QUESTIONS

- How do I perform my task?
- Where is the definition of this automated task?
- Where are the inputs for my automated task?
- Where should the deliverables from this automated task go?
- How do they get there?
- How can I automate my tasks?

ANSWERS

- Task instructions in Vdot™.
- Task automation scripts / macros managed in Vdot™ templates.
- Inputs routed by Vdot™.
- Deliveries defined by the Vdot™ information flow.
- Outputs delivered to next tasks by Vdot™.
- Use whatever platform is appropriate to the task, integrate to other tasks with Vdot™.

Vdot™ ensures optimal plans, ensures all team members perform the right task at the right time with the right data, and automatically provides visibility in real-time for current project management or future improvement efforts. The tasks can be performed by team members using interactive tools or automatically with Vdot™ launching scripts or macros from a variety of task automation platforms.

Vdot™ processes make certain the right task is performed with the right data at the right time. That may involve alerting a team member to the ready states and relative priority of his tasks, or executing an automated task as soon as it is ready. For automated tasks Vdot™ routes the input(s) to the automated tool, launches the tool, and takes the output(s) for delivery to downstream tasks. All steps that occur during the automated task execution are managed by the task automation platform.

Vdot™ can launch an automated task based on any automation platform, such as ESI’s Visual-Process Executive, other CAD/CAE process tools, or even macros in a spreadsheet. This is important as all automation platforms are able to automate tasks only within a defined domain. A spreadsheet macro works only with spreadsheet data. Visual-Process Executive works with many CAE applications, but not with the spreadsheet data. By leveraging all available automation platforms, Vdot™ can orchestrate processes over all the different domains as needed by your projects.

Example Vdot™ project with:
- Automated and interactive tasks
- CAE and office productivity tools

Vdot™ launches Visual Process™ to automatically prepare CAE model

Vdot™ Smart Tasks may be executed automatically when associated to software that can run without user interaction. In this way tasks automated in any platform can be orchestrated together along with interactive tasks to cover the project/process from start to finish.
EXECUTE PROJECTS WITH INTERACTIVE AND AUTOMATED TASKS IN ANY DOMAIN WITH VDOT™

Vdot™ tasks are defined to be interactive (default) or batch. An interactive task will wait for the assigned resource to start it. At that point Vdot™ launches the associated application with the needed inputs. The application may or may not actually require user interaction. The application may do some automated processing and then perhaps pause for user input. In this way tasks may be semi-automated.

If the task's application needs no user interaction there is no point waiting on the assigned resource to start it. These tasks are designated as batch. As soon as Vdot™ delivers the required inputs Vdot™ launches the application. Once the application session completes, Vdot™ will take the outputs and deliver them to downstream tasks. If some of those downstream tasks are also batch, the process will execute automatically until complete or only interactive tasks remain.

Any Vdot™ task may be designated to execute on the server, or on a user's workstation. If needed software is not available on the server, the automations can still be performed by running on workstations. If the required software is available on the server, the tasks can run without tying up a user's workstation.

Automate tasks in the appropriate platform - Orchestrate with Vdot™.

For more information, please visit: www.esi-group.com/vdot