

New Tektronix VM6000 Provides Next Generation Digital Video Measurement Performance

New Platform Provides Performance Gains, New Software Options Support H.264 to Enable Fast and Efficient Test of MPEG-4 and PC-TV, Available Application Upgrades for Existing Instruments

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Tektronix, Inc. , a leading worldwide provider of test, measurement and monitoring instrumentation, announced the VM6000, an automatic video measurement set that runs on a new hardware platform and replaces the VM5000. Equipped with high-speed signal acquisition hardware, optimized video measurement algorithms, and an integrated, high performance oscilloscope, the VM6000 offers unmatched performance and flexibility for users testing modern consumer digital television (DTV) reception and play-out devices.

The rapid emergence of high speed digital audio and video interfaces is driving the need for faster and more capable test instruments. Through precision measurement and testing, the VM6000 is a key to enabling the design of next generation digital set-top boxes, video semiconductors, integrated HDTV tuner/decoders, PC graphics cards, DVD players, multimedia PC's, and gaming consoles. The VM6000 can be used for design and development, quality/audit test, certification and compliance test, and automated production test applications.

The VM6000 is the ideal solution for testing component analog video signals; it is capable of testing SD (480i, 480p, 576i and 576p) and HD (720p, 1080i and 1080p) video formats to user selected tolerance limits delivering fully automated, go/no go results. It will automatically detect video format, which speeds up work and helps to ensure accurate measurement. The optional SD/HD model provides new capabilities, including H/V synchronous measurement and distortion measurement.

The VM6000's conventional measurement capabilities have also been substantially enhanced, enabling test patterns to be freely selected. For example, block mode is available for line-specific repeated measurement, and users can define positions for level and noise measurement. A custom signal configuration utility allows industry standard tests to be performed on non-standard signals formats and optional H.264 test signals enable fast and efficient test of MPEG-4 and PC-TV capable designs.

"With the rapid transition to digital technologies and fierce competition in the electronics industry, the ability to bring new products to market in a timely fashion is more important than ever," said Todd Biddle, Vice President, Video Product Line, Tektronix. "With the automatic measurements of the VM6000, video engineers will be able to significantly shorten their development cycles and at the same time eliminate test errors. The VM6000 delivers all of the performance, accuracy, reliability, ease of deployment, and test standardization needed for design, development, quality control, and compliance test applications."

The VM6000 utilizes the DPO7000 oscilloscope platform with a 12.1-inch, XGA, high-resolution, touch-panel display, and enables faster testing than conventional oscilloscopes. In addition to video signal measurements, it supports software options for the basic oscilloscope functions of timing measurement, power measurement, serial data, and compliance testing for Ethernet and USB 2.0.

These breakthrough instruments eliminate the trade-offs found in all other oscilloscopes between sample rate, record length and waveform capture rate. With available SD, HD, and VGA options, the VM6000 delivers practical, efficient, and reliable assessment of component analog signal fidelity for consumer design and manufacturing applications.

With this release Tektronix is also announcing the availability of software application packages that enable existing TDS5054x, TDS5104x, DPO7054, DPO7104 and DPO7254 oscilloscopes and VM5000 instruments to be upgraded with the video test capabilities of the VM6000.

About Tektronix

Tektronix is a leading supplier of test, measurement, and monitoring products, solutions and services for the communications, computer, and semiconductor industries - as well as military/aerospace, consumer electronics, education and a broad range of other industries worldwide. With 60 years of experience, Tektronix enables its customers to design, build, deploy, and manage next-generation global communications networks, advanced and pervasive technologies. Headquartered in Beaverton, Oregon, Tektronix has operations in 19 countries worldwide. Tektronix' Web address is www.tektronix.com .

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