

HEC-DSSVue Version 2.0 (August 2009) Release Notes:

Installation

Previous versions of HEC-DSSVue will be automatically uninstalled during the installation of HEC-DSSVue 2.0. You do not need to install Java; HEC-DSSVue includes its own Java runtime environment. The version of Java installed with HEC-DSSVue is not registered with the system in any way, and is not relevant to web based Java security issues.

By default, the HEC-DSSVue 2.0 setup package installs the program to the directory "C:\Program Files\HEC\HEC-DSSVue". The approximate amount of space needed for the install is 136MB. If you do not have administrative access to install programs, then you can download the self extracting archive file and run that. Double click on the archive and choose where you would like the HEC-DSSVue 2.0 directory extracted to. Once extracted, go to the HEC-DSSVue 2.0 directory and use HEC-DSSVue.exe to launch the program.

Documentation

HEC-DSSVue 2.0 includes a new integrated help system that is accessible from various parts of the program. In many HEC-DSSVue windows you'll notice a Help menu at the top. Clicking on that will take you to the integrated help system, directly to the part relevant to that specific window.

An alternative to the new integrated help system is the PDF format documentation that has been available with previous releases of HEC-DSSVue. The program manual is in a directory named "Users Manual" in the install directory. Inside "Users Manual" you'll find the complete manual, "HEC-DSSVue_20_Users_Manual.pdf". This pdf is designed to be printed double sided on a color printer. There are 490 pages in the document. If you wish, you can access individual chapters in "Users Manual\Individual Chapters".

Examples

Under the directory "Samples" is an example DSS file, Sample.dss, and several example scripts. If you wish to run these scripts, you will need to copy Sample.dss to directory C:\temp, or modify the scripts to point to where the Sample.dss file is and can be written to. Copy the scripts from the sample directory to your script directory, which is your user home + "\Application Data\HEC\HEC-DSSVue\scripts", prior to trying to accessing them. User scripts, by default, are stored in this directory. For example, if your user name is Bob, then on Windows XP this directory would be C:\Documents and Settings\Bob\Application Data\HEC\HEC-DSSVue\scripts. On Vista and 7, it would be C:\Users\Bob\AppData\Roaming\HEC\HEC-DSSVue\scripts.

Plug-ins

Plug-ins are separate Java .jar files that act as extensions to HEC-DSSVue. By simply placing a plug-in jar file in the directory HEC-DSSVue/Plugins, that plug-in is loaded in subsequent executions of HEC-DSSVue. The plug-in provides access to local functions or data importing/retrieval, or other customized use. Plug-ins also provide a means of updating capability in HEC-DSSVue without having to install a complete new version. For additional information, refer to the User Manual or HEC-DSSVue plug-in web page.

For Version 2.0, the access to most of the plug-ins has been moved to the menus, instead of toolbar buttons used in previous versions. Most can be found under the “Data Entry” menu.

In the standard install package, plug-ins are stored in two directories – the active plug-ins directory “HEC-DSSVue\Plugins”, and the inactive directory “HEC-DSSVue\PluginsOther”. Plug-ins from the inactive directory are not loaded. To make a plug-in active, simply move it to the “Plugins” directory. To make an active one inactive, remove it from the Plugins directory. We recommend that you move it to the “PluginsOther” directory.

Default Plug-ins

The plug-ins installed by the setup package in the Plugins directory are those that are considered of general or more frequent use. They include:

CDEC – Retrieve data from the California Data Exchange Center
ChartPlugin – Display DSS data in a pie charts
CRONOS – Retrieve data from the North Carolina DWR
DssutlImportExport – Import and Export data using the legacy DSSUTL Write Data format
ExcelDssVuePlugin – Import data from Excel
NCDC – Import data that has been retrieved from the National Climatic Data Center
RiverGages – Import data from the RiverGages.com web site
TimeSeiriesWiz – Import columnar data from a .csv or .xls file
USGS – Retrieve data from the USGS NWIS database web site
WaterML – Import data from a WaterML (.xml) formatted file.

Additional Plug-ins

Less general or less frequently used plug-ins are stored in the PluginsOther directory. To activate one, move it into the Plugins directory. These plug-ins include:

TimeSeriesScatter – from two coincident time series data sets, generate a scatter plot
DurationHydrograph – An alternative duration hydrograph developed by the North Carolina DWR

PrecisionConverter – Convert data sets between single and double precision
TideMeans – Compute mean high and low tides from ocean elevation data
TidalDatums – An alternative means of computing tidal datums
FindPeaks – Determine peaks and troughs of a time series data set
FFA – Import peak flows from QR cards from an FFA card set
GenericPlugin – A base plug-in to use for writing your own plug-in

Reporting Errors, Issues and Enhancement Requests

Any errors or issues, and enhancement requests, may be emailed to HEC-DSS@usace.army.mil. Limit support is available for non-Corps users. Generally, we would like to receive all error reports. If you encounter an error, please provide a detailed description, the data files that you were using, and any exceptions that were thrown by the Java JRE. Exceptions are written to the console log which can be accessed from the “Advanced” menu or from your local application data directory under “C:\Documents and Settings\\Local Settings\Temp\HEC-DSSVue\Console.log”.

If you have developed plug-ins or scripts that you feel would be useful to others, please email them, with complete source code, to the about email.

New Features in Version 2.0

A list of some of the new features can be found at HEC’s web site at: <http://www.hec.usace.army.mil/software/hec-dss/whatsnew.htm>