How to open a MER file in FactoryTalk View Studio

A .mer file is a runtime application file used by FactoryTalk View Machine Edition. To open a MER file in FactoryTalk View Studio, you first restore it with the FactoryTalk View ME Application Manager and then open the restored project in FactoryTalk View Studio. This guide walks you through restoring the file, opening the project, and editing it. It also shows how to delete existing projects you no longer need.

Prerequisites

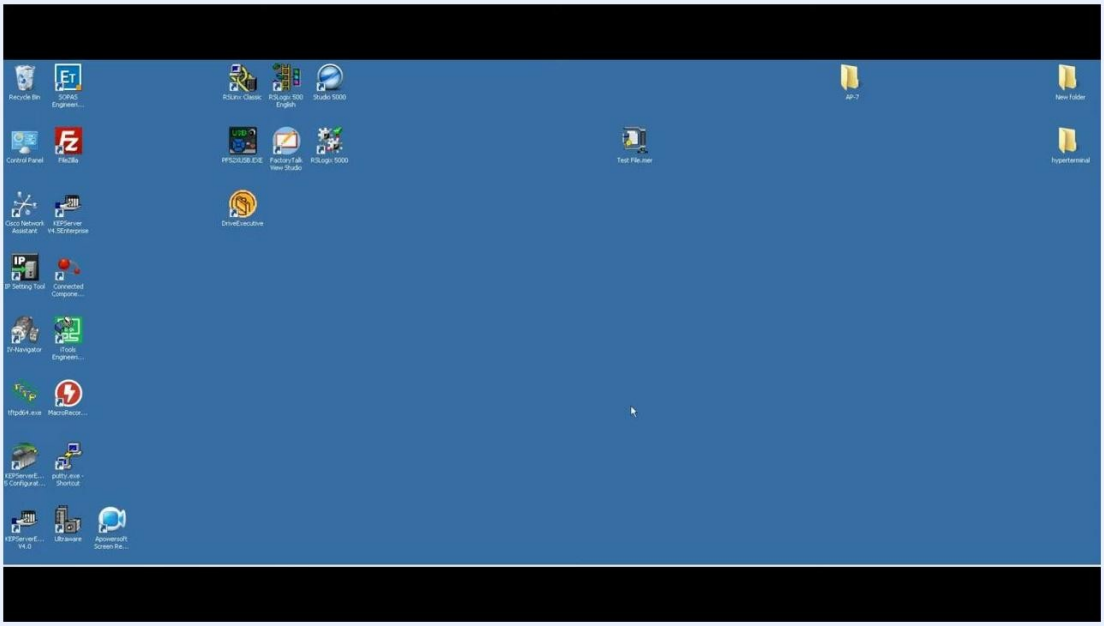
Before you begin, make sure you have the following:

- A .mer file (for example, Test File.mer) on your desktop or in a known directory.
- Access to FactoryTalk View ME Application Manager and FactoryTalk View Studio.

Restore the runtime application

Step 1. Locate the runtime application file

Confirm that your .mer file, such as Test File.mer, is on your desktop or in a directory you know. This is the file you will restore.

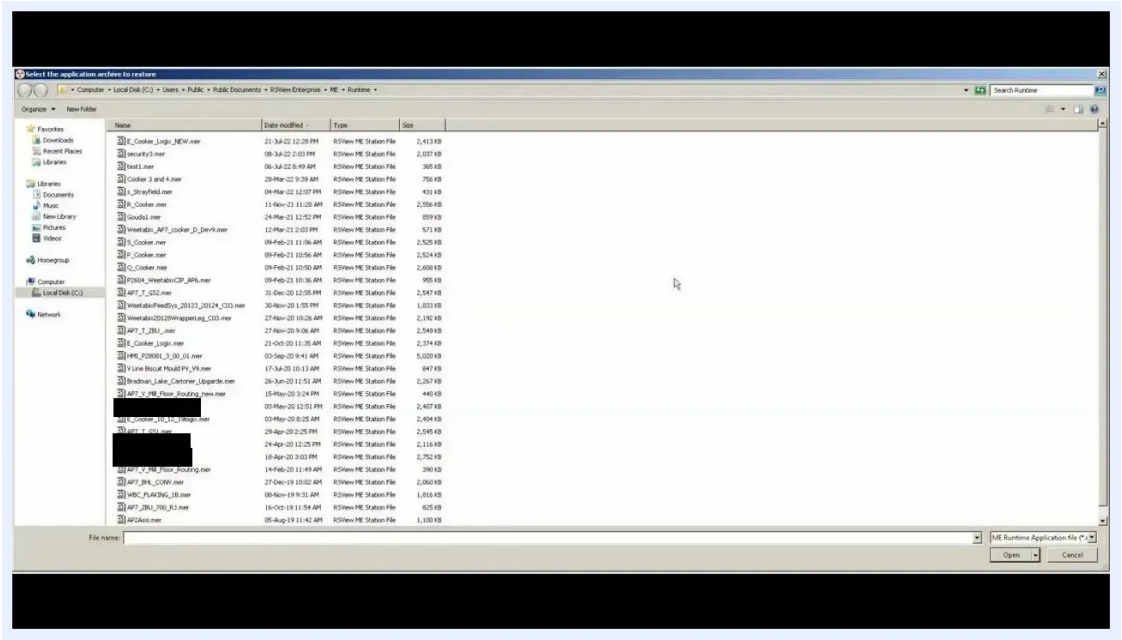


Desktop showing the Test File.mer file and the FactoryTalk View Studio shortcut

Step 2. Open FactoryTalk View ME Application Manager

1. Click the Start menu.

2. Find and select **FactoryTalk View ME Application Manager** in the program list.



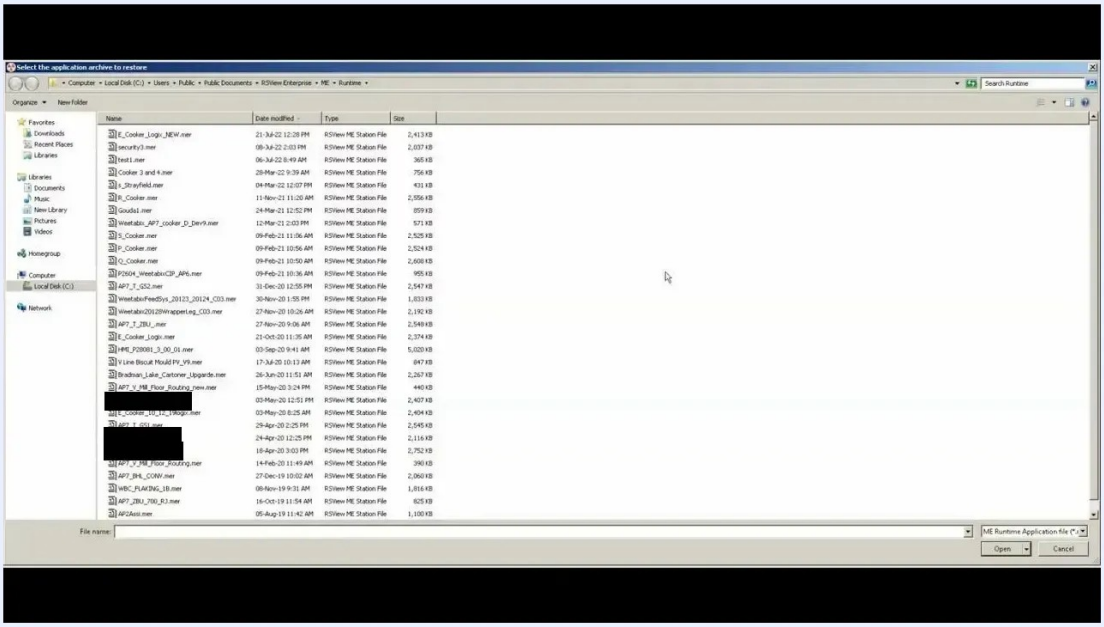
Start menu open with FactoryTalk View ME Application Manager highlighted

In the Application Manager window, choose **Restore runtime application**, and then click **Next**.

Step 3. Browse to the .mer file

1. In the file selection dialog, go to the location of your .mer file.
2. Select the file you want to restore (for example, Test File.mer).

3. Click **Open**.



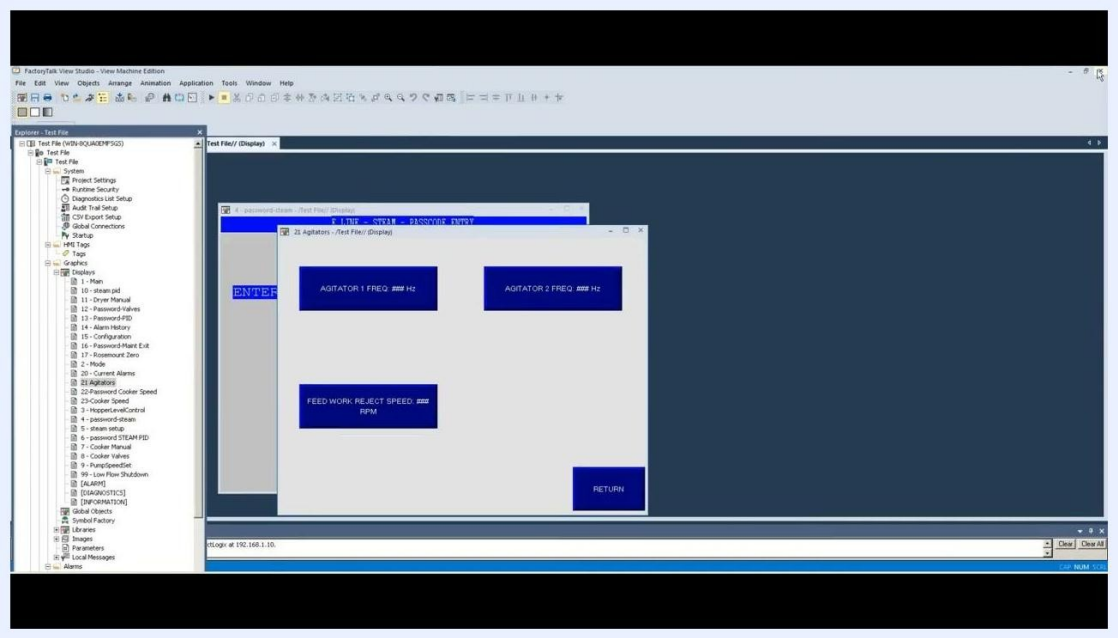
File selection dialog with Test File.mer selected

Step 4. Name the project

Enter a name for the new project when prompted. Then click **Finish** to complete the restoration.

Step 5. Launch FactoryTalk View Studio

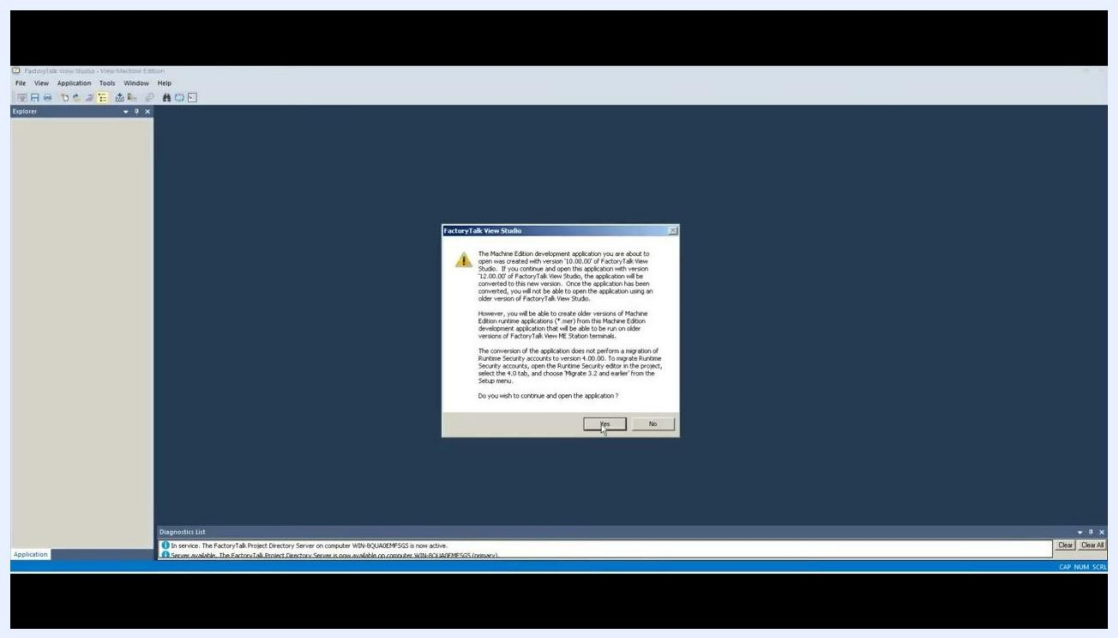
Start FactoryTalk View Studio from your desktop or the Start menu. The main interface appears, with the project explorer on the left and any open project displays in the center.



FactoryTalk View Studio main interface with the project explorer and open project displays

Step 6. Select and open the restored project

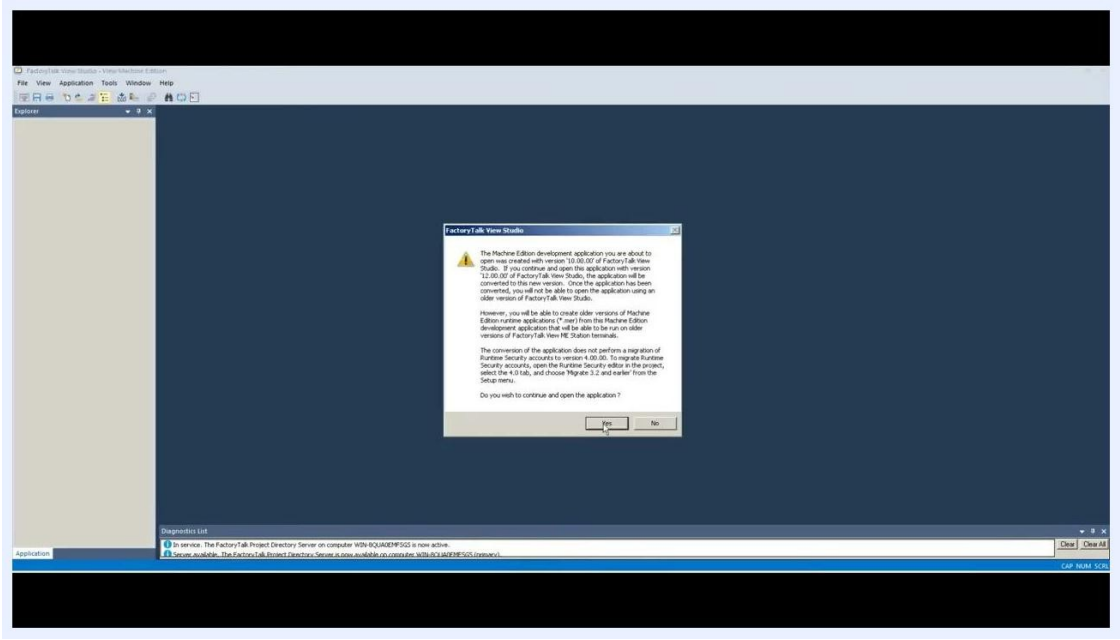
In the New/Open Machine Edition Application dialog, find your newly restored project in the list. Select it and click **Open**. This step completes how to open a MER file in FactoryTalk View Studio.



FactoryTalk View Studio open dialog with the list of projects

Step 7. Acknowledge the version conversion warning

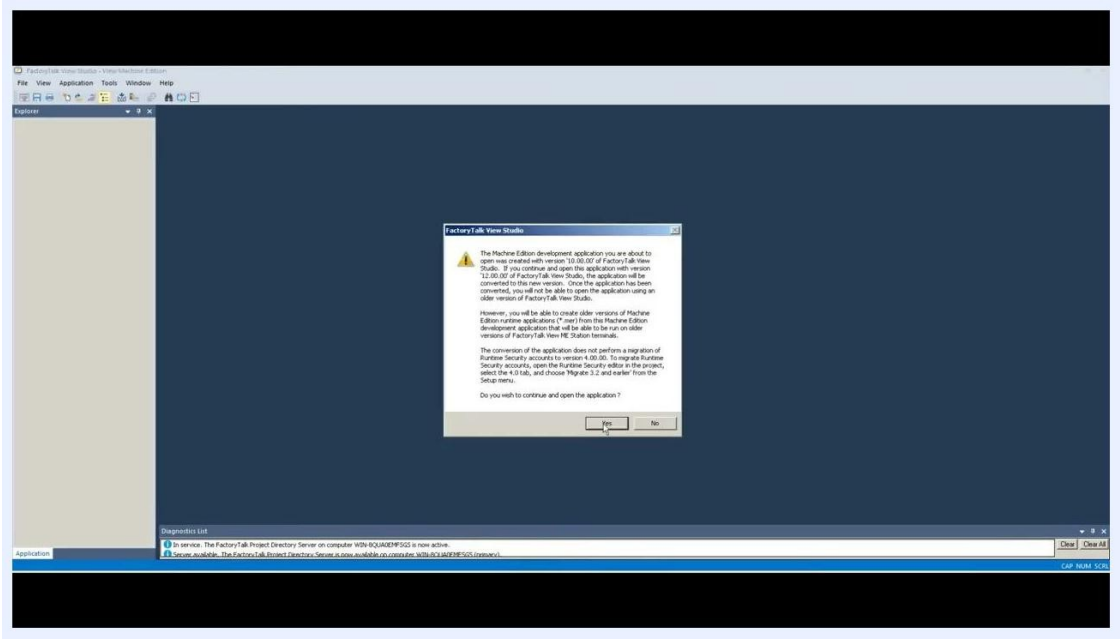
If a warning about version conversion appears, read the message. Click **Yes** to continue and open the application.



Version conversion warning dialog in FactoryTalk View Studio

Step 8. Wait for the project components to load

Allow FactoryTalk View Studio to load and save the HMI components. Wait until the process completes and the project tree is visible.



FactoryTalk View Studio loading the project components

Step 9. Edit the project

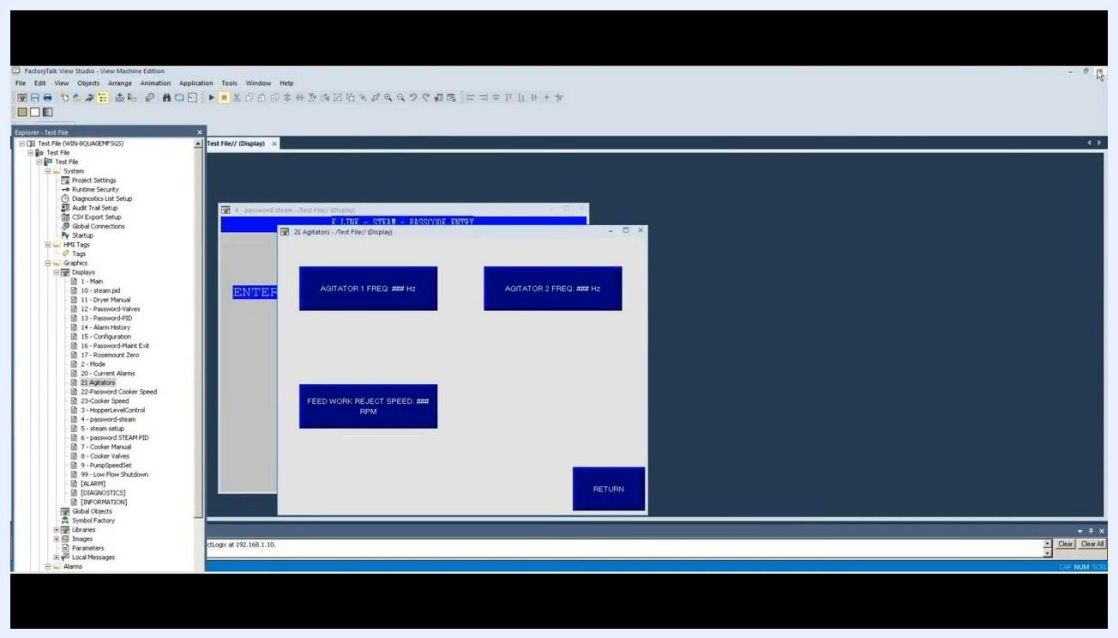
When loading finishes, the project is available for editing. You can modify it as needed and create a new runtime application file if required.

Delete existing projects

If you no longer need a restored project, you can delete it with the FactoryTalk View ME Application Manager.

Step 10. Review the list of existing projects

In the New/Open Machine Edition Application dialog, review the projects listed on the **Existing** tab. Note the names of the projects you want to delete.

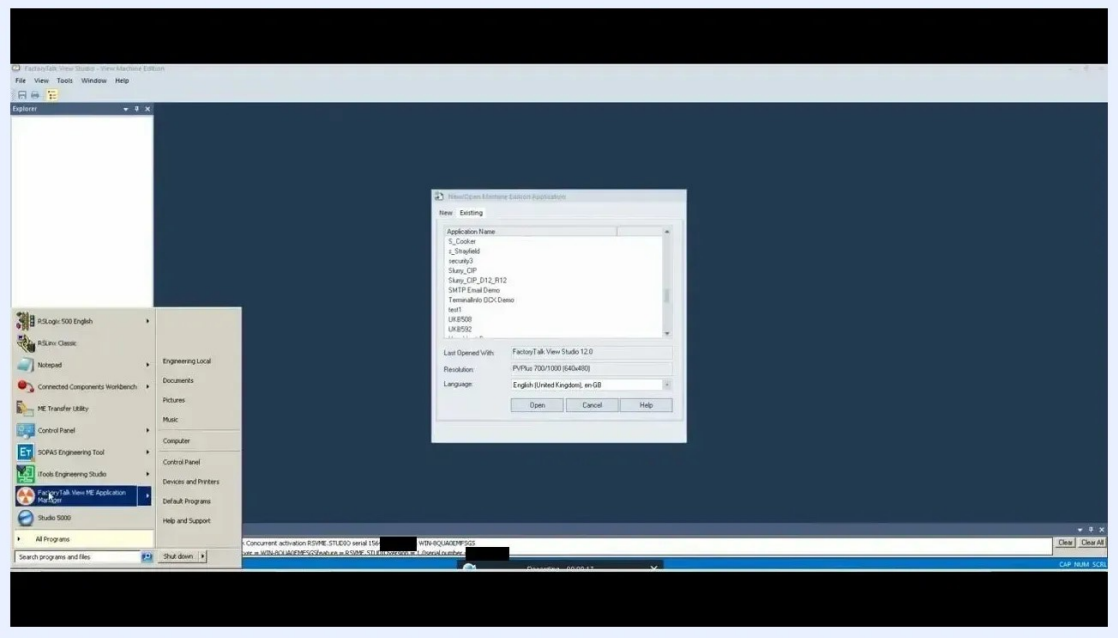


New/Open Machine Edition Application dialog showing the list of existing projects

Step 11. Open the Application Manager and choose Delete application

1. Click the Start menu.
2. Go to **All Programs** > **Rockwell Software** > **FactoryTalk View**.

3. Select **FactoryTalk View ME Application Manager**.



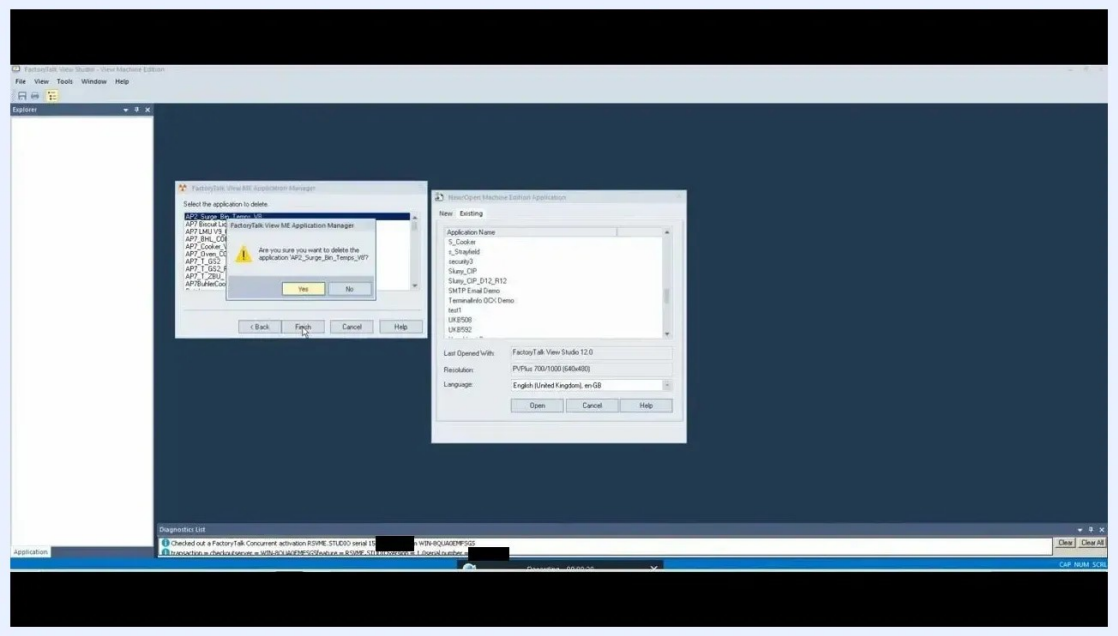
Start menu with FactoryTalk View ME Application Manager highlighted

In the Application Manager window, choose **Delete application**, and then click **Next**.

Step 12. Select the project and confirm the deletion

1. From the list of available projects, select the project you want to delete.
2. Click **Finish**.

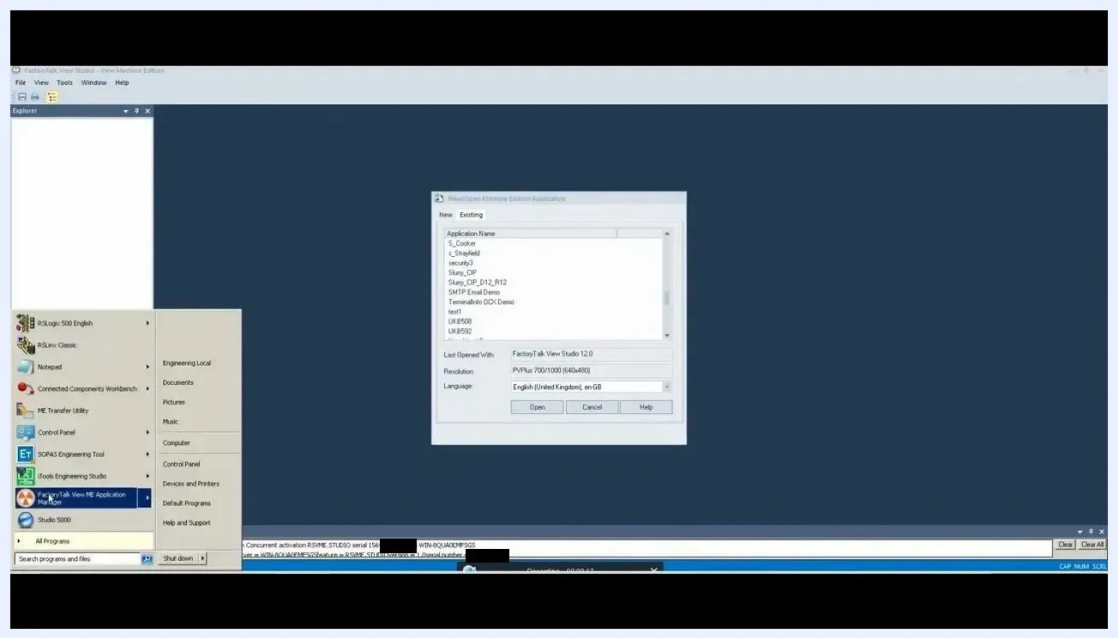
3. When the confirmation dialog asks whether you are sure you want to delete the application, click **Yes** to permanently delete the project.



FactoryTalk View ME Application Manager with the delete confirmation dialog and the Finish button highlighted

Step 13. Close the Application Manager

When the deletion is complete, close the Application Manager. You can return to FactoryTalk View Studio to verify that the project no longer appears in the list.



New/Open Machine Edition Application dialog after the deletion, with the Cancel button highlighted

Summary

You now know how to open a MER file in FactoryTalk View Studio. You restore the .mer runtime application file with FactoryTalk View ME Application Manager, open the restored project in FactoryTalk View Studio, and edit it. You can also delete projects you no longer need to keep your workspace organized and up to date.