digital™

AV–P467L–TE

Before You Install VAX TDMS

This package contains the VAX TDMS software and installation instructions. Whether you are a new or a continuing VAX TDMS customer, take some time to read the following information about your product.

Contents of This Kit

Your VAX TDMS kit contains the following:

- The media required for Version 1.9 of VAX TDMS
- The *VAX TDMS Installation Guide* (Order number AA–M057J–TE)
- Software Product Description (SPD)

  The SPD provides an overview of the VAX TDMS kit and its features and explains the hardware and software requirements.
- Bill of Materials (BOM)

  Read the BOM and verify that all items listed on it are in your kit. If any items are missing or damaged, contact your DIGITAL representative.
- Other supplemental materials and any additionally ordered items

You also may have received VAX TDMS documentation. The VAX TDMS documentation set consists of the following manuals:

- *VAX TDMS Forms Manual* (Order number AA–GS13B–TE, including AD–GS13B–T1)
- *VAX TDMS Request and Programming Manual* (Order number AA–GS14B–TE, including AD–GS14B–T1)
- *VAX TDMS Reference Manual* (Order number AA–HU17A–TE, including AD–HU17A–T1)
- *VAX TDMS Pocket Guide* (Order number AA–P466B–TE)

New Features For This Version

- With this version of VAX TDMS, the release notes are available in online format only. You can read the release notes before, during, and after installing VAX TDMS. See the next section for more information.
- This version of VAX TDMS supports the VMS License Management Facility. During the installation procedure, you are asked whether you have registered the VAX TDMS license and loaded the appropriate Product Authorization Key (PAK). See the *VAX TDMS Installation Guide* for information on loading the PAK and registering the license for VAX TDMS.

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Installation and Release Notes Information

Read the *VAX TDMS Installation Guide* before installing the VAX TDMS software.

The release notes for VAX TDMS contain information on technical changes and errors corrected in this version of VAX TDMS. You can read the release notes before installing VAX TDMS by invoking VMSINSTAL and following the instructions in the *VAX TDMS Installation Guide*. You can locate the release notes after installing VAX TDMS by entering the following DCL command:

```
$ HELP TDMS RELEASE_NOTES Return
```

The Next Generation Forms Product: DECforms

VAX TDMS is now in *maintenance-only* mode. No further enhancements will be made to the product. However, Digital will continue to maintain and service VAX TDMS as necessary and appropriate.

Digital's strategic forms product is DECforms. DECforms offers all of the best features of both VAX TDMS and VAX FMS in a single forms product. In addition, DECforms offers many other significant features never before available in a Digital forms product. Digital will focus all future development efforts on DECforms and is positioning DECforms as Digital's *single* forms interface for the 1990s.

Because Digital is committed to continued support of VAX TDMS, you need not feel compelled to migrate existing VAX TDMS-based applications to DECforms. However, if you do want to take advantage of the superior functionality and long-term growth potential of DECforms, there are two ways to do so:

- Coexistence—DECforms can coexist with VAX TDMS. Therefore, applications that currently use VAX TDMS can grow to include calls to DECforms without rewriting existing modules.
- Migration—DECforms includes utilities for converting VAX TDMS forms and requests into DECforms form constructs. The DECforms documentation set also includes a manual to guide the application developer through the process of converting the application program itself. Migration is not a trivial task; consider carefully whether DECforms is absolutely necessary for an application before you attempt to convert it.

You may decide to use DECforms for existing applications or for future application development. As a VAX TDMS customer, you are entitled to purchase DECforms at significant discounts off the standard price for any processor currently licensed for VAX TDMS (or VAX FMS). This is Digital's way of acknowledging your existing investment in VAX TDMS while encouraging you to evaluate the new forms technology for future development. Ask your local Digital representative about purchasing DECforms using the special part number ''VUV'' for the Full Development License and ''VUW'' for the Run-time Only License.

For more information about DECforms, contact your Digital representative.

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