Web Pager

No front panel should be a hostage!

Version: 0.61.2

Getting Started Guide:

Publishing Wizard

COMPATIBLE WITH

NATIONAL INSTRUMENTS
LabVIEW
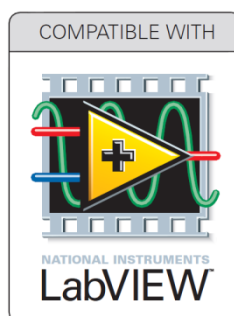
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Part 1: Getting familiar with Publishing Wizard

In this part of the guide we'll get familiar with WebPager Publishing Wizard first, you'll see how to actually put a VI online in the second part of the guide.

From within LabVIEW integrated development environment choose the VI that you want to put online, open it and navigate to menu '***Tools >> WebPager >> WebPager Publishing Wizard…***'.
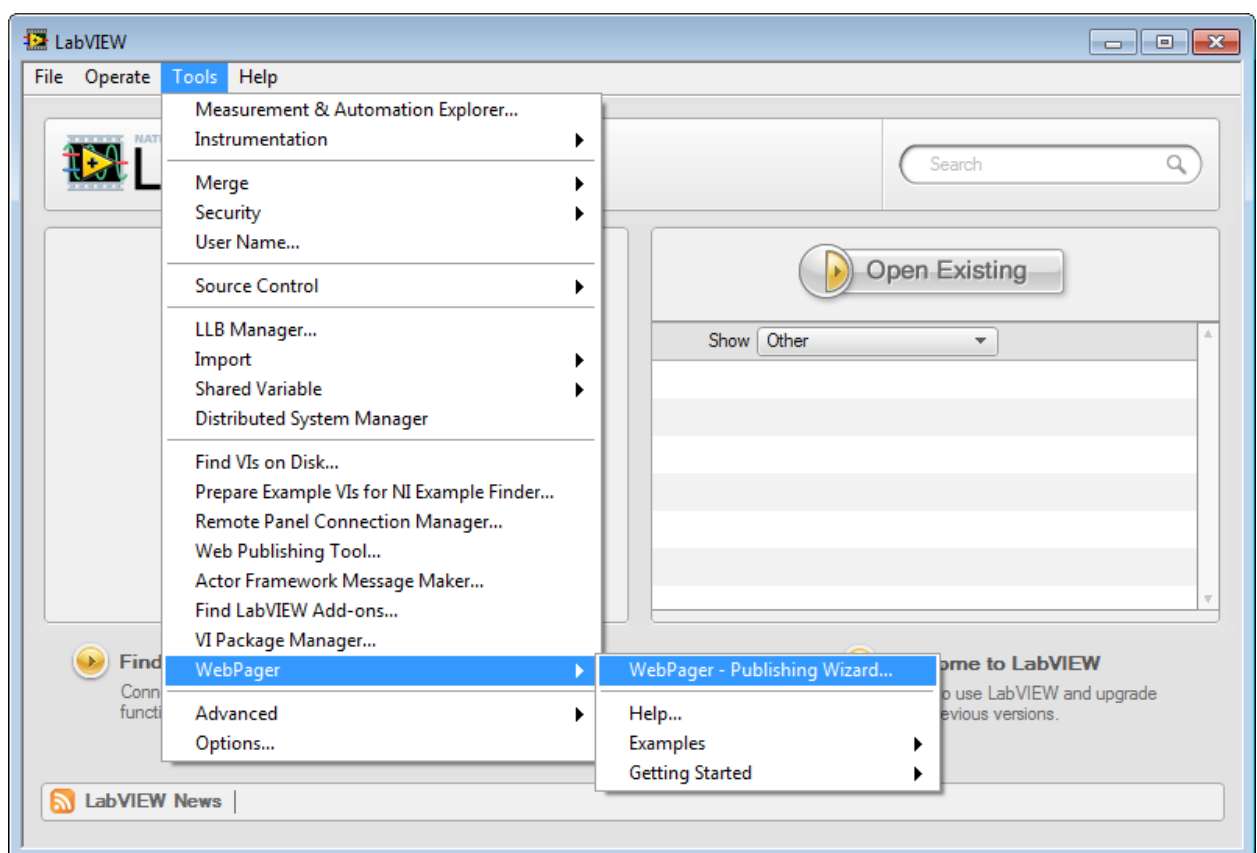

Figure 1 – Launching WebPager Publishing Wizard from 'Tools' menu.

And don't forget to watch Video Tutorial 2 on documentation page – in five minutes it will show you very first steps and also Publishing Wizard in evaluation mode.

WebPager will start loading and will try connecting to the server. This process may take up until 90 seconds, especially during the very first launch.
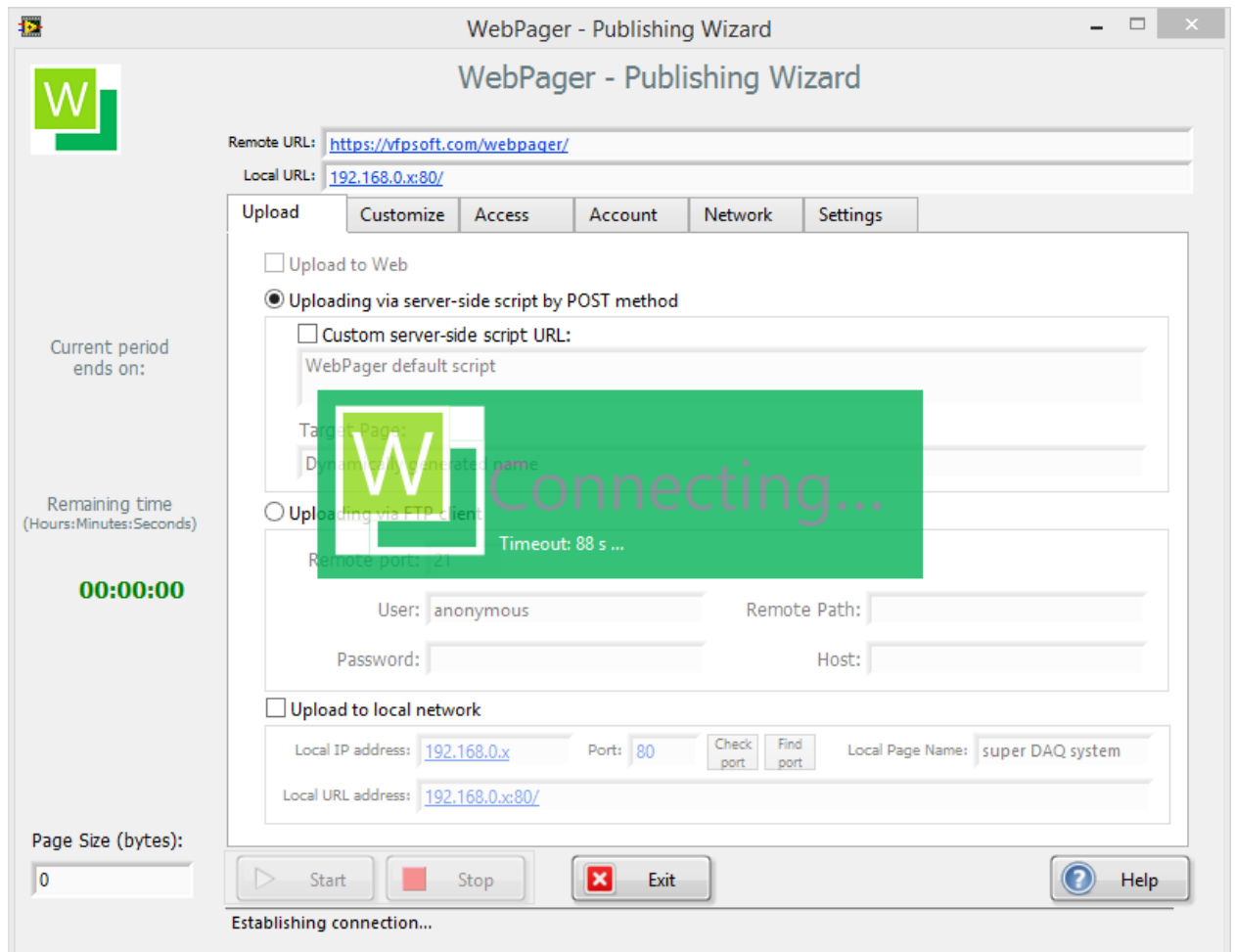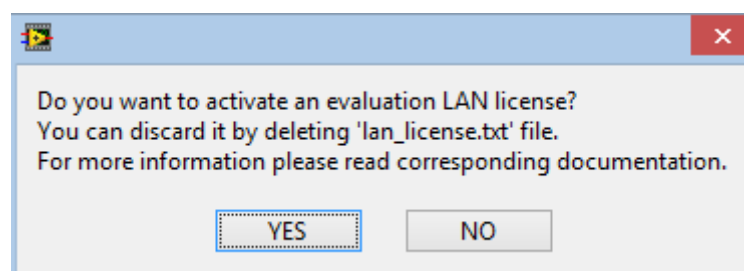

Figure 2 – WebPager during starting up phase.

During the very first launch the WebPager will ask you about activating LAN license. Press 'YES' to try out evaluation mode:
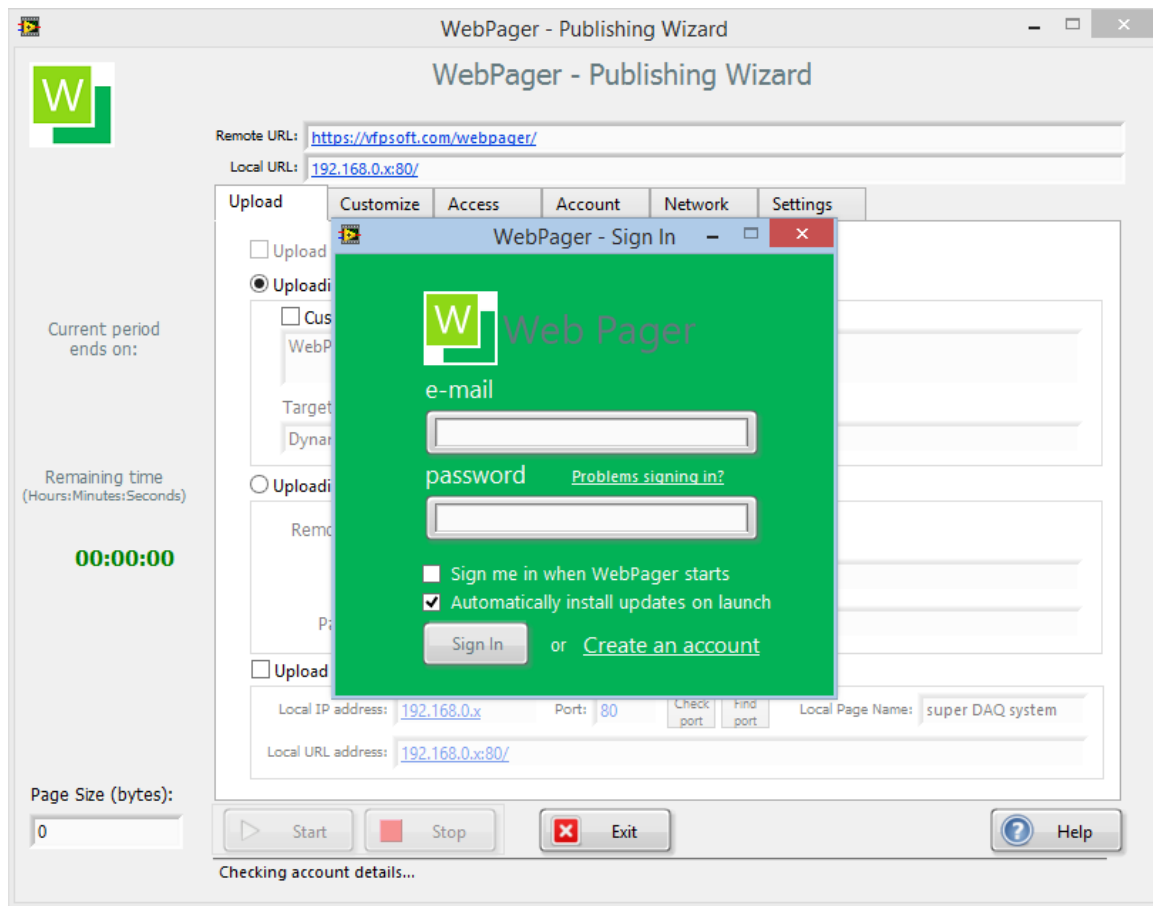
You should see a log in window like this:

Figure 4.2 – WebPager 'Sign In' window.

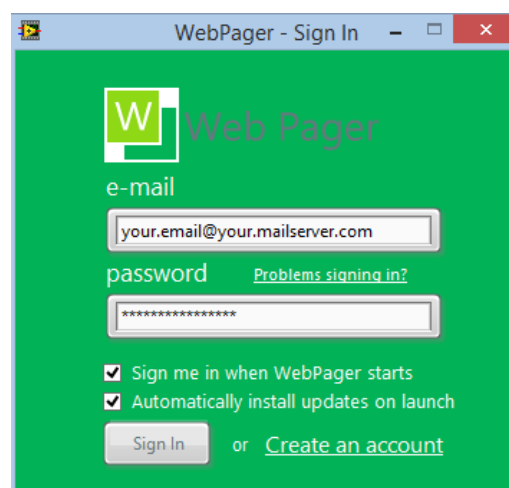Enter the email and the password that you provided during the registration:

Figure 4.3 – WebPager 'Sign In' window with provided credentials.

If you want signing in procedure happening each time you launch

WebPager (for example when you're sharing your computer with other users) then uncheck corresponding box ('*Sign me in when WebPager starts*'). Also, if your Internet connection is slow or expensive, you might want to disabled automatic updates for current session ('*Automatically install updates on launch*' checkbox).

Now, WebPager will ask you whether you want account details to be edited in all the WebPager examples:
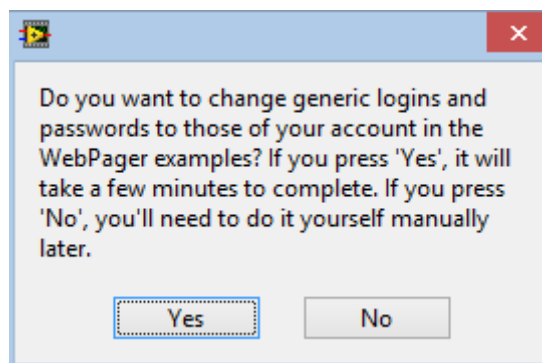
If you press "YES", this editing operation will take a few minutes. If you press "NO", then this step will be skipped and you'll need to edit login and password info later if you're going to study these examples and use them in the Internet. Then, you'll see a getting started window that you can also skip if you feel you're already familiar with WebPager and don't need this supersmall-tutorial.
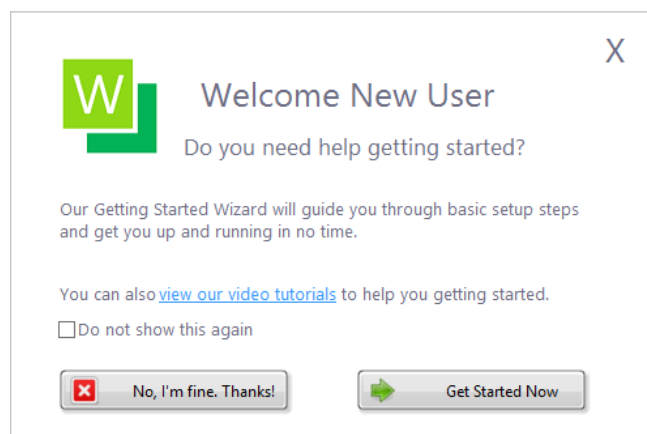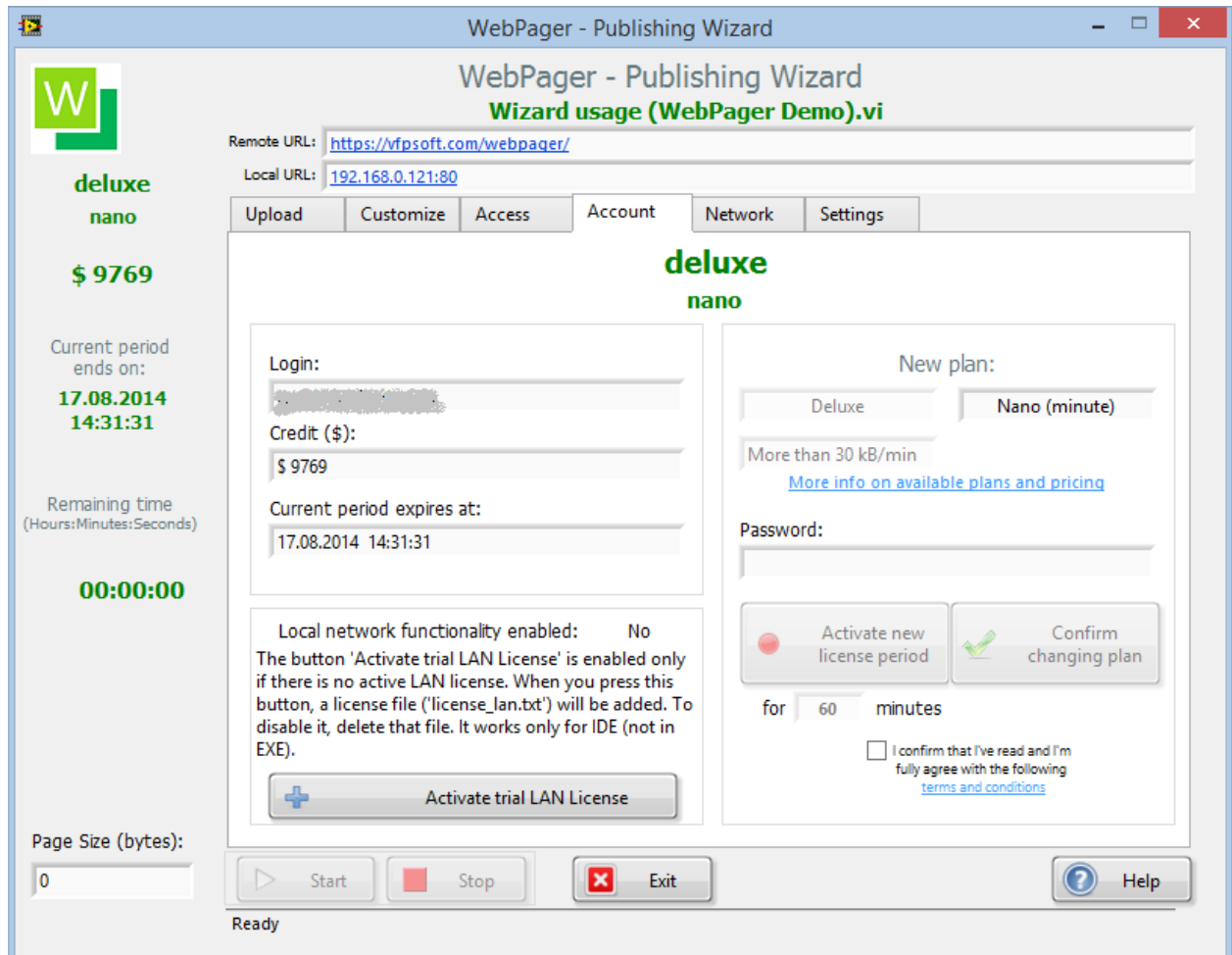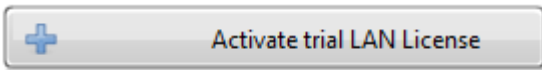
Let's move on to 'Account' tab of the Wizard:

Figure 4.4 – WebPager Publishing Wizard, 'Account' tab. Among other things it indicates that we are on trial period (evaluation mode).

Since you're doing it for the first time, you can use evaluation mode for a few weeks for the Internet functionality. If you decide to use local network functionality in evaluation mode (WebPager will ask you if you want to do it), then its functionality will be limited (alerts will be popping up on both sides – LabVIEW as well as on the web page) and you'll see corresponding watermark image as web pages' background. If you pressed "NO" when WebPager asked about activating trial license for LAN and now you want to actually activate it, then go this 'Account' tab and press 'Activate trial LAN License' (
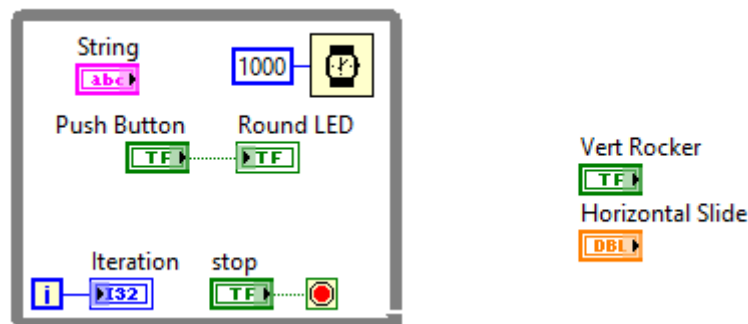
).

Part 2: Using Publishing Wizard

In this part we'll upload one of the WebPager demo VIs.

Now we're ready to actually see the magic happening. For the time close the Wizard and navigate to '**_Tools >> WebPager >> Examples >> Wizard usage (WebPager Demo)…_**'
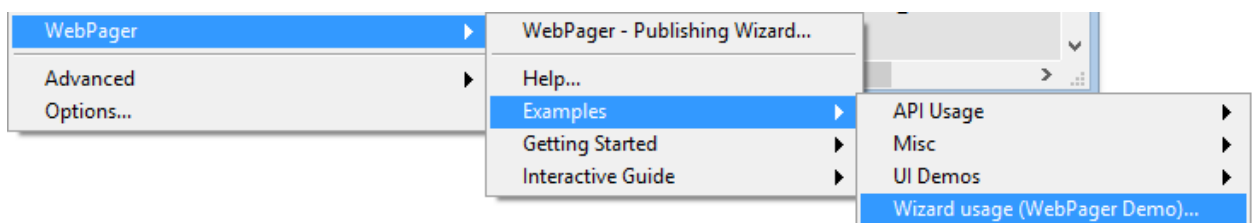
This is one of the demo VIs that should facilitate your acquaintance with WebPager. This VI has a very simple block diagram:

Here we imitate your VI (any VI) that is needed to be uploaded to PC/Android/iPad/you name it. Pay attention that it doesn't contain any additional code to make this feature work. It means that if you want, you can go without making ANY changes to your existing code. The only thing this VI is doing is incrementing iteration counter – with it you'll be able to notice updates on the web page. Also it contains a few basic LabVIEW controls – Push Button, Rocker and Horizontal Slide. So, **run this VI** and from its menu go to WebPager Wizard in

'Tools' menu:

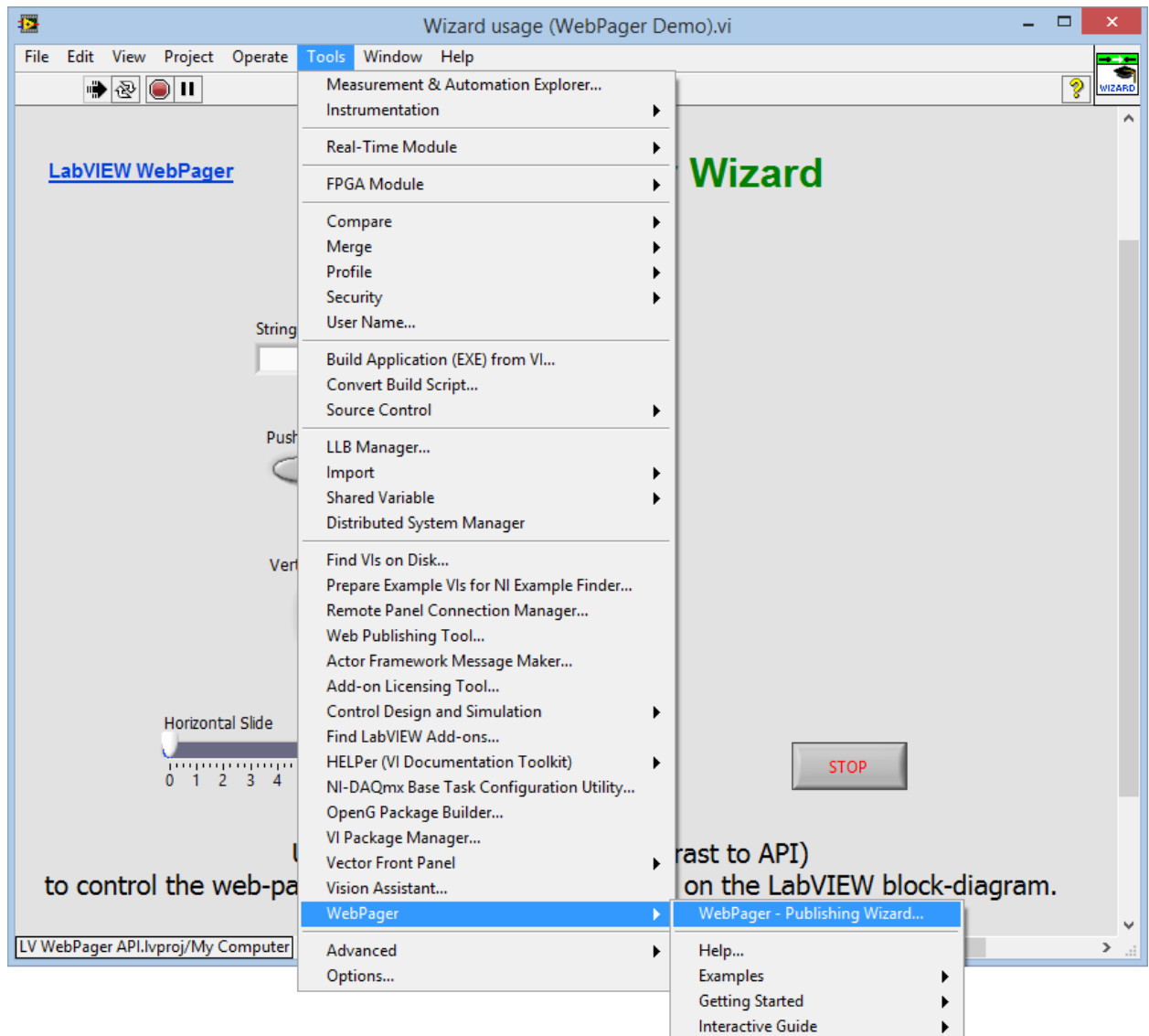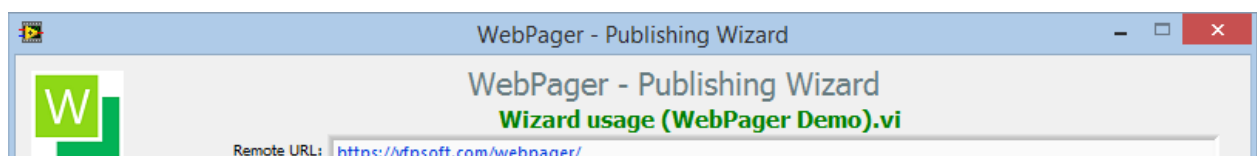'**Tools >> WebPager >> WebPager Publishing Wizard...**'.

Figure 5.1 – Calling WebPager Wizard from the running VI.

You'll see the name of the VI in the upper part of the window:

You can navigate to all Wizard's tabs to become more familiar with its user interface. By the way, if you think it can be improved and you have any idea about

it, don't hesitate and email our support team to *webpager@vfpsoft.com*. While you're wondering around the tabs, go to the 'Network' tab and click 'Check Connection' and 'Ping Remote Server' buttons. These buttons is a great diagnostic tool for troubleshooting as we'll see later.
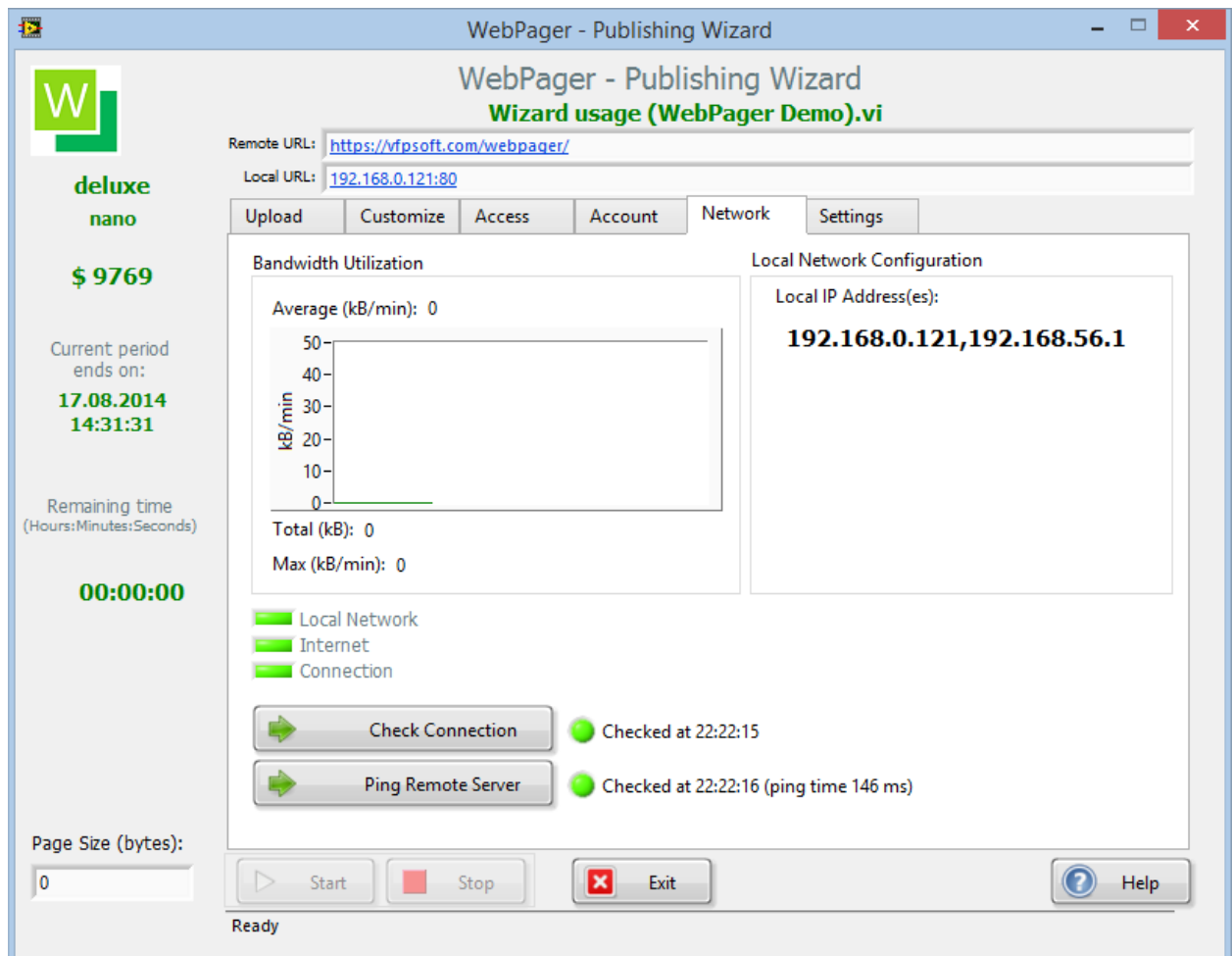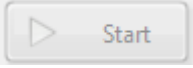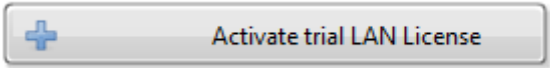

Figure 5.2 – Wizard 'Settings' tab. Application is not active yet.

In order to activate 'Start' button (Start   ), go to the 'Upload' tab and check 'Upload to local network' checkbox (□ Upload to local network). This checkbox is enabled if you agreed to activate evaluation mode for LAN earlier. If it's disabled, please go to the 'Account' tab and press 'Activate trial LAN license' button (

    ✛   Activate trial LAN License

). When you checked the 'Upload to local network' checkbox, provide some name for the local page name, for example
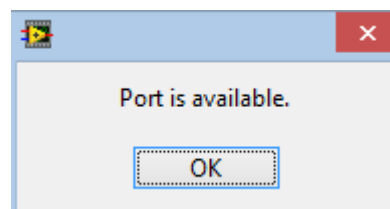
'test' (Local Page Name: test):
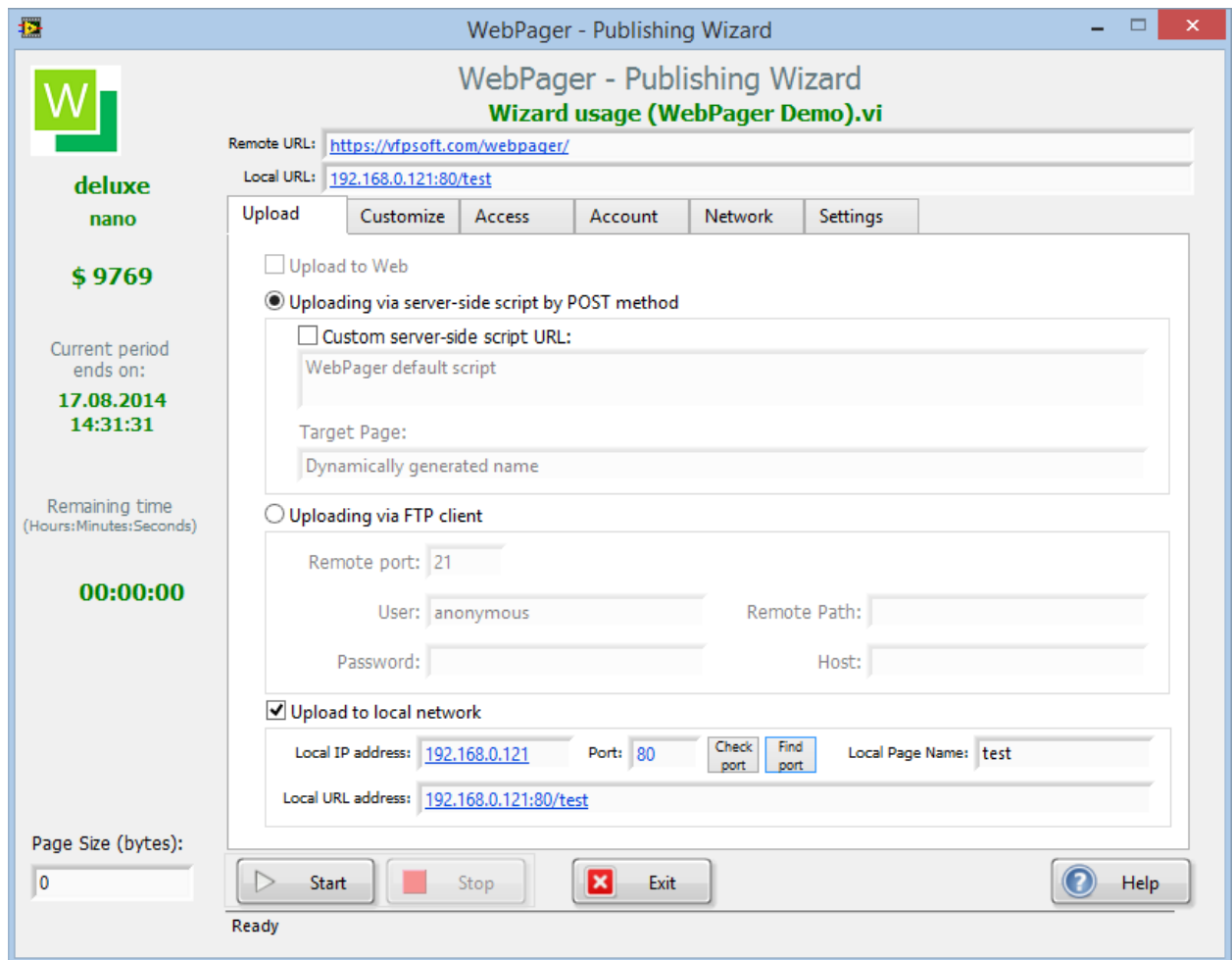
WebPager will try to find out the local address of your computer, but if you're sure that you know better, please edit corresponding field 'Local IP address' (

Local IP address: 192.168.0.121). Also, check the port by clicking 'Check port' button (

Check port). If this port is available, you'll corresponding dialog window:

If this port is not available, then click 'Find port' button (Find port) and WebPager will

scan ports and choose available one.

Now we can finally press 'Start' button and look at the status bar. During initialization status bar will show us the current state finishing with 'Web page was successfully uploaded' if everything goes well. On 'Upload' tab we'll see that the page will be 140765 bytes in size. And by far the most important piece of information is 'Local URL', in our case it's *192.168.0.121:80/test*. You can just copy that link and paste into web browser address bar. In real life you'll have to send this link to your user(s).
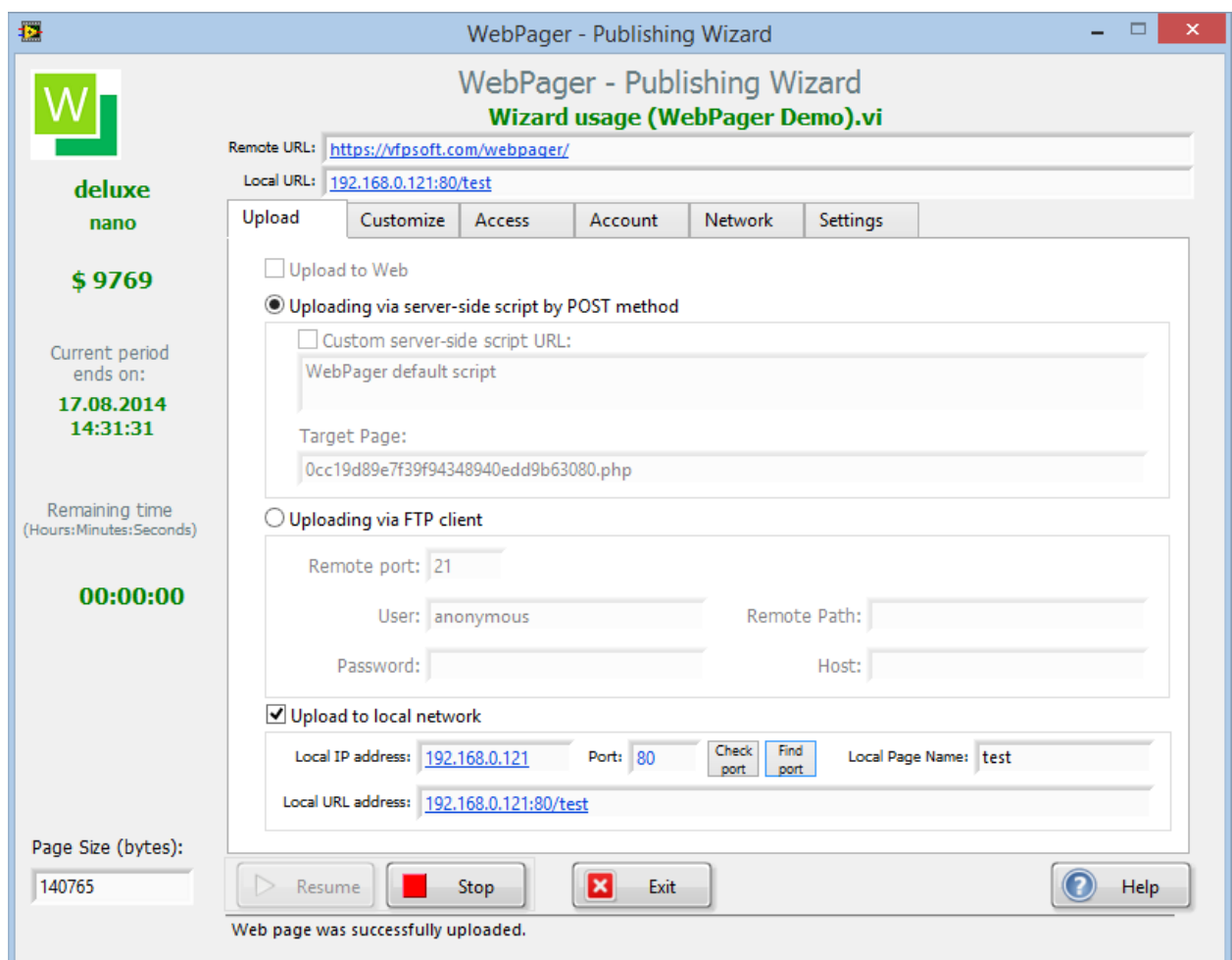

Figure 5.3 – WebPager Publishing Wizard after we pressed 'Start' button.

So, we're pasting this link into the browser and hit enter. Voila, here is our front panel in pure HTML accessible in any modern HTML5-capable browser:
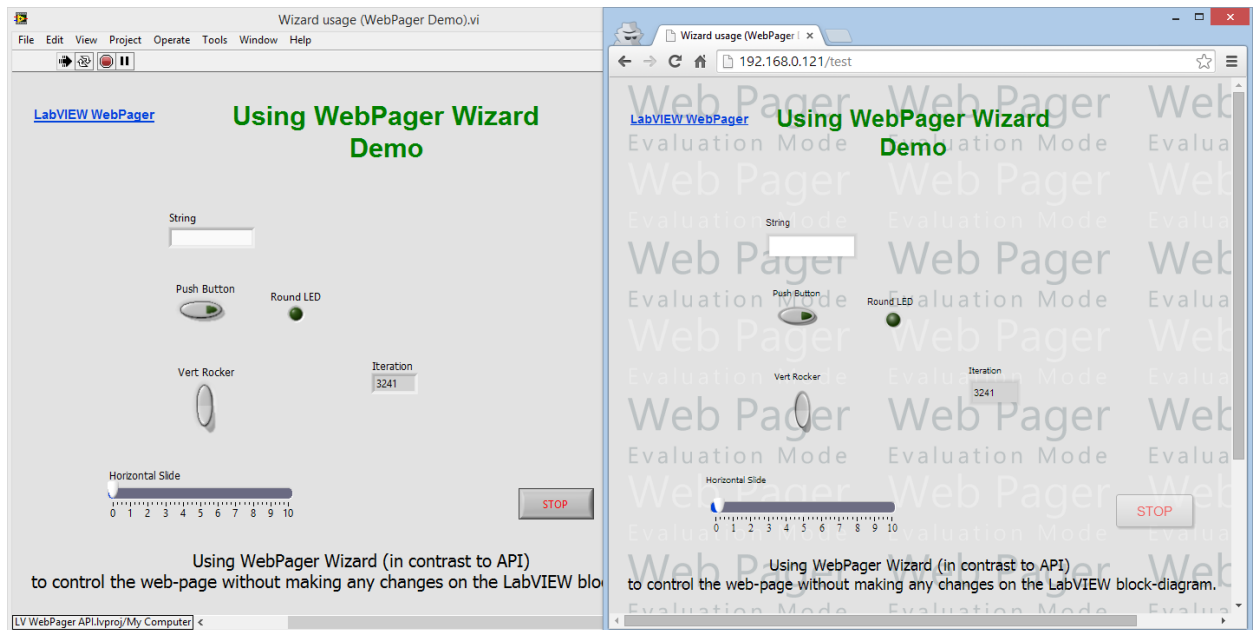

Figure 5.4 – WebPager in action. On the left – LabVIEW front panel, on the right – web page generated and synchronized by WebPager.

Play a bit here too. Press buttons, change position of slider's handle and look at how all values are being updated in the real time. Hover over Push Button and look at tooltips that are also supported… In fact, there are many more features waiting to be discovered and used by you, but this is our first journey, right? And yes, this 'Evaluation Mode' watermark… It will disappear once you start using this LabVIEW plug-in in real earnest (when you buy a license).

Don't forget to go through other documentation if you need it.
https://vfpsoft.com/webpager/documentation

We are improving this product on a daily basis and value any feedback you could provide. So, if you have any questions, concerns, bug reports, feature requests, propositions, etc. – please drop us a line to webpager@vfpsoft.com.

LabVIEWishly yours,

WebPager team.

No front panel should be a hostage!