

Webinar Q&A: Quality Control with Bio-Rad Unity Real Time®

Question 01:	<i>Do we call Data Innovations or Bio-Rad to integrate the two systems?</i>
<p>Either. Bio-Rad provides services or Data Innovations sells the Bio-Rad services to initially configure the integration between the two systems.</p> <p>Data Innovations Sales: 802.658. 2850 / northamerica-sales@datainnovations.com</p> <p>Bio-Rad Support: 1.800.854.6737 (US) 1.800.361.1808 option 1 (Canada)</p>	

Question 02:	<i>Who can I contact in Bio-Rad about our configuration? We have used Unity Real Time integrated with Instrument Manager (DI) for some time, but occasionally there is data that is not going across to Bio-Rad Unity Real Time? Who do we contact to troubleshoot?</i>
<p>If you are trying to troubleshoot an issue, you can contact either companies' customer service.</p> <p>Data Innovations: 802.658.1955 northamerica-support@datainnovations.com</p> <p>Bio-Rad Support: 1.800.854.6737 (US) 1.800.361.1808 option 1 (Canada)</p>	

Question 03:	<i>What version of Instrument Manager (DI) do I need to have to integrate Instrument Manager and Bio-Rad Unity Real Time?</i>
<p>The integration between the two products started with Instrument Manager v8.06. Subsequent versions of Instrument Manager (and Bio-Rad Unity Real Time) provide more functionality and tighter integration.</p>	

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Question 04:	<i>We have two DI boxes [Instrument Manager systems] in our hospital organization. One IM was provided by one of our instrument vendors and the other system we purchased directly from Data Innovations and connected our other instruments through the second system. The one system provided by our IVD vendor has the Unity Real Time interface. Is there a way to connect the other IM system to that IM and use one interface to Unity Real Time?</i>
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Yes. There are at least two methods you can use. You can connect the two Instrument Manager systems via the inter-IM connection that would allow you to send all the quality control information from the second IM to the first IM and then to Bio-Rad Unity Real Time (URT). You would need to purchase an additional connection for each IM and it would allow you to send information to URT but would not allow you to receive a response from URT and direct it back to the second IM system.

A better and easier method, that leverages the full capabilities of IM and URT, is to purchase one Instrument Manager Bi-directional QC Integration License for the second IM. This would allow instruments attached to both IM's to send to one instance of URT and allow the second IM to receive the QC evaluation responses from URT for its respective instruments.

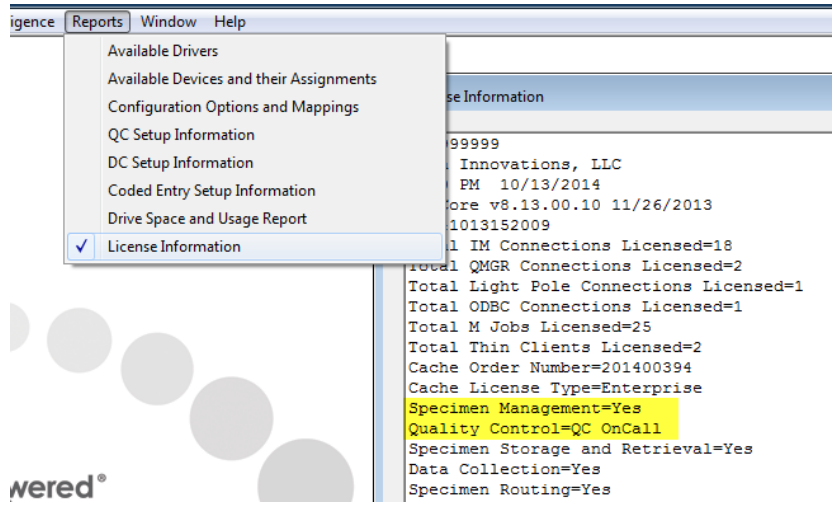
Question 05:	<i>Can you use Unity Real Time even if you don't use all Bio-Rad controls?</i>
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Yes but using Bio-Rad controls provides a broader range of functionality such as peer grouping, lot information updates, etc.

Question 06:	<i>In the webinar you mentioned two parts to support within Bio-Rad. What are the two parts of support? Connectivity and build?</i>
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The support team within Bio-Rad all goes with the same group. During the implementation you will be helped with the build and then connected. After the connectivity is verified then the project goes to our training group that will train your super users on Unity Real Time remotely from A to Z.

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Question 07:	<i>We have one Instrument Manager system for our three hospital group. Do we need three connections from Data Innovations?</i>
<p>No. You just need one connection (Instrument Manager Bi-directional QC Integration License / Part Number: IM-QC-BI) to send QC results from the single Instrument Manager to one or more instances of Bio-Rad Unity Real Time.</p> <p>You can check to see if you have the needed Instrument Manager components. From IM main menu bar, go to <i>Reports</i> and <i>License Information</i>. Look for <i>Specimen Management = Yes</i> and <i>Quality Control = QC OnCall</i> in the license information.</p> 	

Question 08:	<i>How long does the process take to implement?</i>
Generally speaking, a few weeks.	

Question 09:	<i>I have an Instrument Manager from an IVD-vendor. Can I use that system to connect to our Bio-Rad Unity Real Time?</i>
Most of our business partners that resell or distribute Instrument Manager allow their system to connect to Bio-Rad Unity Real Time. Contact the vendor that provided the system for details.	

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Question 10:	<i>If a QC is missed for a period of time (e.g. > 24 hours), can the rules be built to stop autoverification?</i>
<p>Yes. This is a function within Instrument Manager rules engine that allows you to define if a QC specimen has not been run within a specified time frame and this will also be considered a QC failure. The time frame is user-defined and also allows you to define what actions via the THEN or ELSE statements on what should occur.</p>	
Question 11:	<i>If results are held in Instrument Manager due to a QC failure, can the tech still manually release the results?</i>
<p>Yes. The technologist would just go into the review screen (Specimen Management Workspace) where the specimens are held, select one or more of the specimens being held and then right-click and select 'Release' or click the 'Release' icon on the menu bar and they will be sent.</p>	
Question 12:	<i>Does Instrument Manager support QC Bracketing?</i>
<p>Yes. Instrument Manager has a licensable feature to support QC Bracketing that holds groups of specimens and uses triggers from Bio-Rad Unity Real Time to determine whether a group of specimens should be released or should be held due to bracket failure.</p>	