



HCA Tech Note V17

V17 Release Notes

The V17 changes are extensive so you may want to review the sections that you think may affect you first, and then review the other sections at a later time.

The Alert System

Many changes were made to the Alert system which watches for problems that happen as HCA executes your design. Some are related to the user interface and other may affect programs you have written.

Notes (3 pages): www.homecontrolassistant.com/download/Doc/V17_AlertChanges.pdf

Programmer changes

May ease of use and functional changes were made to the Visual Programmer and programs.

Notes (9 pages): www.homecontrolassistant.com/download/Doc/V17_ProgrammerChanges.pdf

Debugger changes

The Visual Program debugger has been reworked to allow for more efficient use of the debugger and handling of errors that programs make.

Notes (5 pages): www.homecontrolassistant.com/download/Doc/V17_DebuggerChanges.pdf

Starting programs changes

Several inconsistencies related to programs and triggers were resolved.

Notes (3 pages): www.homecontrolassistant.com/download/Doc/V17_StartingProgramsChanges.pdf



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Program with parameters

Programs that operate with parameters have changed in some minor ways and creation of a program has been made easier for parameterized programs.

Notes (3 pages): www.homecontrolassistant.com/download/Doc/V17_ProgramsWithParameters.pdf

Library use changes

Access to the online library and import / export has been improved.

Notes (4 pages): www.homecontrolassistant.com/download/Doc/V17_LibraryUseChanges.pdf

New Library version tools

New program tools for making the online library packages better able to handle changes made to HCA itself. Useful to those who create entries for the online library.

Notes (4 pages): www.homecontrolassistant.com/download/Doc/V17_LibraryVersionTools.pdf

Miscellaneous Changes

Many changes to HCA operation not classified into the previous sections

Notes (4 pages): www.homecontrolassistant.com/download/Doc/V17_MiscellaneousChanges.pdf

Bug Fixes

Changes to resolve issues in HCA found in previous versions

Notes (5 pages): www.homecontrolassistant.com/download/Doc/V17_BugFixes.pdf



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Command line tool

A new tool released with HCA 17

Notes (6 pages): www.homecontrolassistant.com/download/Doc/TechNotes/TechNote_139_HCACLI.pdf

Summary of new expression functions

- `_JsonCurrentKey`
- `_JsonCurrentValue`
- `_AlertLevel`
- `_DayNight`
- `_IconExists`
- `_ClassLogSend`
- `_ClassLogReceived`
- `_ThisFolder`

Modified expression functions

- `_AlertAdd`
- `_AlertClear`
- `_ClassAddObject`

Removed expression functions that were on Legacy status

- `_ComposeScene`
- `_X10NameOf`
- `_X10Address`
- `_WirelessName`
- `_GetNest`
- `_PutNest`
- `_SoilUnits`

Updated expressions user guide: www.homecontrolassistant.com/download/Doc/13_Expressions.pdf

TechSup@HCATech.com

www.homecontrolassistant.com



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Changes that will possibly require changes to your HCA design and/or HCA options

1. You may need to reconfigure how logs are used to record events and actions. See the red text on page 2 of the miscellaneous notes.
2. If you have programs that use the `_AlertCount` and/or the `_ALertClear` functions you should review the notes on alert changes .
If you use the online library or plan to, you should review the notes on library use and especially note the red text on page 3.
3. If you make use of programs and in the programs test for the starting trigger or use programs with triggers in a schedule, you should review the note on "starting programs" as you may have to make changes in some of your programs.

##end##