



**Product Life-cycle Announcement:
Human-machine Interface Windows® 7 End of Microsoft® Support**

GE Gas Power is committed to cost-effective, life-cycle support with a wide range of hardware and software products, services, and service agreements to keep your equipment running reliably. This notice is to inform you that Microsoft[†] has ended extended support of the Windows 7 operating system, effective January 14, 2020. If you are still using the Windows 7 operating system after that date, patches are not made available for newly discovered security vulnerabilities. GE is advising users to upgrade affected systems to our latest HMI offering. The operator and engineering workstation used with GE's turbine, generator, and power plant control systems is based on the Windows operating system. These applications are part of the ControlST* software suite for Mark* VIe and earlier generation of Mark* control systems.

Based on our commitment to provide our customers with timely updates, GE introduced an upgrade from the Windows 7 operating system to the Windows Server 2016 operating system in 2019. Upgrading to Windows Server 2016 and paired with the latest versions of ControlST from GE Gas Power and Cimplicity HMI will improve the longevity of your HMI upgrade investment. The ControlST software suite is continually enhanced with new features. An upgrade to Windows Server 2016 ensures you will be able to utilize these additional features.

To protect against cyber threats, GE Gas Power offers the Baseline Security Center product, replacing previous generation security products. This offering supports GE Mark* VI and VIe control systems. As you consider evolution plans for your control systems, GE Gas Power recommends our most current cyber protection offerings including regular patching.

Microsoft extended support for Windows 2016 is scheduled to end in January 2027. The extended support date is important for GE controls users who must maintain the latest applicable patches on their HMIs. Please note published extended support dates may be changed by Microsoft at any time. GE continually improves its support and migration plans to best suit customers' needs.

Best Regards,

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