



## Get in Touch with the Changing

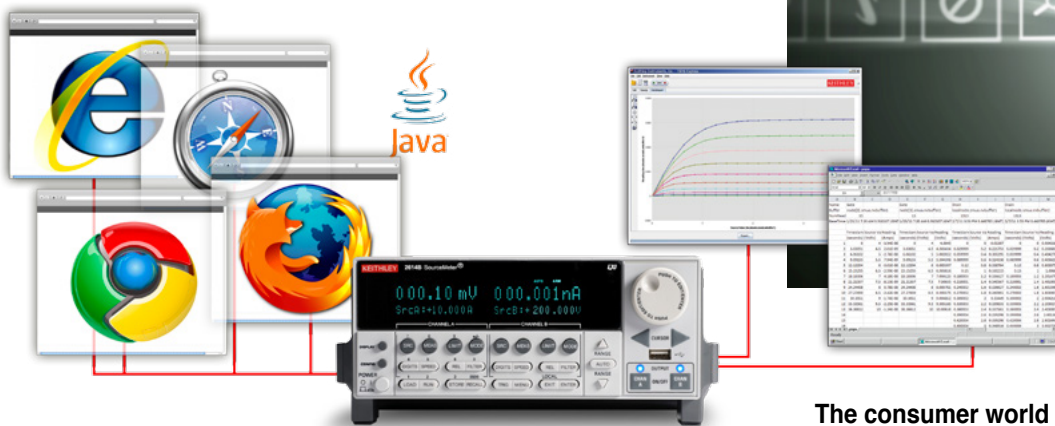
# User Interface of Test Instruments

Have you noticed the significant changes that have emerged within the electrical test and measurement industry – not necessarily to the instruments, but to the user community? Perhaps you're among the one in five electrical engineers who's started your career within the last decade. Or, maybe your background isn't even in electrical engineering but in materials engineering, electrochemistry, biotechnology, physics, etc., but you're still expected to configure electrical measurements from time to time. Or, you may have experienced budget or staffing cuts and are under pressure to do more with fewer resources than in the past. These dynamics are further compounded by growing time-to-market pressures as design cycles continue to shrink. With all of these changes evolving in the user community, wouldn't it be great to see a change in the test instruments themselves that would empower users to learn fast, work smarter, and invent easier?



**The face of the typical electrical test and measurements user has changed significantly over the last decade.**

The good news is that some of the more modern electrical test instrument interfaces are beginning to incorporate this concept of faster time to answer. For example, current technology has paved the way for instruments with web-based interfaces. In fact, some of Keithley's instruments already feature easy-to-use, powerful, web-based plug & play test software that enables you to perform your tests through any browser, on any PC, from anywhere in the world. These unique, browser-based user interfaces provide a significant boost in productivity. All you need to do is connect the instrument to the Internet via the supplied LAN cable, open any browser and type in the instrument I.P address, and begin testing – it's that simple!



**Innovative instruments with web-based user interfaces offer a great improvement in productivity.**

Moreover, with the proliferation of easy-to-use tablets, smartphones, and cameras with gestural multi-touch interfaces in the consumer world, test instrument manufacturers are driven to develop products that incorporate this same intuitive use and immediate information in the test instrument world. A new generation of test instrument that uses an advanced capacitive touchscreen with multi-point, pan-pinch-zoom-swipe

operation to bring Touch, Test, Invent™ right to your fingertips is on the horizon. This Touch, Test, Invent design offers a simplified user interface without paging through a manual, speeds the measurement process by helping you to test accurately and get results quickly, and frees your time to focus on your next breakthrough rather than learning how to configure the instrument.

Anyone can be an "expert user" from the first touch, whether you're new to test instruments or you've been using them for years. Right from power on, these instruments are highly learnable and intuitively easier to use than traditional instruments. On-board, context-sensitive help eliminates the need to thumb through page after page of a separate user manual to get up and running. And, with simplified setups and configurations done from the front panel, there's faster time to measurements and drastically improved productivity.



**The consumer world proliferation of tablets, smartphones, and cameras with gestural multi-touch interfaces is playing a role in test instrument interfaces.**

In a consumer electronics world filled with advanced touchscreen interfaces like tablet computers and smartphones, intuitive operation and faster answers without sacrificing measurement accuracy are perhaps shaping the expectations about how we use electrical instrumentation, as well. And, Keithley's new generation of Touch, Test, Invent instruments are about to empower you to learn faster, work smarter, and invent easier.