



VistA Blood Establishment Computer Software (VBECS) 2.4.0 Rev B-02

Release Notes Version 1.0

Department of Veterans Affairs
Enterprise Project Management Office

Revision History

Date	Revision	Description	Author
7/23/2025	1.0	VBECs 2.4.0 Rev B-02 Initial version	Katrina Humiston

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Introduction

Vista Blood Establishment Computer Software (VBECS) 2.4.0 Rev B-02 Release Notes contain information for changes and corrections made to the VBECS servers.

Perform a local evaluation and risk assessment of the changes to determine the requirements for local validation of the changes, including documentation of the assessment activities.

Background

A system configuration release involves no changes to the VBECS medical device. It is a behind-the-scenes update involving changes to the VBECS server or infrastructure components, with no changes to VBECS software or functionality.

Release Notes are not typically sent out to users for system configuration only releases but since Windows Server 2016 is at end of life, we are required to upgrade application servers to Windows 2022. Users will need to verify that a new connection can be established.

This release will replace the existing VBECS application servers with new servers running Windows 2022. You will experience a brief downtime, which will use the same process as our monthly Windows updates (i.e., requiring all users logged into VBECS to log off and then log back on). There are no changes to the Remote Desktop shortcuts, however if you have any report folder shortcuts pointing to the exported report folder, those will need to be updated.

Changed Features and Functions

This system configuration release is centrally focused around upgrading the VBECS application servers and infrastructure servers from Microsoft Windows Server 2016 to Windows Server 2022 and other provisioning changes to resolve known defects and requests.

This project updates the system configuration only and makes no updates to the VBECS medical device.

Primary Goals of the Project

Primary Goals of the Project:

1. VA initiative
 - 1.1. Upgrade VBECS application servers from Microsoft Windows Server 2016 to 2022.
 - 1.2. Upgrade VBECS infrastructure servers from Microsoft Windows Server 2016 to 2022.
2. System environment updates
 - 2.1. Fix known requests and defects related to the application and infrastructure server provisioning processes.
 - 2.2. Renew RDP certificates.

VBECS User Documents

The following is a list of all the VBECS user documents that apply to the VBECS 2.4.0 Rev B-02 configuration release. The **Updated** column identifies the documents that have been updated with this VBECS 2.4.0 Rev B-02 configuration release.

These user documents are available from the VBECS SharePoint site. **REDACTED**

User Document	Version	Updated
<i>VBECS 2.4.0 User Guide</i>	3.0	Yes
<i>VBECS 2.4.0 Admin User Guide</i>	2.0	No
<i>VBECS 2.4.0 Known Defects and Anomalies</i>	4.0	Yes
<i>VBECS 2.4.0 Technical Manual-Security Guide</i>	3.0	Yes
<i>VBECS - Echo Interface Configuration and Setup Guide</i>	6.0	No
<i>VBECS - Erytra Interface Configuration and Setup Guide</i>	3.0	No
<i>VBECS - ProVue Interface Configuration and Setup Guide</i>	6.0	No
<i>VBECS - Vision Interface Configuration and Setup Guide</i>	5.0	No
<i>VBECS Product Information</i>	12.0	Yes

The following is a list of all the VBECS FAQ documents that apply to the VBECS 2.4.0 Rev B-02 patch release. The **Updated** column identifies the documents that have been updated with this VBECS 2.4.0 Rev B-02 patch release.

These FAQ documents are available from the VA SharePoint site. **REDACTED**

FAQ Document	Version	Updated
<i>FAQ ABO Subgroup Interpretations</i>	11/22/16	No
<i>FAQ Accreditation Questions Regarding Laboratory Information Systems</i>	11/15/24	No
<i>FAQ Ancillary Vista Validation</i>	11/28/17	No
<i>FAQ Antibodies with No Antigen Negative Requirement</i>	11/25/24	No
<i>FAQ Blood Product Table Processes</i>	02/21/23	No
<i>FAQ CAP Comprehensive Transfusions Medicine Crossmatch Survey</i>	01/10/25	No
<i>FAQ CPRS VBECS Order Details</i>	04/01/09	No
<i>FAQ Database Conversion Oddballs</i>	09/15/09	No
<i>FAQ Documenting Unhandled Exceptions</i>	05/21/07	No
<i>FAQ Handling ABO Incompatible Transfusion Situations</i>	09/23/14	No
<i>FAQ How to take faster screen shots from Remote Desktop Session</i>	12/17/14	No
<i>FAQ Identifying a Comparable Blood Product Code</i>	09/03/21	No
<i>FAQ Local Facilities</i>	06/12/20	No
<i>FAQ Modification Target Not Available</i>	11/28/17	No
<i>FAQ Multidivisional QC Rack Workaround</i>	11/28/17	No
<i>FAQ Order Status Clarification</i>	11/15/24	No
<i>FAQ Polyspecific AHG Not Used for Testing</i>	01/29/10	No
<i>FAQ Proper Use of PIV Card with VBECS</i>	09/14/21	No
<i>FAQ QC Setup</i>	01/29/10	No
<i>FAQ Retesting QC</i>	11/15/24	No
<i>FAQ Retrieving an Expired Order</i>	12/07/17	No
<i>FAQ The Difference Between Transfusion Only and Full-Service Facility Types</i>	02/08/10	No
<i>FAQ Troubleshooting Remote Desktop Issues</i>	07/21/25	Yes
<i>FAQ VBECS Blood Product Hierarchy</i>	03/28/19	No
<i>FAQ VBECS Computer Crossmatch Decision Tree</i>	02/08/12	No
<i>FAQ Weak D Policy</i>	01/11/10	No
<i>FAQ What is VBECS Read-Only</i>	12/04/24	No
<i>FAQ Workload Assignments Single vs Batch Processing</i>	07/01/20	No

Customer Support

Contact your **Local/Regional** Office of Information Technology (OIT) or Laboratory Information Manager (LIM) if you encounter VistA or CPRS connection problems and for training support **before** contacting the Service Desk (SD).



Please ensure local/regional VistA Support contact information is available at all times.

If you experience an FDA reportable adverse event (patient death or serious injury) that VBECS may have caused or contributed to, contact the Service Desk directly to enter a ticket for Blood Bank software support.

Service Desk Contact

Call the Service Desk **REDACTED**

Refer to the **REDACTED** page on the VBECS SharePoint site for up-to-date information about contacting the Service Desk.

VBECS SharePoint Site

The VBECS SharePoint site provides a location for additional information related to the VBECS application such as FAQs, installation status, remote desktop and report share shortcuts, and release history **REDACTED**

Installation Process

Test Account Upgrade to VBECS 2.4.0 Revision B-02	
Installation Process	Installed by the BBM team, all sites will be installed in one day. The date of installation will be communicated through a ListServ announcement.
Expected Downtime	There is a brief downtime, which will use the same process as our monthly Windows updates (i.e., requiring all users on VBECS to log off and then log back on).
Installation Communication	The status of test installs will be provided on the VBECS SharePoint site REDACTED
Site Responsibility	• Join VBECS-L message board on ListServ, if needed. • Communicate any changes to your site supervisor and Point of Contact (POC) to the Pathology and Laboratory Management staff (PLM).
Confirmation of Installation	After Test installation is performed, the Remote Desktop wallpaper should display updated version information.

Production Account Upgrade to VBECS 2.4.0 Revision B-02	
Installation Process	Installed by the BBM team, all sites will be installed in one day. The date of installation will be communicated through a ListServ announcement.
Expected Downtime	There is a brief downtime, which will use the same process as our monthly Windows updates (i.e., requiring all users on VBECS to log off and then log back on).
Installation Communication	The status of production installs will be provided on the REDACTED
Site Responsibility	• Perform local validation, training, and set-up requirements prior to Production installation. • Join VBECS-L message board on ListServ, if needed. • Communicate any changes to your site supervisor and Point of Contact (POC) to the Pathology and Laboratory Management staff (PLM).
Confirmation of Installation	After Production installation is performed, the Remote Desktop wallpaper should display updated version information.

Table 1: Validation Scenarios

ID	Menu Area	Problem Summary	Change Summary	Validation Scenario
1	Remote Desktop Connection	The VA has requested removal of ActivClient from all servers.	Removal of ActivClient from application servers.	- Try logging into VBECS from each workstation in the blood bank using PIV.
2	Orders	Ensure communication between VBECS and Vista still functions.	A new Windows Server 2022 application server is being provisioned to replace the Windows Server 2016 server. No changes have actually been made to the VBECS application itself. This scenario provides regression testing to verify functionality has not changed.	- Place order using the CPRS application. - In VBECS, select and accept the order. - Complete the order. - In CPRS, run the Blood Bank Report to confirm VBECS connection.
3	Reports	Ensure access to the report network shares function.	The new VBECS application servers will export reports to a new network share.	- Select Reports from the main menu. - Select any report. - Enter the report criteria and click OK. - Select Print to print the report. - Select Export to export the report. - Verify the report printed successfully. - Verify you can open the exported report. For help getting to the exported report, refer to the Report Export section of the VBECS User Guide.
4	Reports	Remove any pre-existing export report shortcuts.	All pre-existing report share shortcuts will stop working in September 2025.	- Delete pre-existing VBECS report shortcuts from all blood bank workstations. NOTE: The pre-existing shortcut will have 'vac20nrepvbe200' in the path.

This is the last page of *VBECS 2.4.0 Rev B-02 Release Notes*.