

BLUEHILL® UNIVERSAL

Upgrading from Partner to Bluehill Universal



As technology advances, Instron® makes the best effort to stay on the forefront of innovation and provide our customers with the best solutions for mechanical testing. Bluehill Universal, Instron's latest version of static testing software, is built for touch interaction, helping you take advantage of faster and simpler workflows, while maintaining the power and flexibility users expect from materials testing software.

There are a number of feature additions and enhancements in Bluehill Universal that optimize your testing workflow to save you time, make you more productive, and allow you to create the most advanced testing setups.

Is Bluehill Universal right for me?

Some of you have been using Partner for 20 years. It's long life has provided you with familiarity and great confidence in your test results. What is the value of making a change? You gain a modern user interface and many features that you wished were in Partner. We want you to have the same trust in Bluehill Universal, and will be with you to assure a smooth transition.

What will you gain with Bluehill Universal?

Modern Interface: User experience is optimized when used with an industrial grade touch monitor, as opposed to a traditional desktop PC that requires a mouse and keyboard. Keyboard is not required but can be used if the operator prefers.

Configurable Workspace: Flexibility for the user to personalize the workspace; see what you want, where you want, and how big or small you want to see it. Select from measurements, graphs, charts, results tables, raw data and user inputs. You can even arrange it like Partner.

Choice Input Lists: Choice lists provide consistent operator inputs. Simple drop-down lists allow the user to select the input, limiting entry time and keystroke errors and ensures common input from all test technicians. This will also help reduce the number of test methods required.

Results Tables and Graphs: Two user-definable result tables provide real-time test results for all specimens in the sample. You may also choose to display one or two graphs, each with unique settings, including multiple plots, dual Y-axes, trend charts and average curves.

Automatic/Advanced Calculations: Choose from a larger library of prebuilt calculations. Save time by using automatic options such as E-Modulus that eliminate the need for manually setting calculation start and end boundaries before or after the test. This will also help reduce the number of test methods required.

Report Templates and Editor: Print. Save. Export. An integrated reporting and graphing tool includes standard report templates as well as a built-in editor for easy-to-create customized test reports. Data and Test results management just got faster. Bluehill Universal outputs directly to a variety of formats including .csv, html, pdf, and Microsoft® Word.

Prebuilt Test Methods: Metals Suite provides timesaving, preconfigured test methods for common ASTM, ISO, and EN standards and ensures that testing is compliant.

Instron Connect: Remote support communication platform with secure screen sharing, built-in messaging, live monitoring of system health, calibration reminders, and automatic software/firmware updates.

Prompted Test Mode: Guides users through the entire testing process with step-by-step instructions, ensuring that tests remain repeatable, simple, and error free. Prompts are customizable with your own text and images.

Analysis (replay): Replay allows you to apply a new set of calculations and virtual measurements in a method file to data in an existing sample file.

What are the biggest changes?

User Interface: Modern, flat interface designed for touch navigation eliminates traditional Windows® menus and lists.

Personalized Display: Partner has always had fixed display panels. Bluehill Universal allows the workspace to be uniquely configured for any test method. Workspace display components can be located anywhere on the screen to suit the user preference.

Terminology: Same concepts but slightly different nomenclature. For example, Bluehill Universal uses “Test Methods” instead of “Test Procedures” and “User Inputs” instead of “Test Tags”.

Advanced Test Sequences: TestProfiler provides the same capability as Gentest with less intimidating visual prompts for easy setup of multi-sequence methods.

Result/Data Storage: Sample files are stored in a results table vs. an Access database. Optional Trendtracker (SQL) database is available for advanced statistical analysis.

Batch Testing: Each sample (batch) can have one or multiple specimens (tests). Modifications to the sample affect all specimens.

Live Displays: When the system is on, data channels (Force, Displacement, etc) are visible so you always know the frame status.

Available Service tools for migration:

As part of your software upgrade, your Field Service Engineer will transfer up to 5 of your existing test methods. It is recommended that all software upgrades be purchased with training to ensure operators and method-builders understand the latest features. On-site training is typically provided with new versions of software. Additional training and classes are available at any time, either at your site or at an Instron location.

Support for Legacy Software Moving Forward:

As new versions of software are released, we will continue to provide technical support for older versions, but we do not make any further feature additions, enhancements or bug fixes unless they are safety critical. Please understand that this is our best effort to ensure that you are getting the most out of your current software solutions from an operating system, feature and support point of view.

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