







Process Automation Toolkit (PAT)







Introduction

Process Automation Tool Kit (PAT) provides an innovative method to automate test procedures for the Freedom range of communications analysers. For many years the Automatic Test Equipment (ATE) environment has required engineers to have two major areas of expertise, intimate knowledge of the device under test (DUT) and software programming skills to automate test procedures.

Over the years many control interfaces were developed, such as HPIB, GPIB, IEEE488, USB, RJ45 for example. These interfaces are coupled with many software control packages such as HP Basic, Basic, Fortran, Atlas, C++ to name but a few.

Instrument drivers were developed to somewhat simplify and speedup software development by reducing the need for the test engineer to learn each and every command for multiple instruments. These may be coupled with software devolvement tools such as Labwindows, Labview, Visa Plug&Play.

PAT enables the test engineer to develop test procedures by a simple and intuitive control interface by simply selecting from a library the function required and insert into the DUT test script. No programming skills are required.

Connection to the analyzer is RJ45 Ethernet, either directly from a PC or over a LAN network. Test scripts are executed from the PAT control interface and test results saved to USB of a network location.

Software Installation

Software location: http://freedomcte.com/library/

Download and install the software.

Analyzer Connection Options

Direct Connection to RJ45 Ethernet socket.

Network connection through RJ45 Ethernet socket.



Initial Operating Instructions

Connect the Analyzer using the RJ45 Ethernet port to the control PC. This may be direct or on the same LAN as the control PC.

On the PC select the PAT Automation desktop shortcut. The PAT software will now search for the connected analyzer. (see fig. 1)

When the search is successful the IP address of the connected Analyzer will populate the display. (see fig. 2-3)

The Programmable actions area will also populate at this time. (see fig. 3)

Selection from the Programable Actions libraries is achieved by clicking on the desired action

This will open up the selections available in this action section. (see fig. 4-8)

Startup Display (fig. 1)



R8100 Analyser Found & IP Address (fig. 2)



(fig. 3)



(fig. 4)





(fig. 6)





(fig. 8)



Add

Select a command from the library, Press Add to add to the test script

Remove

Select a line in the script, Press Remove to remove that line from the script.

Clear

Clears all line entries from the script.

Send CMD

Selected command

Select a line in the script to send the command to the Analyzer for immediate execution.

After adding a command to the script, test by Send CMD. Analyzer will return Pass/Fail in results area.

Get

Selectable drop menu Get/Set Get reads the parameter from the Analyzer.

Set

Selectable drop menu Get/Set. Set writes the parameter to the Analyzer.

Execute

Runs the test script automatically.



(fig. 10)





Command Control and Timing



Each of the Analyzers commands control and timing is pre-set by PAT software. This panel shows those pre-set parameters

The Wait ms parameter may be operator modified but could result in erratic results.



(fig. 13)

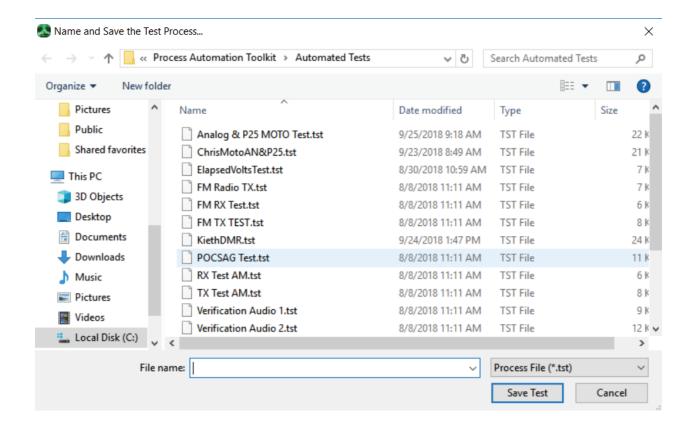


Automated Test Library





Test scripts may saved and loaded from a built in folder achieve.





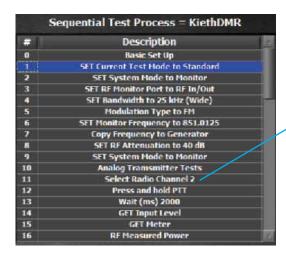
(fig. 15)





Running a Test Script

- 1. Press Execute
- 2. If a PAUSE is present, respond to the requested action Running test results are displayed.
- 3. At the end of the test the results are displayed in a CSV format.
- 4. These results may be saved to a log file folder, and exported to a USB drive





BER Result=51,23457
Release PTT
SET System Mode to Generate...PASS
Select Test Pattern to 1031 Hz Tone...PASS
Modulation Mode Off/On to Continuous...PASS
Tone Heard



