 1 lists the platforms currently supported by MAK Logger 5.5. Application code must be built with the indicated compilers in order to link to Logger libraries.

Table 1: Platforms supported

Platform	Compiler
Red Hat Enterprise Linux Workstation 6.0	Default compiler (64-bit)
Red Hat Enterprise Linux Workstation 7.0	Default compiler (64-bit)
PC with Windows 7, Windows 8, Windows 10	Microsoft Visual C++ 10.0 (64 bit) Microsoft Visual C++ 12.0 (64 bit)

Logger API

You must have VR-Link 5.3.1 and its required compiler versions to link the Logger libraries, but you do not need it to run the executables. Please see VR-Link documentation for information about required compilers.

You must have a VR-Link developer's license to compile plug-in or applications using the Logger API.

Qt Toolkit Compatibility

The Logger GUI is built using the Qt Toolkit, a cross-platform GUI toolkit. Logger 5.5 uses Qt 5.5.1. You do not need Qt to do development that does not affect the GUI.

If you plan to build the Logger GUI, you must download and install the appropriate version of Qt. You can download it at: <http://www.mak.com/support/bonus-material>.

Qt is also available as a free download under the LGPL version 2.1 license at qt.digia.com. This version should be satisfactory for most Logger customers. If you need a Qt commercial license, you must purchase the license from Digia.

Starting MAK Applications on Windows 10

The Windows 10 “All apps” menu does not support the folder structure that MAK uses to organize startup shortcuts for applications, documentation, and tools. Everything gets dumped into a flat list under **MAK Technologies**. This makes finding the application you want to run tedious at best and confusing at worst, particularly if you have multiple versions of an application installed.

Fortunately, there is a fairly simple way to work around this problem. You can create a toolbar that points to the MAK Technologies shortcuts folder. To do this:

1. Right-click the Taskbar at the bottom of the screen.
2. On the pop-up menu, choose **Toolbars** → **New Toolbar**. The New Toolbar - Choose a folder window opens.

3. In the Folder window, type: C:\ProgramData\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\MAK Technologies
4. Click Select Folder.

A new toolbar is added to the Taskbar. To open a MAK application, users guide, or tool, select it from the toolbar.

Compiler Compatibility on Windows

Current and prior releases of MAK products have been compiled using different versions of the Visual C++ compiler. When you run MAK products together, for example, the Logger and the Stealth, we strongly recommend that you run versions created with the same compiler. Mixing products compiled with different compilers can result in program instability.

License Manager

To run the licensed version of Logger, you must install license management software. Logger 5.5 uses FLEXlm 11.13.0.2. If you are upgrading from a version of the MAK Data Logger that used an older version of FLEXlm, you must upgrade your license management files. You do not need a new license. Licenses are forward compatible.

The License Manager files are not part of the Logger installer. You can download them at:

- ♦ Windows: <ftp://ftp.mak.com/out/MAKLicenseManager-win64-setup.exe>
- ♦ Linux: <ftp://ftp.mak.com/out/MAKLicenseManager-linux64-setup.tar.gz>

A license manager support is available at:

<http://www.mak.com/support/licenses>

ODBC Driver Support

The Logger database export feature supports the following ODBC drivers:

- ♦ MySQL ODBC 2.50 Driver
- ♦ MySQL ODBC 5.351 Driver
- ♦ MySQL ODBC 5.1 Driver
- ♦ MySQL ODBC 5.2w Driver.
- ♦ Microsoft Access.

A 64 bit connector is required.

The MySQL 5.1 server and connector can be downloaded at:

- ♦ server: <http://dev.mysql.com/downloads/mirror.php?id=411970>
- ♦ connector: <http://dev.mysql.com/downloads/mirror.php?id=411736>

Network Compatibility

HLA only

Logger 5.5 was built against VR-Link 5.3.1 and is compliant with:

- ♦ RPR-FOM 1.0, RPR FOM 2.0 drafts 6, 14, 17, and 20, and RPR FOM 2.0 (final version).
- ♦ MAK RTI 4.1 or later.

DIS only

Logger 5.5 supports DIS 4, 5, 6, and 7.

RTI Support

We recommend using the latest version of the MAK RTI. However, the Logger should work with other RTIs that conform to the HLA 1.3 specification, the IEEE 1516 SISO DLC API, or HLA Evolved and are built using the same compiler as your version of the Logger.

When using the MAK RTI, remember to make sure that the Logger can find your FED file, and optional *rid.mtl*, file by either putting them in the directory from which you are running, or by setting the environment variable the directory that contains them.

Support for HLA Evolved

Logger 5.5 updates the HLA Evolved version to be compatible with MAK RTI 4.0.4 or later, VR-Link 5.3.1, and the HLA Evolved specification. A full discussion of this issue is as follows:

The HLA Evolved libraries included with the MAK RTI 4.0 through 4.0.3 were unintentionally built against one of the last draft versions of the HLA 1516-2010 specification header files. Between the version of the header files used by the MAK RTI and the final version of the specification there was one change. The HLA Evolved API has three functions for createFederationExecution. In the version originally used by the MAK RTI there was an ambiguity. Due to optional parameters, two of these functions could be invoked in such a way that it was not clear which one was being used. Here are the functions as they used to be:

```
// variation 1
virtual void createFederationExecution (
    std::wstring const & federationExecutionName,
    std::wstring const & fomModule,
    std::wstring const & logicalTimeImplementationName = L"");

// variation 2
virtual void createFederationExecution (
    std::wstring const & federationExecutionName,
    std::vector<std::wstring> const & fomModules,
    std::wstring const & logicalTimeImplementationName = L"");

// variation 3
virtual void createFederationExecution (
```

```
std::wstring const & federationExecutionName,
std::vector<std::wstring> const & fomModules,
std::wstring const & mimModule,
std::wstring const & logicalTimeImplementationName = L"");
```

Variation one is unambiguous. However, consider the following code:

```
createFederationExecution( L"FedExName", vectorOfFomModules, L"");
```

It is not clear whether you are using variation two or three, and the compiler would throw an error.

To fix this ambiguity, the final version of the HLA Evolved API renamed the third version of the function to `createFederationExecutionWithMIM`. However this revision did not make it into the header files used by the MAK RTI. RTI 4.0.4 corrects this and uses the final version of the HLA Evolved header files. As a result, we recommend that anyone using the MAK RTI with HLA Evolved upgrade to this version. Because the API has changed between RTI 4.0.3 and 4.0.4, any HLA Evolved federates built against previous MAK RTI versions will need to be recompiled against the new version.

Because VR-Link's HLA libraries are built against the MAK RTI, this issue also exists in previous versions of VR-Link that supported HLA Evolved. We recommend that anyone using VR-Link with HLA Evolved upgrade to version 4.0.3 or later, which is built against the latest RTI and uses the renamed function.

This problem affects MAK products built against the MAK RTI and VR-Link that support HLA Evolved, such as Logger 5.0. Logger 5.2 has been built against VR-Link 5.3.1 and is compliant with the final version of the standard.

As a general rule, any version of the Logger is compatible with any version of the RTI that supports the same platform. However, due to this header file change, previous versions of the Logger and the MAK RTI may not be compatible when using HLA Evolved. This change does not affect compatibility between the Logger and the MAK RTI when using HLA 1.3 or 1516-2000.

When using HLA Evolved:

- ♦ Logger 5.0 is only compatible with MAK RTI 4.0, 4.0.1, 4.0.2, and 4.0.3.
- ♦ Logger 5.1 and later releases are only compatible with MAK RTI 4.0.4 and later releases.

FOM Support

Logger 5.5 has built-in support for RPR FOM versions 0.5, 0.7, 0.8, 1.0, 2.0 drafts 6, 14, 17, and 20, and RPR FOM 2.0 final version. It also supports VR-Link's ability to support alternative FOMs through the FOM Mapper. By default, Logger 5.5 uses RPR FOM 2.0.

For information about FOM mapping and selecting the correct FOM Configuring the Logger for HLA in Chapter 2, "Installing and Configuring the Logger", in *MAK Data Logger Users Guide*.

New FED File Naming Convention

Logger 5.5 uses the FOM naming conventions introduced in VR-Link 5.2. This section describes these changes.

Historically, VR-Link has named FED files using the convention *VR-Link<RPR FOM version>.fed* or *VR-Link<RPR FOM version>.xml*. For example, the FED file for RPR FOM 2, draft 17 was *VR-Link20017-1.fed*. This naming scheme has two problems. First, it is confusing for end-users of applications that use VR-Link (but who are not themselves VR-Link customers) to be using a FOM named that way. Second, the file-name was not versioned, so any updates that we would make to the existing FOMs could cause compatibility problems. In fact for this latter reason, we had refrained from fixing a few minor bugs that we found over the years until now.

Effective with this release, VR-Link introduces a new naming convention: *MAK-<FOM name><FOM revision><FOM version>.fed* (or *.xml*, or *_evolved.xml*, as appropriate). For example, *VR-Link20017-1.fed* has been renamed *MAK-RPR20017-1-1.fed*.

Additionally, given the power of HLA Evolved FOM Modules, starting with RPR 2.0 we are now providing the RPR standard FOM for HLA Evolved, currently named *RPR_FOM_v2.0_1516-2010*. MAK's extensions, are in FOM Modules that our software will automatically add to an exercise. This means that if you have another RPR-based FOM, such as NETN or NASMP, you will have a much easier time using it without needing to modify the FOM.

VR-Link continues to include FED files and XML files using the old convention, so you do not have to change any existing scripts or code.

[Table 2](#) lists legacy FED files and how they map to new FED files. Many of the FED files delivered in previous releases do not have updated versions, usually because they are rarely used.

Table 2: Old FED file to new FED file mappings

Old FOM	New FOM
HLA 1.3	
DI-Guy-13_0.fed	
DI-Guy.fed	
VR-Link.fed	MAK-RPR1-1-1.fed
VR-Link05.fed	
VR-Link07.fed	
VR-Link08.fed	
VR-Link10.fed	MAK-RPR1-1-1.fed
VR-Link16.fed	
VR-Link20006.fed	
VR-Link20014.fed	

Table 2: Old FED file to new FED file mappings

Old FOM	New FOM
VR-Link20017-1.fed	MAK-RPR20017-1-1.fed
VR-Link20017-6.fed	MAK-RPR20017-6-1.fed
VR-Link20017.fed	
VR-Link20020.fed	MAK-RPR2-1-1.fed
VR-LinkBOML16.fed	
VR-LinkDDM.fed	
VR-LinkMC02.fed	MAK-RPR1-MC02-1-1.fed
VR-LinkTM.fed	MAK-RPR1-TimeManagement-1-1.fed
VRL-20017-1-Link16.fed	
VRL-DIGuy20017.fed	
VRL-DIGuy20017DDM.fed	
1516-2000	
DI-Guy-13_0.xml	
DI-Guy.xml	
VR-Link.xml	MAK-RPR1-1-1.xml
VR-Link20014.xml	
VR-Link20017-1.xml	MAK-RPR20017-1-1.xml
VR-Link20017-6.xml	MAK-RPR20017-6-1.xml
VR-Link20020.xml	MAK-RPR2-1-1.xml
VR-LinkBOML16.xml	
VR-LinkDDM.xml	
VR-LinkTM.xml	MAK-RPR1-TimeManagement-1-1.xml
VRL-DIGuy20017.xml	
VRL-DIGuy20017DDM.xml	
HLA Evolved	
DIGuyModule_1300.xml	MAK-DIGuy-1_evolved.xml
DIGuyModule_1302.xml	
RPR_FOM_v2.0_draft20_1516-2010.xml	RPR_FOM_v2.0_1516-2010.xml
VR-Link20014_base_evolved.xml	
VR-Link20014_evolved.xml	
VR-Link20017-1_base_evolved.xml	MAK-RPR20017-Base-1-1_evolved.xml

Table 2: Old FED file to new FED file mappings

Old FOM	New FOM
VR-Link20017-1_base_evolved_with-UpdateRate.xml	
VR-Link20017-1_evolved.xml	MAK-RPR20017-1-1_evolved.xml
VR-Link20017-1_evolved_withUpdateRate.xml	
VR-Link20017-6_base_evolved.xml	MAK-RPR20017-Base-6-1_evolved.xml
VR-Link20017-6_evolved.xml	MAK-RPR20017-6-1_evolved.xml
VR-LinkDDM_base_evolved.xml	
VR-LinkDDM_evolved.xml	
VR-Link_LgrControl_evolved.xml	MAK-LgrControl-1_evolved.xml
VR-Link_ViewControl_evolved.xml	
VR-Link_VrExt_evolved.xml	MAK-VRFExt-1_evolved.xml
VR-Link_base_evolved.xml	MAK-RPR1-Base-1-1_evolved.xml
VR-Link_evolved.xml	MAK-RPR1-1-1_evolved.xml
VRL-DIGuy20017DDM_evolved.xml	
VRL-DIGuy20017_evolved.xml	
updateRate.xml	MAK-updateRate-1_evolved.xml
VR-LinkBOML16_module.xml	MAK-BOML16-1_evolved.xml
	MAK-VRFAggregate-1_evolved.xml

Backwards Compatibility

The Logger file format has changed. Logger 5.4 can play files recorded with previous versions. It prompts you to save them to the new format. Files recorded by Logger 5.4 cannot be played by previous versions of the Logger.

New Features

Logger 5.5 has the following new features.

- ♦ The Logger can now listen to the network connection and back channel (for Logger Remote Control messages), just one channel, or neither. The `useBackChannel` parameter has moved from `SetBackChannelConnection` into the `SetRemoteControlSettings` along with a new `useSimChannel`. These parameters replace the `processRemoteControl` parameter, so disabling both parameters stops the Logger from processing any remote control messages.
- ♦ The Logger can record and play back video streams that are synchronized with the simulation data being recorded or played. (Windows only.)
- ♦ When performing database exports, the ODBC export settings dialog box is now automatically populated with the FOM files used when the file was recorded. These files can be modified if desired, but if so they should match the format of the data that has been recorded (that is, have all the classes and attributes/parameters and use the same datatypes).

Documentation Updates

All documentation has been updated for this release. A few screen captures might not show the most recent toolbar changes.

Bug Fixes

This release fixes the following problems:

- ♦ The record command `-r "Record"` on the command line now starts recording to a temporary file instead of being ignored. 54992
- ♦ Saving is disabled when a file is playing for a non-named recording that has been loaded for playback or an edited file. The playback must be stopped in order for the file to be saved. Saving these files while playing lead to a crash. 55916
- ♦ Clicking on save traffic analyzer preferences now persists when you close and re-open the settings dialog. 57646
- ♦ Setting the speed in configuration file or through the increase speed button did not enable skipping playback until the speed was greater than the threshold. It now correctly engages skipping with the value is equal to or greater than the threshold. 57697
- ♦ If the speed change buttons were used to increase to the maximum or decrease to the minimum, the buttons failed to return to the initial 1.0 value if used in the opposite direction. The minimum and maximum values were adjusted so that the buttons can be used to return to the initial 1.0 value. The displayed value is rounded to the nearest thousandths. 57799
- ♦ *VehicleLights2015-DIS.lgr* was corrupt and caused the Logger to become unresponsive for a few seconds. A new working file is now included. 58162

- Multiple file recording is now working again. 58261
- When the configuration sets the DIS version to override the version found in packets, the Logger now changes the version in entity and aggregate PDUs. These PDUs were not being affected by the version override. 58606
- Idle listening introduced in release 5.4 could result in a long sparse gap at the beginning of a file if there are any entities that do not update frequently. This gap has been eliminated through the use of a new initial state packet added to the beginning of a file. It is not necessary to have this packet so recordings from previous 5.4 versions or with idle listening disabled can be used without conversion. Files that are merged or appended to each other will combine their initial state packets and they will be processed to appropriately add the entities from each initial state. Note: deleting a section of a recording containing an initial state packet will delete it and any initial state it contained will be lost. 58719
- The Logger now correctly resets the traffic analyzer when an unload command is sent without stopping a Logger recording first. Previously this would leave the traffic analyzer in a broken state, although this could only happen when using the remote control API and not the GUI. 58814
- If, due to permissions or another issue, a file cannot be open for recording, the Logger now displays a message that something went wrong. 59174
- Editing the list of FOM Modules for the connection and database export dialogs now uses a list edit box instead of a simple line edit box of delimited filenames. 59543
- Some OMT files had errors that caused the parameter display for interactions in the traffic analyzer to fail. The OMT files have been corrected. 60194
- Export of some HLA attributes or parameters were producing bad values due to buffering alignment issue. The alignment issue has been eliminated and the values are now exported correctly. 60251

Known Problems

This section lists known problems with Logger functionality:

- The HLA 1516 Logger crashes on exit if you use the MAK RTI 2.4.2 through 3.1.1. This is due to a problem in the RTI.
- Logger files that include the VR-Forces embarkation feature in DIS exercises, such as *embarkdemoDIS.lgr*, do not reset embarkation status after time jumps. To correct the embarkation state of entities, stop playback and start playing the file from the beginning.
- On Linux, online help may not work if the Logger lib directory is not in the LD-LIBRARY_PATH or the RTI *lib* directory is before it.

Playing HLA 1.3 Logger Files in HLA 1516 Federations

In general, the Logger uses the same file format for HLA 1.3 and HLA 1516 Logger files. You can record a Logger file from an HLA 1.3 federation, and play it back into an HLA 1516 federation (and vice versa). However, you must use the same FOM representation during record and playback. For example, if you use an HLA-1.3-style FED file during recording, you must use an HLA-1.3 style FED file during playback, even if you are using the IEEE 1516 version of the Logger and an IEEE 1516 RTI. (VR-Link and the MAK RTI allow you to use HLA-1.3-style FED files with IEEE-1516-based federates, and vice versa).

The main reason that consistency in FOM format is necessary is that IEEE 1516 uses different names for the "Root" classes of the Object class hierarchies. A 1.3-style FED file requires a Root class a 1516-style XML files requires a Root class called *HLAObjectRoot*. The reason this can be a problem is that if the Logger is playing an HLA-1.3-based Logger file into a federation that is using a 1516-based XML file it might come across an instance of a class called, for example, "ObjectRoot.Vehicle". If it tries to register an object of this class, the RTI will complain that no such class exists. There might be a class called HLAObjectRoot.Vehicle in the current FOM, but the RTI or Logger does not know that this is actually the same class.

