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SMAI First in Fieldbus

DataWorX

MAY / 06 DataWorX VERSION 8





Specifications and information are subject to change without notice. Up-to-date address information is available on our website.

web: www.smar.com/contactus.asp

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION TO DATAWORX 11 SOFTWARE LICENSING PROTECTION NECESSARY FOR RUNTIME MODE 11 DATAWORX INTERFACE WITH THE PROCESSVIEW SECURITY APPLICATION 11 IKEY DATAWORX. 11 IFADTAWORX CAPABILITES 11 IFATURES OF DATAWORX. 11 IFATURES OF DATAWORX. 12 DATAWORN OPC SERVER REDUNDANCY 13 DATAWORN OPC AGREGATION. 16 DATAWORN QCO SERVER REDUNDANCY 17 TORTATING AN EW CONFIGURATION 17 CREATING A NEW CONFIGURATION 17 CREATING A NEW CONFIGURATION 17 CREATING CONFIGURATION DATA 19 EVPORTING CONFIGURATION DATA 110 IMPORTING CONFIGURATION DATA 110 IMPORTING CONFIGURATION DATA 110 MENUS 115 MULTPLYING ITEMS 116 SELECTING LANGUAGES 117 ACTIVATING THE DATABASE 116 SELECTING LANGUAGES 117 ACTION MENU 116 MULTPLYING ITEMS 116 SELECTING LANGUAGES 117 ACTIVATING THE DATABASE 116 <	CHAPTER 1 - STARTING THE DATAWORX CONFIGURATION	1.1
SOFTWARE LICENSING PROTECTION NECESSARY FOR RUNTIME MODE 11 DATAWORX INTERFACE WITH THE PROCESSVIEW SECURITY APPLICATION 11 KEY DATAWORX CAPABILITIES 12 DATAWORX AS AN 'OPO BRIDGE" 12 DATAWORX OPO CAPABILITIES 12 DATAWORX OPO SERVER REDUNDANCY 14 DATAWORX OPO GOE STRE REDUNDANCY 14 DATAWORX OPO SERVER REDUNDANCY 17 STARTING THE DATAWORX CONFIGURATOR 17 STARTING THE DATAWORX CONFIGURATOR 17 CREATING A NEW CONFIGURATION 17 ODLBAR 19 ENDORTING CONFIGURATION DATA 10 IMPORTING CONFIGURATION DATA 110 MENUS 15 DIT MENU 115 MUTORTING CONFIGURATION DATA 110 MOROTING CONFIGURATION DATA 110 MUPORTING CONFIGURATION DATA 110 <th></th> <th></th>		
DATAWORX INTERFACE WITH THE PROCESSVIEW SECURITY APPLICATION	SOFTWARE LICENSING PROTECTION NECESSARY FOR RUNTIME MODE	
KEY DATAWORX CAPABILITIES 11 FEATURES OF DATAWORX 12 DATAWORX AS AN 'OPC BRIDGE" 13 DATAWORX OPC GREIDEE" 14 DATAWORX OPC AGGREGATION 14 DATAWORX OPC AGGREGATION 16 DATAWORX OPC AGGREGATION 17 STARTING THE DATAWORX CONFIGURATOR 17 CREATING A NEW CONFIGURATION 17 CREATING CONFIGURATION DATA 18 MENUS 19 FILE MENU 19 EVPORTING CONFIGURATION DATA 10 IMPORTING CONFIGURATION DATA 110 IMPORTING CONFIGURATION DATA 112 ACTIVATING THE DATABASE 115 EDIT MENU 116 MULTIPLY ING THEMS 116 MULTIPLY ING THEMS 117 GOLD KIENU 118 OPTIONS 118 MOUSE INTERFACE TAB 118 BROWSE INTERFA		
FEATURES OF DATAWORX 12 DATAWORX AS AN 'OPC RRIDGE" 13 DATAWORX OPC SERVER REDUNDANCY 14 DATAWORX OPC AGREGATION 16 DATAWORX CLOBAL VARIABLES 17 STARTING THE DATAWORX CONFIGURATION 17 TCREATING A NEW CONFIGURATION 17 TCREATING A NEW CONFIGURATION 17 TOLBAR 19 FILE MENU 19 FILE MENU 19 FUND TIME CONFIGURATION DATA 10 IMPORTING CONFIGURATION DATA 110 MOPORTING CONFIGURATION DATA 112 ACTIVATING THE DATABASE 115 EDIT MENU. 115 MULTIPLYING ITHE DATABASE 116 SELECTING LANGUAGES 117 GO MENU 116 OLIS MENU 118 TOOLIS MENU 118 TOOLIS MENU 118 OUCIS MENU 119 CHEPRAL TAB 119 CHEPRAL TAB 21 REGISTER NAMES 22 REGISTER NAMES 23 USING REGISTER SEVACE CONFIGURATION 21		
DATAWORX AS AN 'OPC BRIDGE" 13 DATAWORX OPC AGGREGATION 14 DATAWORX OPC AGGREGATION 16 DATAWORX OPC AGGREGATION 17 STARTING THE DATAWORX CONFIGURATOR 17 CREATING A NEW CONFIGURATION 17 CREATING A NEW CONFIGURATION 17 CREATING CONFIGURATION DATA 18 MENUS 19 EVEORTING CONFIGURATION DATA 110 IMPORTING CONFIGURATION DATA 112 ACTIVATING THE DATABASE 115 EDIT MENU 115 MULTPLYING THEMS 116 SELECTING LANGUAGES 117 GO MENU 117 ACTION MENU 117 ACTION MENU 117 ACTION MENU 117 ACTION MENU 118 OPTIONS 118 GENERAL TAB 118 BROWSE INTERFACE TAB 118 BROWSE INTERFACE TAB 118 BROWSE INTERFACE TAB 118 BROWSE INTERFACE TAB 121 INPUT TAB CONFIGURATION MENT <td></td> <td></td>		
DATAWORX OPC SERVER REDUNDANCY 14 DATAWORX OPC AGREGATION 16 DATAWORX GLOBAL VARIABLES 17 STARTING THE DATAWORX CONFIGURATION 17 CREATING A NEW CONFIGURATION 17 CREATING A NEW CONFIGURATION 17 TOOLBAR 18 MENUS 19 FILE MENU 19 FURD TING CONFIGURATION DATA 10 MORTING CONFIGURATION DATA 110 ACTIVATING THE DATABASE 115 EDIT MENU. 115 EDIT MENU. 116 SELECTING LANGUAGES 117 GO MENU 116 SELECTING LANGUAGES 117 GO MENU 118 OCIS MENN 118 OCIS MENN 118 OCIS MENN 119 CLEP MENU 119 CHAPTER 2 - CONFIGURING THE ADDRESS SPACE 21 OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION 21 CREATING NEW FOLDERS 22 REGISTER NAMES 23 USING REGISTER 23		
DATAWORX OPC AGGREGATION 16 DATAWORX GLOBAL VARABLES. 17 STARTING THE DATAWORX CONFIGURATOR. 17 CREATING A NEW CONFIGURATION 17 TOOLBAR. 18 MENUS. 19 FILE MENU 19 EXPORTING CONFIGURATION DATA. 110 IMPORTING CONFIGURATION DATA. 112 ACTIVATING THE DATABASE 115 DUT MENU 116 SELECTING LANGUAGES 117 ACTION MENU 116 SELECTING LANGUAGES 117 ACTION MENU 118 OPTIONS 118 OPTIONS 118 OPTIONS 118 OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION 118 OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION 21 OVERVIEW		
DATAWORX GLOBAL VARIABLES. 17 STARTING THE DATAWORX CONFIGURATOR 17 CREATING A NEW CONFIGURATION 17 CREATING A NEW CONFIGURATION 17 TOOLBAR 18 MENUS. 19 FILE MENU 19 EXPORTING CONFIGURATION DATA 10 IMPORTING CONFIGURATION DATA 110 ACTIVATING THE DATABASE 115 EDIT MENU 115 VIEW MENU 116 SELECTING LANGUAGES 117 GO MENU 116 OPTIONS 118 OPTIONS 118 BOWSE INTERFACE TAB 118 BOWSE INTERFACE TAB 119 CHAPTER 2 - CONFIGURING THE ADDRESS SPACE 21 OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION 21 CHAPTER 2 - CONFIGURING THE ADDRESS SPACE 22 REGISTER NAMES 23 REGISTER NAMES 24 COVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION 21 CONFIGURING THE ADDRESS SPACE 22 REGISTER NAMES 22 REGISTER NAMES 23 REGISTER NAMES<		
STARTING THE DATAWORX CONFIGURATOR. 17 CREATING A NEW CONFIGURATION 17 TOOLBAR. 18 MENUS. 19 FILE MENU 19 EXPORTING CONFIGURATION DATA. 10 IMPORTING CONFIGURATION DATA. 112 ACTIVATING THE DATABASE 115 FULT MENU 115 MUTIVITING THE DATABASE 115 MUTIVITING THE DATABASE 116 SELECTING LANGUAGES 117 ACTION MENU 116 SELECTING LANGUAGES 117 ACTION MENU 118 OPTIONS 118 OPTIONS 118 BROWSE INTERFACE TAB 118 BROWSE INTERFACE TAB 118 BROWSE INTERFACE TAB 119 HELP MENU 119 CHAPTER 2 - CONFIGURING THE ADDRESS SPACE 21 OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION 21 FOLDERS 21 OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION 21 FOLDERS 22 REGISTER NAMES 22 REGISTER NAMES 23	DATAWORX GLOBAL VARIABLES	1.7
CREATING A NEW CONFIGURATION 17 TOOLBAR. 18 MENUS. 19 FILE MENU 19 FILE MENU 19 EXPORTING CONFIGURATION DATA 10 IMPORTING CONFIGURATION DATA 110 ACTIVATING THE DATABASE 115 EDIT MENU 115 VIEW MENU 115 VIEW MENU 116 SELECTING LANGUAGES 117 GO MENU 118 TOOLS MENU 118 TOOLS MENU 118 OPTIONS 118 BROWSE INTERFACE TAB 118 BROWSE INTERFACE TAB 119 HELP MENU 119 CHAPTER 2 - CONFIGURING THE ADDRESS SPACE 21 OVENVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION 21 CREGISTER NAMES. 22 REGISTERS 23 USING REGISTERS 23 USING REGISTER NUMES. 24 CONFIGURING RUNNING INSTANCES 23 USING REGISTER SCONDENT 24 CONFIGURING RUNNING INSTANCES 24 CONFIGURING RUNNING INSTANCE	STARTING THE DATAWORX CONFIGURATOR	1.7
TOOLBAR. 18 MENUS. 19 FILE MENU 19 EXPORTING CONFIGURATION DATA 110 IMPORTING CONFIGURATION DATA 112 ACTIVATING THE DATABASE 115 EDIT MENU 116 MULTPLYING THE DATABASE 115 MULTPLYING THE DATABASE 116 SELECTING LANGUAGES 117 GO MENU 118 TOOLS MENU 116 SELECTING LANGUAGES 117 ACTION MENU 118 GENERAL TAB 118 GENERAL TAB 118 BROWSE INTERFACE TAB 118 POLDERS 118 CHAPTER 2 - CONFIGURING THE ADDRESS SPACE 21 POLDERS 21 POLDERS 21 REGISTER NAMES 21 REGISTER NAMES 22 REGISTER NAMES 22 REGISTER NAMES 23 USING REGISTERS 24 CONFIGURING REGISTERS 24 CONFIGURING REGISTERS 24 REGISTER SETTINGS: INPUT TAB 25		
MENUS. 19 FILE MENU 19 EXPORTING CONFIGURATION DATA 110 IMPORTING CONFIGURATION DATA 112 ACTIVATING THE DATABASE 115 EDIT MENU 115 EDIT MENU 115 EDIT MENU 115 KUENTING LANGUAGES 117 GO MENU 117 GO MENU 118 TOOLS MENU 118 OPTIONS 118 GENERAL TAB 119 BROWSE INTERFACE TAB 119 HELP MENU 119 CHAPTER 2 - CONFIGURING THE ADDRESS SPACE 21 OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION 21 FOLDERS 21 OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION 21 FOLDERS 22 REGISTER NAMES 22 REGISTER NAMES 22 REGISTER NAMES 23 REGISTER NAMES 24 CONFIGURING REGISTER PROPERTIES 24 CONFIGURING REGISTER PROPERTIES 25 REGISTER NAMES 24 CONFIGURING REGISTER PROPERTIES TAB		
FILE MENU 19 EXPORTING CONFIGURATION DATA 110 IMPORTING CONFIGURATION DATA 112 ACTIVATING THE DATABASE 115 EDIT MENU 115 MULTIPLYING TITEMS 115 VIEW MENU 116 SELECTING LANGUAGES 117 GO MENU 117 ACTIVATINO THE DATABASE 117 TOOLS MENU 118 OPTIONS 118 GENRAL TAB 118 BROWSE INTERFACE TAB 118 BROWSE INTERFACE TAB 119 HELP MENU 119 CHAPTER 2 - CONFIGURING THE ADDRESS SPACE 21 CVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION 21 FOLDERS 21 CREATING NEW FOLDERS 22 REGISTER NAMES 22 REGISTER NAMES 23 USING REGISTERS 24 CONFIGURING REGISTER STAB 25 REGISTER		
EXPORTING CONFIGURATION DATA. 110 IMPORTING CONFIGURATION DATA. 112 ACTIVATING THE DATABASE. 115 EDIT MENU. 115 EDIT MENU. 115 EDIT MENU. 116 SELECTING LANGUAGES. 117 GO MENU. 117 ACTION MENU. 118 TOOLS MENU. 118 OPTIONS. 118 BROWSE INTERFACE TAB 119 CHAPTER 2 - CONFIGURING THE ADDRESS SPACE 21 OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION 21 FOLDERS. 21 OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION 21 FOLDERS. 21 QURGISTERS 22 REGISTER NAMES. 22 REGISTER NAMES. 23 USING REGISTERS. 23 USING REGISTERS. 24 CONFIGURING REGISTERS. 24 CONFIGURING REGISTERS. 24		
IMPORTING CONFIGURATION DATA. 112 ACTIVATING THE DATABASE 115 EDIT MENU 115 MULTIPLYING TTEMS. 115 VIEW MENU 116 SELECTING LANGUAGES 117 GO MENU 117 ACTIVATING TEMS. 117 GO MENU 117 ACTION MENU 118 OPTIONS. 118 OPTIONS. 118 GENERAL TAB. 118 BROWSE INTERFACE TAB 119 HELP MENU 119 CHAPTER 2 - CONFIGURING THE ADDRESS SPACE 21 OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION 21 FOLDERS. 21 CREATING NEW FOLDERS 22 REGISTER NAMES. 22 REGISTER NAMES. 23 USING REGISTERS 23 USING REGISTER SERDER 24 CORATING NEW FOLDERS 24 CONFIGURING REGISTER 24 CONFIGURING REGISTER PROPERTIES 25 REGISTER NEWTINGS: INPUT TAB. 25		
EDIT MENU 115 MULTIPLYING ITEMS. 115 VIEW MENU 116 SELECTING LANGUAGES 117 GO MENU 117 ACTION MENU 118 OPTIONS. 118 OPTIONS. 118 GENERAL TAB 118 BROWSE INTERFACE TAB 119 HELP MENU 119 CHAPTER 2 - CONFIGURING THE ADDRESS SPACE 21 OVER VIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION 21 FOLDERS 221 CREATING NEW FOLDERS 222 REGISTER NAMES. 222 REGISTER NAMES. 223 USING REGISTERS 223 USING REGISTERS 224 CORATION NEW FOLDERS 23 REGISTER NAMES. 23 REGISTER NAMES. 24 CONFIGURING REGISTERS 24 CONFIGURING REGISTERS 24 CONFIGURING REGISTER 24 CONFIGURING REGISTER 25 REGISTER SETTINGS: INPUT TAB. 25 REGISTER SETTINGS: INPUT TAB. 26 INPUT TAB: OPO POINT	IMPORTING CONFIGURATION DATA	1.12
MULTIPLYING ITEMS. 115 VIEW MENU 116 SELECTING LANGUAGES 117 GO MENU 117 ACTION MENU 118 TOOLS MENU 118 OPTIONS. 118 GENERAL TAB 118 BROWSE INTERFACE TAB 119 HELP MENU 119 CHAPTER 2 - CONFIGURING THE ADDRESS SPACE 21 OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION 21 FOLDERS 21 CREATING NEW FOLDERS 21 REGISTERS 22 REGISTER NAMES 22 REGISTERN RUNNING INSTANCES 23 USING REGISTERNS 23 USING REGISTERS 24 CONFIGURING REGISTERS 24 CONFIGURING REGISTER 25 REGISTER SETTINGS: INPUT TAB 26 INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT 27 INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT 27 INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT 210 INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT 210 INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT 210 INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT 210 <		
VIEW MENU 116 SELECTING LANGUAGES 117 GO MENU 117 ACTION MENU 118 TOOLS MENU 118 OPTIONS 118 OPTIONS 118 GENERAL TAB 119 BROWSE INTERFACE TAB 119 HELP MENU 119 CHAPTER 2 - CONFIGURING THE ADDRESS SPACE 21 OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION 21 CREATING NEW FOLDERS 21 CREATING NEW FOLDERS 21 CREATING NEW FOLDERS 21 CREGISTER NAMES 22 REGISTER NAMES 22 REGISTER NAMES 23 USING REGISTER PROPERTIES 23 REGISTER NAMES 24 CONFIGURING REGISTER PROPERTIES 24 CONFIGURING REGISTER PROPERTIES 25 REGISTER SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB 26 INPUT TAB: OPCO		
SELECTING LANGUAGES. 117 GO MENU 117 ACTION MENU 118 TOOLS MENU 118 OPTIONS. 118 GENERAL TAB 118 BROWSE INTERFACE TAB 119 HELP MENU 119 CHAPTER 2 - CONFIGURING THE ADDRESS SPACE 21 OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION 21 FOLDERS 21 CREATING NEW FOLDERS 21 REGISTER NAMES 22 REGISTER NAMES 22 REGISTER NAMES 23 USING REGISTERS 23 USING REGISTERS 24 CONFIGURING REGISTERS 24 CONFIGURING REGISTERS 25 REGISTER SETTINGS: INPUTS 25 REGISTER SETTINGS: INPUT TAB 26 INPUT TAB: OPCONT 27 INPUT TAB: OPCONT 27 INPUT TAB: CONDITION ORTERIA 29 INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT 210 INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT 210 INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT 211 ALIAS SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB 213 <		
GO MENU 117 ACTION MENU 118 TOOLS MENU 118 OPTIONS 118 GENERAL TAB 118 BROWSE INTERFACE TAB 119 HELP MENU 119 CHAPTER 2 - CONFIGURING THE ADDRESS SPACE 21 OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION 21 FOLDERS 21 CREATING NEW FOLDERS 22 REGISTERS 22 REGISTER NAMES 22 REGISTER NAMES 23 REGISTER NAMES 24 CONFIGURING RUNNING INSTANCES 24 CONFIGURING REGISTERS 24 CONFIGURING REGISTERS 24 CONFIGURING REGISTER PROPERTIES 25 REGISTER SETTINGS: INPUT TAB 26 INPUT TAB: OPC POINT 27 INPUT TAB: OPC POINT 27 INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA 28 INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT 210 INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT		
ACTION MENU 118 TOOLS MENU 118 OPTIONS 118 GENERAL TAB 118 GENERAL TAB 118 BROWSE INTERFACE TAB 119 HELP MENU 119 CHAPTER 2 - CONFIGURING THE ADDRESS SPACE 21 OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION 21 OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION 21 FOLDERS 221 REGISTERS 221 REGISTERS 221 REGISTER NAMES 221 REGISTER NAMES 222 REGISTER OUTPUTS 223 USING REGISTERS 223 USING REGISTERS 223 USING REGISTERS 223 REGISTERING RUNNING INSTANCES 223 REGISTERING RUNNING INSTANCES 244 CONFIGURING REGISTERS 244 CONFIGURING REGISTER PROPERTIES TAB 255 REGISTER SETTINGS: INPUT TAB 255 REGISTER SETTINGS: INPUT TAB 256 INPUT TAB: OPC POINT 277 INPUT TAB: REGISTER 277 INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA 257 REGISTER SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS 248 INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA 257 REGISTER SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB 229 INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA 247 CONFIGURING RESULT 277 INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA 248 INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT 270 INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT 210 REGISTER SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB 210 REGISTER SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB 210 REGISTER SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB 211 ALIAS S		
TOOLS MENU118OPTIONS118GENERAL TAB118BROWSE INTERFACE TAB119HELP MENU119CHAPTER 2 - CONFIGURING THE ADDRESS SPACE21CHAPTER 2 - CONFIGURING THE ADDRESS SPACE21CHAPTER 2 - CONFIGURING THE ADDRESS SPACE21CREATING NEW FOLDERS21FOLDERS21CREATING NEW FOLDERS22REGISTER S22REGISTER SET23USING REGISTERS23USING REGISTERS24CONFIGURING REGISTERS24CONFIGURING REGISTERS24CONFIGURING REGISTER PROPERTIES25REGISTER SETTINGS: INPUT TAB26INPUT TAB: COPCIONT27INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA27INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT210INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT211CREATINGS: PROPERTIES TAB211CARATINGS: PROPERTIES TAB214ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB214ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB214ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB213ALIAS SETTINGS: POPERTIES TAB214ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB215ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB214A		
OPTIONS.118GENERAL TAB1.18BROWSE INTERFACE TAB1.19HELP MENU1.19CHAPTER 2 - CONFIGURING THE ADDRESS SPACE2.1OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION2.1FOLDERS2.1CREATING NEW FOLDERS.2.1REGISTER NAMES.2.2REGISTER OUTPUTS2.3USING REGISTER OUTPUTS2.3USING REGISTER SETINGS: NOPPERTIES2.4CONFIGURING REGISTER PROPERTIES2.5REGISTER SETTINGS: INPUT TAB2.5REGISTER SETTINGS: NOPERTIES TAB2.5REGISTER SETTINGS: NOPLET2.7INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA2.7INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA2.9INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT2.10INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT2.10INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT2.10INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT2.11ALIAS ESTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB2.11ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB2.11ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB2.14ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB2.14ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB2.14ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB2.14ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB2.14ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB2.15ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB2.14ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB2.14ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB </td <td></td> <td></td>		
GENERAL TAB1.18BROWSE INTERFACE TAB1.19HELP MENU1.19CHAPTER 2 - CONFIGURING THE ADDRESS SPACE2.1OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION2.1FOLDERS2.1CREATING NEW FOLDERS2.1REGISTERS2.2REGISTER NAMES2.2REGISTER NAMES2.3USING REGISTERS2.3REGISTER NUTYS2.3REGISTER NUTYS2.3REGISTER NUTYS2.3REGISTER RUNNING INSTANCES2.4CONFIGURING REGISTER PROPERTIES2.5REGISTER SETTINGS: INPUT TAB2.6NPUT TAB: OPC POINT2.7INPUT TAB: REGISTER2.7INPUT TAB: REGISTER2.7INPUT TAB: REGISTER2.7INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA2.9INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT2.10INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT2.11ALIAS ESTTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB2.11ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB2.12CONFIGURING ALIAS PROPERTIES TAB2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB2.14ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB2.14ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB2.14ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB2.15ALIAS SETTING		
BROWSE INTERFACE TAB 119 HELP MENU 119 CHAPTER 2 - CONFIGURING THE ADDRESS SPACE 21 OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION 21 FOLDERS 21 CREATING NEW FOLDERS 21 REGISTERS 22 REGISTER NAMES 22 REGISTER OUTPUTS 23 USING REGISTERS 23 USING REGISTERS 24 CONFIGURING RUNNING INSTANCES 23 USING REGISTERS 24 CONFIGURING REGISTERS 24 CONFIGURING REGISTERS 24 CONFIGURING REGISTER PROPERTIES 25 REGISTER SETTINGS: INPUT TAB 26 INPUT TAB: OPC POINT 27 INPUT TAB: OPC POINT 27 INPUT TAB: OPC POINT 27 INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA 29 INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT 210 REGISTER SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB 211 <td></td> <td></td>		
HELP MENU 119 CHAPTER 2 - CONFIGURING THE ADDRESS SPACE 21 OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION 21 FOLDERS 21 CREATING NEW FOLDERS 21 REGISTERS 22 REGISTER NAMES 22 REGISTER OUTPUTS 23 USING REGISTERS 23 REGISTER NUMPUTS 23 USING REGISTERS 24 CONFIGURING REGISTERS 24 CONFIGURING REGISTERS 24 CONFIGURING REGISTER PROPERTIES 25 REGISTER SETTINGS: INPUT TAB. 26 INPUT TAB: OPC POINT 27 INPUT TAB: OPC POINT 27 INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA 26 INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA 28 INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA 29 INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA 210 INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA 210 INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA 210 INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT 210 INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT 210 INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT 210 REGISTER SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TA		
CHAPTER 2 - CONFIGURING THE ADDRESS SPACE 21 OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION 21 FOLDERS 21 CREATING NEW FOLDERS 21 REGISTERS 22 REGISTER NAMES 22 REGISTER NAMES 22 REGISTER NAMES 23 USING REGISTERS 23 USING REGISTERNS 24 CREATING NEW REGISTERS 24 CREATING NEW REGISTERS 24 CONFIGURING REGISTER PROPERTIES 24 CONFIGURING REGISTER PROPERTIES TAB 25 REGISTER SETTINGS: INPUT TAB 26 INPUT TAB: OPC POINT 27 INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA 28 INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA 29 INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA 210 INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT 210 REGISTER SETTINGS: INPUT TAB </td <td></td> <td></td>		
OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION2.1FOLDERS2.1CREATING NEW FOLDERS2.1REGISTERS2.2REGISTER NAMES2.2REGISTER OUTPUTS2.3USING REGISTERS2.3USING REGISTERS2.4CONFIGURING REGISTERS2.4CONFIGURING REGISTER PROPERTIES2.5REGISTER SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB2.6INPUT TAB: OPC POINT2.7INPUT TAB: OPC POINT2.7INPUT TAB: REGISTER2.8INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA2.8INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT2.10INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT2.11ALIAS SETTINGS: INPUT TAB2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: INPUT TAB2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: INPUT TAB2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: INPUT TAB2.15SWITCH ALIASES2.16SWITCH ALIASES2.16	het meno	
OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION2.1FOLDERS2.1CREATING NEW FOLDERS2.1REGISTERS2.2REGISTER NAMES2.2REGISTER OUTPUTS2.3USING REGISTERS2.3USING REGISTERS2.4CONFIGURING REGISTERS2.4CONFIGURING REGISTER PROPERTIES2.5REGISTER SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB2.6INPUT TAB: OPC POINT2.7INPUT TAB: OPC POINT2.7INPUT TAB: REGISTER2.8INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA2.8INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT2.10INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT2.11ALIAS SETTINGS: INPUT TAB2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: INPUT TAB2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: INPUT TAB2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: INPUT TAB2.15SWITCH ALIASES2.16SWITCH ALIASES2.16		
CREATING NEW FOLDERS.2.1REGISTERS.2.2REGISTER NAMES.2.2REGISTER OUTPUTS2.3USING REGISTERS.2.3USING REGISTERS.2.3REGISTERING RUNNING INSTANCES.2.4CONFIGURING REGISTER PROPERTIES2.4CONFIGURING REGISTER PROPERTIES TAB2.5REGISTER SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB2.5REGISTER SETTINGS: INPUT TAB.2.6INPUT TAB: OPC POINT2.7INPUT TAB: OPC POINT2.7INPUT TAB: REGISTER.2.8INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA2.9INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT.2.10INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT.2.10INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT.2.10INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT.2.10INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT.2.11ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB.2.11CONFIGURING ALIAS PROPERTIES2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: INPUT TAB.2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: INPUT TAB.2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: INPUT TAB.2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: INPUT TAB.2.14ALIAS SETTINGS: INPUT TAB.2.15SWITCH ALIASES.2.15SWITCH ALIASES.2.16	CHAPTER 2 - CONFIGURING THE ADDRESS SPACE	2.1
CREATING NEW FOLDERS.2.1REGISTERS.2.2REGISTER NAMES.2.2REGISTER OUTPUTS2.3USING REGISTERS.2.3USING REGISTERS.2.3REGISTERING RUNNING INSTANCES.2.4CONFIGURING REGISTER PROPERTIES2.4CONFIGURING REGISTER PROPERTIES TAB2.5REGISTER SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB2.5REGISTER SETTINGS: INPUT TAB.2.6INPUT TAB: OPC POINT2.7INPUT TAB: OPC POINT2.7INPUT TAB: REGISTER.2.8INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA2.9INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT.2.10INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT.2.10INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT.2.10INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT.2.10INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT.2.11ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB.2.11CONFIGURING ALIAS PROPERTIES2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: INPUT TAB.2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: INPUT TAB.2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: INPUT TAB.2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: INPUT TAB.2.14ALIAS SETTINGS: INPUT TAB.2.15SWITCH ALIASES.2.15SWITCH ALIASES.2.16		
REGISTERS2.2REGISTER NAMES.2.2REGISTER OUTPUTS2.3USING REGISTERS2.3REGISTERING RUNNING INSTANCES.2.4CONFIGURING REGISTER PROPERTIES2.4CONFIGURING REGISTER PROPERTIES2.5REGISTER SETTINGS: INPUT TAB.2.6INPUT TAB: OPC POINT2.7INPUT TAB: OPC POINT2.7INPUT TAB: REGISTER2.8INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA2.8INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA2.10INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT2.10REGISTER SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB2.11ALIAS SETTINGS: PROPERTIES2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: INPUT TAB2.14ALIAS SETTINGS: INPUT TAB2.14ALIAS SETTINGS: PROPERTIES2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: PROPERTIES2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: PROPERTIES2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: PROPERTIES2.14ALIAS SETTINGS: PROPERTIES2.15SWITCH ALIASES2.15SWITCH ALIASES2.16SWITCH ALIASES2.16	OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION	2.1
REGISTER OUTPUTS2.3USING REGISTERS2.3REGISTERING RUNNING INSTANCES2.4CREATING NEW REGISTERS2.4CONFIGURING REGISTER PROPERTIES2.5REGISTER SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB2.5REGISTER SETTINGS: INPUT TAB.2.6INPUT TAB: OPC POINT2.7INPUT TAB: REGISTER2.8INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA2.8INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT2.10INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT2.10INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT2.11ALIAS SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: INPUT TAB2.14ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: INPUT TAB2.14ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: INPUT TAB2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: INPUT TAB2.14ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: INPUT TAB2.15SWITCH ALIASES2.16	OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION FOLDERS	2.1 2.1
USING REGISTERS.2.3REGISTERING RUNNING INSTANCES.2.4CREATING NEW REGISTERS2.4CONFIGURING REGISTER PROPERTIES2.5REGISTER SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB2.5REGISTER SETTINGS: INPUT TAB2.6INPUT TAB: OPC POINT2.7INPUT TAB: REGISTER2.8INPUT TAB: RONE2.8INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA2.9INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT2.10INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT2.10INPUT TAB: CONDITION INPUTS2.11ALIAS ESTTINGS: PROPERTIES2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB2.14ALIAS SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB2.15SWITCH ALIASES2.15SWITCH ALIASES2.16	OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION FOLDERS CREATING NEW FOLDERS	2.1 2.1 2.1
REGISTERING RUNNING INSTANCES2.4CREATING NEW REGISTERS2.4CONFIGURING REGISTER PROPERTIES2.5REGISTER SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB2.6INPUT TAB: OPC POINT2.6INPUT TAB: REGISTER2.7INPUT TAB: REGISTER2.7INPUT TAB: NONE2.8INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA2.9INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT2.10INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT2.10INPUT TAB: CONDITION NPUTS2.11ALIAS SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB2.14ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB2.14ALIAS SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB2.15SWITCH ALIASES2.16SWITCH ALIASES2.16	OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION FOLDERS CREATING NEW FOLDERS REGISTERS	2.1 2.1 2.1 2.2
CREATING NEW REGISTERS2.4CONFIGURING REGISTER PROPERTIES2.5REGISTER SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB2.5REGISTER SETTINGS: INPUT TAB2.6INPUT TAB: OPC POINT2.7INPUT TAB: REGISTER2.7INPUT TAB: NONE2.8INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA2.9INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA2.10INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT2.10INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT2.11ALIASES2.12CONFIGURING ALIAS PROPERTIES2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB2.14SUPUT TAB2.15SWITCH ALIASES2.16	OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION FOLDERS CREATING NEW FOLDERS REGISTERS REGISTER NAMES	2.1 2.1 2.1 2.2 2.2
CONFIGURING REGISTER PROPERTIES2.5REGISTER SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB2.5REGISTER SETTINGS: INPUT TAB2.6INPUT TAB: OPC POINT2.7INPUT TAB: REGISTER2.7INPUT TAB: NONE2.7INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA2.8INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA2.9INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT2.10INPUT TAB: CONDITION NEUTS2.10REGISTER SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB2.11ALIAS ES2.12CONFIGURING ALIAS PROPERTIES2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: INPUT TAB2.14ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB2.15ALIAS SETTINGS: BROWSE INTERFACE TAB2.15SWITCH ALIASES2.16	OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION FOLDERS CREATING NEW FOLDERS REGISTERS REGISTER NAMES REGISTER OUTPUTS	2.1 2.1 2.1 2.2 2.2 2.3 2.3
REGISTER SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB2.5REGISTER SETTINGS: INPUT TAB.2.6INPUT TAB: OPC POINT2.7INPUT TAB: REGISTER2.7INPUT TAB: NONE2.8INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA2.9INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT2.10INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT2.10REGISTER SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB2.11ALIAS SETTINGS INPUT TAB2.12CONFIGURING ALIAS PROPERTIES2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: INPUT TAB2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: ROOPERTIES TAB2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: INPUT TAB2.14ALIAS SETTINGS: BROWSE INTERFACE TAB2.15SWITCH ALIASES2.16	OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION FOLDERS CREATING NEW FOLDERS REGISTERS REGISTER NAMES REGISTER OUTPUTS USING REGISTERS REGISTERING RUNNING INSTANCES	2.1 2.1 2.1 2.2 2.2 2.3 2.3 2.4
REGISTER SETTINGS: INPUT TAB.2.6INPUT TAB: OPC POINT2.7INPUT TAB: REGISTER.2.7INPUT TAB: NONE.2.8INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA2.9INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT2.10INPUT TAB: CONDITION INPUTS2.10REGISTER SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB.2.11ALIAS ES2.12CONFIGURING ALIAS PROPERTIES2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: INPUT TAB.2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB.2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: ROPERTIES TAB.2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB.2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: BROPERTIES TAB.2.14ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB.2.15SWITCH ALIASES.2.15	OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION FOLDERS CREATING NEW FOLDERS REGISTERS REGISTER NAMES REGISTER OUTPUTS USING REGISTERS REGISTERING RUNNING INSTANCES CREATING NEW REGISTERS	2.1 2.1 2.1 2.2 2.2 2.3 2.3 2.4 2.4
INPUT TAB: OPC POINT2.7INPUT TAB: REGISTER2.7INPUT TAB: NONE2.8INPUT TAB: EXPRESSION2.8INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA2.9INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT2.10INPUT TAB: CONDITION INPUTS2.10REGISTER SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB2.11CREATING NEW ALIASES2.12CONFIGURING ALIAS PROPERTIES2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: INPUT TAB2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB2.14ALIAS SETTINGS: INPUT TAB2.15SWITCH ALIASES2.15	OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION FOLDERS CREATING NEW FOLDERS REGISTERS REGISTER NAMES REGISTER OUTPUTS USING REGISTERS REGISTERING RUNNING INSTANCES CREATING NEW REGISTERS CONFIGURING REGISTER PROPERTIES	2.1 2.1 2.2 2.2 2.2 2.3 2.3 2.4 2.4 2.4 2.5
INPUT TAB: REGISTER.2.7INPUT TAB: NONE.2.8INPUT TAB: EXPRESSION.2.8INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA2.9INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT.2.10INPUT TAB: CONDITION INPUTS.2.10REGISTER SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB.2.11ALIASES.2.12CONFIGURING ALIAS PROPERTIES2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: INPUT TAB.2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: INPUT TAB.2.14ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB.2.15ALIAS SETTINGS: BROWSE INTERFACE TAB.2.15SWITCH ALIASES.2.16	OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION FOLDERS CREATING NEW FOLDERS REGISTERS REGISTER NAMES REGISTER OUTPUTS USING REGISTERS REGISTERING RUNNING INSTANCES. CREATING NEW REGISTERS. CONFIGURING REGISTER PROPERTIES REGISTER SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB.	2.1 2.1 2.2 2.2 2.3 2.3 2.3 2.4 2.4 2.5 2.5
INPUT TAB: NONE2.8INPUT TAB: EXPRESSION2.8INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA2.9INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT2.10INPUT TAB: CONDITION INPUTS2.10REGISTER SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB2.11ALIASES2.12CONFIGURING ALIAS PROPERTIES2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: NPUT TAB2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: INPUT TAB2.14ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB2.15ALIAS SETTINGS: NPUT TAB2.15SWITCH ALIASES2.15	OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION FOLDERS CREATING NEW FOLDERS REGISTERS REGISTER NAMES REGISTER OUTPUTS USING REGISTERS REGISTERING RUNNING INSTANCES. CREATING NEW REGISTERS CONFIGURING REGISTER PROPERTIES REGISTER SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB REGISTER SETTINGS: INPUT TAB	2.1 2.1 2.2 2.2 2.3 2.3 2.3 2.4 2.4 2.5 2.5 2.6
INPUT TAB: EXPRESSION.2.8INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA.2.9INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT.2.10INPUT TAB: CONDITION INPUTS.2.10REGISTER SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB.2.11ALIASES.2.11CREATING NEW ALIASES.2.12CONFIGURING ALIAS PROPERTIES2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB.2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: INPUT TAB.2.14ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB.2.15ALIAS SETTINGS: BROWSE INTERFACE TAB.2.15SWITCH ALIASES.2.16	OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION FOLDERS. CREATING NEW FOLDERS. REGISTERS REGISTER NAMES. REGISTER OUTPUTS USING REGISTERS. REGISTERING RUNNING INSTANCES. CREATING NEW REGISTERS. CONFIGURING REGISTER PROPERTIES REGISTER SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB REGISTER SETTINGS: INPUT TAB. INPUT TAB: OPC POINT.	2.1 2.1 2.2 2.2 2.3 2.3 2.3 2.4 2.4 2.5 2.5 2.6 2.7
INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA2.9INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT2.10INPUT TAB: CONDITION INPUTS2.10REGISTER SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB2.11ALIASES2.11CREATING NEW ALIASES2.12CONFIGURING ALIAS PROPERTIES2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: INPUT TAB2.14ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB2.15ALIAS SETTINGS: BROWSE INTERFACE TAB2.15SWITCH ALIASES2.16	OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION FOLDERS. CREATING NEW FOLDERS. REGISTERS REGISTER NAMES. REGISTER OUTPUTS USING REGISTERS REGISTERING RUNNING INSTANCES. CREATING NEW REGISTERS. CONFIGURING REGISTER PROPERTIES REGISTER SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB REGISTER SETTINGS: INPUT TAB. INPUT TAB: OPC POINT. INPUT TAB: REGISTER	2.1 2.1 2.2 2.2 2.3 2.3 2.3 2.4 2.4 2.5 2.5 2.6 2.7 2.7
INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT.2.10INPUT TAB: CONDITION INPUTS.2.10REGISTER SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB.2.11ALIASES.2.11CREATING NEW ALIASES.2.12CONFIGURING ALIAS PROPERTIES2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB.2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: INPUT TAB.2.14ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB.2.15ALIAS SETTINGS: BROWSE INTERFACE TAB.2.15SWITCH ALIASES2.16	OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION FOLDERS CREATING NEW FOLDERS. REGISTERS REGISTER NAMES REGISTER OUTPUTS USING REGISTERS. REGISTERING RUNNING INSTANCES CREATING NEW REGISTERS CONFIGURING REGISTER PROPERTIES REGISTER SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB REGISTER SETTINGS: INPUT TAB. INPUT TAB: OPC POINT INPUT TAB: NONE	2.1 2.1 2.2 2.2 2.3 2.3 2.3 2.4 2.5 2.5 2.6 2.7 2.7 2.8
INPUT TAB: CONDITION INPUTS.2.10REGISTER SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB.2.11ALIASES.2.11CREATING NEW ALIASES.2.12CONFIGURING ALIAS PROPERTIES2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB.2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: INPUT TAB.2.14ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB.2.15ALIAS SETTINGS: BROWSE INTERFACE TAB.2.15SWITCH ALIASES2.16	OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION FOLDERS CREATING NEW FOLDERS REGISTERS REGISTERS REGISTER NAMES. REGISTER OUTPUTS USING REGISTERS REGISTERING RUNNING INSTANCES CREATING NEW REGISTERS. CONFIGURING REGISTER PROPERTIES REGISTER SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB REGISTER SETTINGS: INPUT TAB. INPUT TAB: OPC POINT INPUT TAB: OPC POINT INPUT TAB: REGISTER INPUT TAB: REGISTER	2.1 2.1 2.2 2.2 2.3 2.3 2.3 2.4 2.5 2.5 2.6 2.7 2.7 2.8 2.8
REGISTER SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB.2.11ALIASES.2.11CREATING NEW ALIASES.2.12CONFIGURING ALIAS PROPERTIES2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB.2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: INPUT TAB.2.14ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB.2.15ALIAS SETTINGS: BROWSE INTERFACE TAB.2.15SWITCH ALIASES2.16	OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION FOLDERS. CREATING NEW FOLDERS. REGISTERS REGISTER NAMES. REGISTER OUTPUTS USING REGISTERS. REGISTERING RUNNING INSTANCES. CREATING NEW REGISTERS CONFIGURING REGISTER PROPERTIES REGISTER SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB REGISTER SETTINGS: INPUT TAB. INPUT TAB: OPC POINT. INPUT TAB: REGISTER INPUT TAB: REGISTER INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA.	2.1 2.1 2.2 2.2 2.3 2.3 2.3 2.4 2.5 2.5 2.6 2.7 2.7 2.8 2.8 2.8 2.9
ALIASES2.11CREATING NEW ALIASES2.12CONFIGURING ALIAS PROPERTIES2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: INPUT TAB2.14ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB2.15ALIAS SETTINGS: BROWSE INTERFACE TAB2.15SWITCH ALIASES2.16	OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION FOLDERS. CREATING NEW FOLDERS REGISTERS REGISTER NAMES. REGISTER OUTPUTS USING REGISTERS REGISTERING RUNNING INSTANCES CREATING NEW REGISTERS. CONFIGURING REGISTER PROPERTIES REGISTER SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB REGISTER SETTINGS: INPUT TAB. INPUT TAB: OPC POINT INPUT TAB: OPC POINT INPUT TAB: RONE. INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA. INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA.	2.1 2.1 2.2 2.2 2.3 2.3 2.3 2.4 2.5 2.5 2.6 2.7 2.7 2.8 2.8 2.8 2.9 2.10
CREATING NEW ALIASES.2.12CONFIGURING ALIAS PROPERTIES2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB.2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: INPUT TAB.2.14ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB.2.15ALIAS SETTINGS: BROWSE INTERFACE TAB.2.15SWITCH ALIASES2.16	OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION FOLDERS CREATING NEW FOLDERS REGISTERS REGISTERS REGISTER NAMES REGISTER OUTPUTS USING REGISTERS REGISTER GRUNNING INSTANCES CREATING NEW REGISTERS CONFIGURING REGISTER PROPERTIES REGISTER SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB REGISTER SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB REGISTER SETTINGS: INPUT TAB. INPUT TAB: OPC POINT INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT	2.1 2.1 2.2 2.2 2.3 2.3 2.3 2.4 2.5 2.5 2.6 2.7 2.7 2.8 2.8 2.8 2.9 2.10 2.10 2.10
CONFIGURING ALIAS PROPERTIES2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB2.13ALIAS SETTINGS: INPUT TAB2.14ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB2.15ALIAS SETTINGS: BROWSE INTERFACE TAB2.15SWITCH ALIASES2.16	OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION FOLDERS CREATING NEW FOLDERS REGISTERS REGISTER NAMES. REGISTER OUTPUTS USING REGISTERS REGISTER OUTPUTS USING REGISTERS REGISTERING RUNNING INSTANCES CREATING NEW REGISTERS CONFIGURING REGISTER PROPERTIES REGISTER SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB REGISTER SETTINGS: INPUT TAB. INPUT TAB: OPC POINT INPUT TAB: OPC POINT INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT INPUT TAB: CONDITION INPUTS REGISTER SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB.	2.1 2.1 2.2 2.2 2.3 2.3 2.3 2.4 2.5 2.5 2.6 2.7 2.8 2.8 2.8 2.8 2.8 2.9 2.10 2.10 2.11
ALIAS SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB	OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION FOLDERS CREATING NEW FOLDERS REGISTERS	2.1 2.1 2.2 2.2 2.3 2.3 2.4 2.4 2.5 2.5 2.6 2.7 2.8 2.8 2.8 2.8 2.9 2.10 2.11 2.11
ALIAS SETTINGS: INPUT TAB	OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION FOLDERS CREATING NEW FOLDERS REGISTERS REGISTERS NAMES REGISTER NAMES REGISTER OUTPUTS USING REGISTERS REGISTERING RUNNING INSTANCES. CREATING NEW REGISTERS CONFIGURING REGISTER PROPERTIES REGISTER SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB REGISTER SETTINGS: INPUT TAB INPUT TAB: OPC POINT INPUT TAB: OPC POINT INPUT TAB: REGISTER INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT INPUT T	2.1 2.1 2.2 2.2 2.3 2.3 2.3 2.4 2.4 2.5 2.5 2.6 2.7 2.8 2.8 2.8 2.9 2.10 2.11 2.11 2.12
ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB	OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION	2.1 2.1 2.2 2.2 2.3 2.3 2.4 2.4 2.4 2.5 2.6 2.7 2.6 2.7 2.8 2.8 2.9 2.10 2.10 2.11 2.11 2.12 2.13
ALIAS SETTINGS: BROWSE INTERFACE TAB	OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION FOLDERS	2.1 2.1 2.2 2.2 2.3 2.3 2.4 2.4 2.4 2.5 2.6 2.7 2.6 2.7 2.8 2.8 2.9 2.10 2.11 2.11 2.12 2.13 2.13
SWITCH ALIASES	OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION	2.1 2.1 2.2 2.2 2.3 2.3 2.4 2.4 2.4 2.5 2.6 2.7 2.7 2.8 2.8 2.9 2.10 2.10 2.11 2.11 2.12 2.13 2.13 2.14
	OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION FOLDERS	2.1 2.1 2.2 2.2 2.3 2.3 2.4 2.4 2.4 2.5 2.6 2.7 2.6 2.7 2.8 2.8 2.9 2.10 2.11 2.11 2.12 2.13 2.14 2.13 2.14 2.15
UNEATING INEVV 3001100 ALIAJES	OVERVIEW OF ADDRESS SPACE CONFIGURATION FOLDERS. CREATING NEW FOLDERS. REGISTERS REGISTER NAMES. REGISTER OUTPUTS USING REGISTERS. CREATING RUNNING INSTANCES CREATING NEW REGISTER PROPERTIES REGISTER SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB. REGISTER SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB. REGISTER SETTINGS: INPUT TAB. INPUT TAB: OPC POINT. INPUT TAB: OPC POINT. INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA INPUT TAB: CONDITION CRITERIA INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT. INPUT TAB: CONDITION RESULT. INPUT TAB: CONDITION INPUTS. REGISTER SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB. ALIAS SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB. ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB.	2.1 2.1 2.2 2.2 2.3 2.3 2.4 2.4 2.4 2.5 2.6 2.7 2.6 2.7 2.8 2.8 2.9 2.10 2.10 2.11 2.11 2.12 2.13 2.13 2.15 2.15

CONFIGURING SWITCH ALIAS PROPERTIES	2 17
SWITCH ALIAS SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB	
SWITCH ALIAS SETTINGS: INPUT TAB	
SWITCH ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB	
SWITCH ALIAS SETTINGS: BROWSE INTERFACE TAB	
SWITCH ALIAS SETTINGS: VALUES TAB	
SWITCH ALIAS SETTINGS: INPUT LIMITS TAB	
EXAMPLE OF USING A SWITCH ALIAS	
REDUNDANCY ALIASES	
CREATING NEW REDUNDANCY ALIASES	2.22
CONFIGURING REDUNDANCY ALIAS PROPERTIES	
REDUNDANCY ALIAS SETTINGS: PROPERTIES TAB	
REDUNDANCY ALIAS SETTINGS: OPC OUTPUTS TAB	
REDUNDANCY ALIAS SETTINGS: REDUNDANCY TAB	
CHAPTER 3 - RUNTIME OPERATIONS	
DATAWORX RUNTIME ENVIRONMENT	
DATAWORX RUNTIME ENVIRONMENT STARTING AND STOPPING RUNTIME MODE	3.1 3.1
DATAWORX RUNTIME ENVIRONMENT STARTING AND STOPPING RUNTIME MODE MONITOR VIEW	3.1 3.1 3.1
DATAWORX RUNTIME ENVIRONMENT STARTING AND STOPPING RUNTIME MODE MONITOR VIEW MONITOR VIEW REFRESH RATE	
DATAWORX RUNTIME ENVIRONMENT STARTING AND STOPPING RUNTIME MODE MONITOR VIEW MONITOR VIEW REFRESH RATE ENABLE MONITORING	
DATAWORX RUNTIME ENVIRONMENT STARTING AND STOPPING RUNTIME MODE MONITOR VIEW MONITOR VIEW REFRESH RATE ENABLE MONITORING DISABLE MONITORING	
DATAWORX RUNTIME ENVIRONMENT STARTING AND STOPPING RUNTIME MODE MONITOR VIEW MONITOR VIEW REFRESH RATE ENABLE MONITORING DISABLE MONITORING RUNNING DATAWORX AS A SERVICE	
DATAWORX RUNTIME ENVIRONMENT STARTING AND STOPPING RUNTIME MODE MONITOR VIEW MONITOR VIEW REFRESH RATE ENABLE MONITORING DISABLE MONITORING RUNNING DATAWORX AS A SERVICE OLE AUTOMATION IN DATAWORX	
DATAWORX RUNTIME ENVIRONMENT STARTING AND STOPPING RUNTIME MODE MONITOR VIEW MONITOR VIEW REFRESH RATE ENABLE MONITORING DISABLE MONITORING RUNNING DATAWORX AS A SERVICE OLE AUTOMATION IN DATAWORX DWXRUNTIME OBJECT	
DATAWORX RUNTIME ENVIRONMENT STARTING AND STOPPING RUNTIME MODE MONITOR VIEW MONITOR VIEW REFRESH RATE ENABLE MONITORING DISABLE MONITORING RUNNING DATAWORX AS A SERVICE OLE AUTOMATION IN DATAWORX DWXRUNTIME OBJECT IPOINT INTERFACE	
DATAWORX RUNTIME ENVIRONMENT STARTING AND STOPPING RUNTIME MODE MONITOR VIEW MONITOR VIEW REFRESH RATE ENABLE MONITORING DISABLE MONITORING RUNNING DATAWORX AS A SERVICE OLE AUTOMATION IN DATAWORX DWXRUNTIME OBJECT	

STARTING THE DATAWORX CONFIGURATION

Introduction to DataWorX

DataWorX is a 32-bit, multithreaded, OPC-compliant client and server application providing multiple functionality. DataWorX is a component of the ProcessView product family, and it serves as a project-level data system for ProcessView applications. Acting as a bridge between various OPC servers, DataWorX provides different OPC data channels. Once multiple I/O channels are established between PCs, DataWorX will switch between a primary PC (node) and a backup PC on the network. Should the primary PC be disabled, DataWorX will automatically (should the options be specified) default to the backup PC and vice versa. Another feature of DataWorX is the use of global variables that are accessible from multiple clients.

Software Licensing Protection Necessary for Runtime Mode

DataWorX is installable as a stand-alone COM component. It registers itself with the ProcessView license protection mechanisms. DataWorX permits unlimited configuration capabilities with or without the software license protection present. It requires software license protection to work in runtime mode. If such licensing is not present, DataWorX runs for two hours in runtime mode before timing out.

DataWorX Interface With the ProcessView Security Application

From within the security configuration application, you can restrict access to the various features and/or data available via DataWorX.

DataWorX supports multiple languages. That is, menu items, forms and various other text items are available for translation into other international languages through the ProcessView Language Configurator.

Key DataWorX Capabilities

DataWorX is an OPC-compliant server and client that conforms to Microsoft COM/DCOM program practice. The main features of DataWorX include:

- OPC data-bridging and sharing between OPC servers.
- OPC server redundancy with auto switchover.
- OPC data aggregation for better performance and more efficient data management.
- Global variables for OPC aliasing and expressions.



Bridging: OPC Server to OPC Server Bridge

Permits OPC Servers of differing protocols to share data



Redundancy: OPC Servers with Auto Switch Over

When one OPC Server goes down, a hot standby is ready to take over



Aggregation: OPC Data Request Optimizing

Merges and manages OPC data requests for better performance



DataWorX Features

Features of DataWorX

The main features of DataWorX include the following:

- Serves as an OPC data bridge between OPC servers.
- OPC server redundancy with auto-switchover performance.
- OPC client request aggregation.
- Global variables.
- Register grouping and organization.
- Can be run as a service.
- OPC interface on both the client side and server side.
- Switch alias functionality.
- OLE automation interface.
- Conditions that can be used as register inputs.
- Time stamp and quality to points accessed via automation.
- Output to NT Event Logger.
- Support for GenBroker OPC over TCP/IP and SOAP/XML communications.
- Filter support.
- Statistics and performance analyzer.
- Startup with a specified file.
- Primary node status register.
- CSV file import and export.
- XML file import and export.

- Runtime command line option.
- Global aliasing support for OPC inputs and outputs.
- Changes made to DataWorX registers that are made together (in a single call to the OPC interface) are also made together. OPC clients connected to DataWorX are notified about all the changes in a single update.
- NATIVE register type for array support.
- Optional refresh mechanisms.
- Integrated Expression Editor.
- Disable OPC propagation support.
- New way of registering running instances.

DataWorX As an "OPC Bridge"

Customers sometimes need to pass information from one device on to another. For example, data from one brand of PLC need to be shared with another I/O device. In the past, users had to write their own programs to translate and move data from one server to another. DataWorX provides this server-to-server data exchange, serving as an "OPC bridge" between two or more servers.

OPC bridging is a unique and powerful feature of DataWorX. As its name suggests, its purpose is to provide "bridging" between OPC servers of various types.

Should you be required to scan input from one OPC server and supply it to another OPC server, you may "perform" expressions before sending the output to the other server via DataWorX. OPC bridging in DataWorX involves the following:

- A register is defined in the DataWorX Configurator.
- The input and output for the register are defined in the register settings.
- This register is also available to other clients while, depending on the options specified for the register input, DataWorX continues to write values to output tags.
- There can be more than one output tag. This way DataWorX performs "bridging" between OPC servers by simultaneously reading values from one or more OPC servers and writing to one or more OPC servers.
- No scripting or programming is required for bridging.

The figure below illustrates the functionality of DataWorX as an OPC bridge between clients and servers. For another example of bridging, open the **DataWorX_Bridging.gdf** display in the "Smar\ProcessView \Examples\GenDemo" directory.



OPC Server Bridging

DataWorX OPC Server Redundancy

DataWorX provides 100 percent OPC server redundancy using OPC servers to any OPC client through the network. This means that users can designate alternative machines as backup servers should a designated Primary server go offline. DataWorX scans the OPC server status and switches to the Backup node in case of Primary node failure. This means that, once a Primary server does go offline, DataWorX will default to the Backup server or servers in the order in which the backup servers were designated. A special digital tag is provided to start events in case of a switchover from the Backup to the Primary server. If the Automatic Switch Back to Primary Server option is selected in the Redundant Server Configuration dialog box, DataWorX will default to the Primary server once it returns online.

Figure A and Figure B shown below illustrate DataWorX OPC Server Redundancy. For another example of redundancy, open the **DataWorX_Redundancy.gdf** display in the "Smar/ ProcessView /Examples" directory.



Redundancy When the Primary OPC Server Is Online



Redundancy When the Primary OPC Server Is Offline

- 1. You must designate one OPC server as the "Primary" server in each set.
- 2. You may designate one or more OPC servers as the "Backup" servers in each set. (This number of servers is not restricted by DataWorX itself; rather it is limited only by system resources). If more than one backup server is specified, they should be ordered (2nd, 3rd, 4th, etc.) You will see a message outlining the details of the discrepancies, and will be allowed to either accept it as is or permit reconfiguration.
- **3.** The various OPC client applications request data from DataWorX, rather than from the OPC server directly. This way if a Primary OPC server failure occurs (due to any number of conditions), an automatic switchover to the Backup OPC server occurs.

DataWorX OPC Aggregation

Often in very large projects, several OPC client applications request the same points from an OPC server. For example, GraphWorX may need to display a tank level value, and AlarmWorX may need to monitor and alarm that same value. This may increase the load of the OPC server, as it now has to provide the same data more than once. Thus, when multiple clients request data from an OPC server, DataWorX monitors the OPC server and aggregates the data to the requesting clients.

Often it is desirable to optimize the work performed by the lower-level I/O servers (for example, greater throughput can be achieved). DataWorX can serve as a "middle-man" between clients and servers and assist in this optimization process. This is beneficial especially with remote servers over the network. The figure below illustrates the DataWorX OPC client request aggregation. For another example of aggregation, open the **DataWorX_Aggregation.gdf** display in the "Smar/ ProcessView /Examples" directory.



DataWorX : OPC Server Aggregation

OPC Server Aggregation

DataWorX Global Variables

Many clients require a common variable to share values. DataWorX makes it possible to define many variables that are accessible to many clients simultaneously. The DataWorX registers can be used as global variables. These variables can also act as aliases for clients. You can create holding registers, data filters, global registers, and switches for your entire project, as well as define data types, ranges, read/write status, and more.

Starting the DataWorX Configurator

To start the DataWorX Configurator:

- 1. From the Windows Start menu, select Programs > Smar ProcessView > ProjectWorX > DataWorX.
- 2. This opens the DataWorX Configurator, as shown in the figure below. The screen consists of a split window with a tree control view in the left-hand pane and a configuration view in the right-hand pane. The Configurator provides a standard format for the configuration database, as well as a sample (default) DataWorX configuration project. The Configurator also includes a toolbar and menus with many command functions.



DataWorX Configurator Screen

Creating a New Configuration

To create a new configuration database in the Configurator:

1. Select New from the File menu, as shown in the figure below.



Creating a Configuration Database

2. In the Save New Database dialog box, select the database type from the Save As Type drop-down list, as shown in the figure below. Browse for the target directory, give the file a name, and then click the Save button.

Save New MS #	Access Database	<u>?×</u>
Save in: 🔁 B	Bin	- 🗧 🖆 🎟-
📄 Default MDB	3s 🧰 Images	🦲 Topaz
📄 Dialog	🧰 MMXSounds	🚞 VBA
EAX 🔁	🧰 Pager	🚞 VCRSkins
📄 FontInstall	🧰 Script	🕗 Awx32Logger ti
📄 Fonts	🧰 ScriptWizard	AWX32Svr.mdb
📄 GenBroker	🧰 SnapShots	AWXLog32.mdE
•		Þ
File name:	DwxConfigurator test.mdb	Save
Save as type:	Microsoft Access Databases (*.mdb) Cancel

Saving the New Configuration Database

Toolbar

The Configurator toolbar, shown below, contains the following command buttons. To show or hide the Standard toolbar, select Toolbars > Standard Buttons from the View menu. The Standard toolbar, shown below, contains the following command buttons.

- **New:** Creates a new configuration database. ſ٦
 - **Open:** Opens an existing configuration database.
- Up One Level: Moves up one level in the tree control. Æ
 - **Cut:** Deletes current selection, sending it to the clipboard.
- Ж **Copy:** Copies the current selection to the clipboard.
- **Paste:** Pastes the current contents of the clipboard. a

New Register: Creates a new register under the Address Space tree control.

- New Alias: Creates a new alias under the Address Space tree control.
- **New Switch:** Creates a new switch under the **Address Space** tree control.
- <u>ם</u> Large lcons: Displays items as large icons.
- ----Small Icons: Displays items as small icons.
- 0-0-0-0-0-0-List: Displays items as a list.

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- Details: Displays items as a list with details.
 - **Dialog View:** Displays additional configuration options.
- 1 Runtime: Starts/stops the DataWorX server.
- 60 **Monitor View:** Displays OPC data in a separate pane.
 - **Update Runtime:** Refreshes the DataWorX configuration during runtime.
 - About: Displays information about the application.

Menus

The menu bar of the Configurator contains the following menus:

- File
- Edit
- View
- Go
- Action
- Tools
- Help

NOTE

You can also access many of the menu commands by right-clicking items in the tree control of the Configurator and selecting command functions from the pop-up menus.

File Menu

The File menu commands are listed in the table below.

File Menu Commands

COMMAND	SHORTCUT KEYS	FUNCTION
New	CTRL+N	Creates a new configuration database.
Open	CTRL+O	Opens an existing configuration database.
Save As		Saves the current database under a different name as a
		Microsoft Access (.mdb) file.
Connection		Displays the current database connection properties.
Properties		
Export CSV		Exports configuration data from your database to a text
		file (.txt) or a Microsoft Excel file (.csv). You can specify the delimiters and what to export.
Import CSV		Imports data into your configuration database from a text
		file (.txt) or a Microsoft Excel file (.csv). You can then
		specify the delimiters and choose from the import
		settings.
XML Export		Exports configuration data to an XML file.
XML Export		Exports configuration data to an XML Schema file.
Schema		
XML Import		Imports configuration data from an XML file.
XML Validate		This feature does not import an XML data file, but it will
		try to validate its structure using stored XML schema.
		Once it passes this validation, the XML file is acceptable
		for import by the Configurator.
DataWorX		Exports configuration data to an older version of
Binary Export		DataWorX (.dwx files).
DataWorX		Imports configuration data from an older version of
Binary Import		DataWorX (.dwx files).
Make Active		Activates the current database. If this command is not
		available, then the current database is already the active
		database.
Update Runtime		Refreshes the DataWorX configuration during runtime.
Configuration		
Exit		Closes the application.

Database Connection Properties

Selecting **Connection Properties** from the **File** menu opens the **Database Connection Properties** dialog box, shown below, which lists the initialization properties for the current database connection.

Name	Value 4
Data Source	C:\Program File
Extended Properties	c. v rogram i lic
Jet OLEDB:Compact Without Replica Repair	False
Jet OLEDB:Create System Database	False
Jet OLEDB:Database Locking Mode	1
Jet OLEDB:Database Password	
Jet OLEDB:Don't Copy Locale on Compact	False
Jet OLEDB:Encrypt Database	False
Jet OLEDB:Engine Type	5
Jet OLEDB:Global Bulk Transactions	1
Jet OLEDB:Global Partial Bulk Ops	2
Jet OLEDB:New Database Password	
Jet OLEDB:Registry Path	
Jet OLEDB:SFP	False
Jet OLEDB:System database	- 2010 - 2010 - 2010 - 2010 - 2010 - 2010 - 2010 - 2010 - 2010 - 2010 - 2010 - 2010 - 2010 - 2010 - 2010 - 2010
Locale Identifier	1029

Database Connection Properties Dialog Box

Exporting Configuration Data

Exporting Data to a Text or CSV File

The Configurator offers the flexibility of exporting data from your configuration database to a text (.txt) file or a Microsoft Excel (.csv) file. To export data, select Export CSV from the File menu. This opens the Export Configuration Data to File dialog box, as shown in the figure below. You can then specify the delimiters for exporting the data. Unless you specify delimiters in the Export Configuration Data to File dialog box, the file uses Commas as delimiters by default. Each group contains headings and columns that provide information about each item, such as descriptions and associated translations and expressions. It also provides the "tree" pathway for each item. Choose the directory to which you want to export the data from your database. In the Save As Type field, choose the file type (.txt or .csv) that you would like to save.

Save As			? ×
Save in: 🔁 Bin		- + 1	💣 🎟 •
Default MDBs Dialog FAX FontInstall Fonts GenBroker	Images MMXSounds Pager Script Script ScriptWizard SnapShots	Topaz VBA VCRSkins	
File name: test			Save
Save as type: Text	files (*.csv)	•	Cancel
		0	elimiters Tab Comma Other:

Exporting Configuration Data

Exporting Data to an XML File

The Configurator also allows you to export data from your configuration database to an XML file. The XML export/import functionality was mainly developed for Windows platforms that do not support databases (e.g. Windows CE and Windows Embedded). XML has the following advantages over the CSV import/export function:

- XML has a standardized format, unlike the text/CSV format, which uses various delimiters (e.g. TAB instead of commas, strings could not accept all characters, etc.)
- XML is language-independent, whereas CSV converts date/time, floats, and currency fields according to local settings in Windows. For example, using CSV, you cannot export data on German Windows and import it on English Windows without making changes
- Windows has an installed automation object that has the capability to work with XML. Thus, programmers can create/modify their configurations outside the Configurator using Visual Basic, if desired.
- XML supports schemas. A schema is a special XML file that specifies the data structure of an XML data file.

To export data, select **XML Export** from the **File** menu. This opens the **Export XML File** dialog box, as shown in the figure below. Give the file a name, and then choose the directory to which you want to export the data from your database. Click **Save**.

NOTE

You can also export configuration data to an XML schema file by selecting **XML Export** from the **File** menu.

Export XML File		<u>? ×</u>
Save in: 🔁 Bin		- 🗧 🖆 🎫
📄 Default MDBs	🚞 Images	🚞 Topaz
🚞 Dialog	🚞 MMXSounds	🚞 VBA
EAX 🔁	🧰 Pager	🚞 VCRSkins
🚞 FontInstall	🧰 Script	🔮 UniversalBrowserG
E Fonts	🚞 ScriptWizard	
🚞 GenBroker	🚞 SnapShots	
		Þ
File name: DwxCo	onfigurator.xm	Save
Save as type: XML F	iles (*.xml)	Cancel

Exporting Configuration Data to an XML File

Importing Configuration Data

Importing Data From a Text or CSV File

The Configurator offers the flexibility of importing data from a text (.txt) file or a Microsoft Excel (.csv) file to your configuration database. To import data, select Import CSV from the File menu. This opens the Import Configuration Data From File dialog box, shown below. You can then specify the delimiters and choose from the following import settings:

- **Create new items.** When the import file contains items that are not yet in the configuration database, then it creates them. Otherwise it skips these items.
- **Update existing items.** When the import file contains items that are in the configuration database, then it updates them using data from the import file. Otherwise it skips these items.

			NOT	ΓE					
Either Create new nothing to import.	items	or Update	existing	items	must be	e selected.	Otherwise	there	is

 Display errors. When this item is checked, the Configurator shows a dialog box if an error occurs, and then asks you if you want to proceed with the import. When it is not checked, it skips all items where an error occurred.

Open	? ×
Look in: 🔂 Bin	
FAX Pager	iounds 🗀 VBA VCRSkins : 🏫 dwxtest.csv Wizard
File name: dwxtest.csv	Open
Files of type: Text files (*.csv)	Cancel
Import settings Create new items Update existing items Display errors	Delimiters O Tab O Comma O Other:
Insert all invalid records into fil	le:

Import Configuration Data From File Dialog Box

When you have selected a file to import, click **Open.** When the import is completed, the **File Import Results** dialog box opens, as shown below. This shows the import settings, including the input file name. It also provides a summary of the import, including how many items were inserted, updated, or rejected, and shows how many errors occurred.

Click the ... button to the right of each field to get the details view of the import results, as shown below. This view shows the specific items that were inserted, updated, or rejected, as well as a description of any errors that occurred.

	Input file:		
~~~	C:\Program Files\Sn	nar\ProcessVie	w\Examples\Ala
	Create new items		
	Update existing i	tems	
Record 9	tatistics		
TO _V	Read from input file:		2
	13 <u>-</u>		
	Inserted:	0	2
	Updated:	0	0
	Rejected:	! or 🕕 🦵	0
	Errors Occurred:		0

File Import Results Dialog Box

#### Importing Data From an XML File

The Configurator allows you to import data from your configuration database to an XML file. The XML export/import functionality was mainly developed for Windows platforms that do not support databases (e.g. Windows CE and Windows Embedded). XML has the following advantages over the CSV import/export function:

- XML has a standardized format, unlike the text/CSV format, which uses various delimiters (e.g. TAB instead of commas, strings could not accept all characters, etc.)
- XML is language-independent, whereas CSV converts date/time, floats, and currency fields according to local settings in Windows. For example, using CSV, you cannot export data on German Windows and import it on English windows without making changes
- Windows has an installed automation object that has the capability to work with XML. Thus, programmers can create/modify their configurations outside the Configurator using Visual Basic, if desired.
- XML supports schemas. A **schema** is a special XML file that specifies the data structure of an XML data file.

To import data, select **XML Import** from the **File** menu. This opens the **Import XML File** dialog box, as shown in the figure below. Give the file a name, and then choose the directory from which you want to import the data. You can then specify the delimiters and choose from the following import settings. Click **Open.** 

- Create new items. When the import file contains items that are not yet in the configuration database, then it creates them. Otherwise it skips these items.
- Update existing items. When the import file contains items that are in the configuration database, then it updates them using data from the import file. Otherwise it skips these items.



Import XML File			<u>? ×</u>
Look in: 🔂 Bin		- 🗧 🖻	* 💷 •
Default MDBs Dialog FAX FontInstall Fonts GenBroker	Images MMXSounds Pager Script ScriptWizard SnapShots	_	10.53
•			Þ
File name:			Open
Files of type: XML Files (	(*.xml)	•	Cancel
Create new items Update existing items			1.

Importing Configuration Data From an XML File

### Activating the Database

Once your configuration is complete, you need to make sure that it is the active database. The database that is currently active is the one that the server uses. To make the current database active, select **Make Active...** from the **File** menu. If the **Make Active...** selection is grayed out, then the current database is already the active database.

A dialog box appears showing both the current active database and database that is currently being edited, as shown in the figure below. To set the edited database as the active database, click the **Yes** button.

DataWor)	× ×		
?	Current active database is: 'C:\Program Files\Smar\ProcessView\Bin\DwxSampleConfigurator.mdb'. Active database is the database that the server will load when started. Currently edited database is: 'C:\Program Files\Smar\ProcessView\Projects\Area 3\Applications\DataWorX32\MDB		
	Configurations\dwxconf.mdb'. Do you want to set edited database as active database?		
	<u>Y</u> es <u>N</u> o		

Making the Database Active

### **Edit Menu**

The Edit menu commands are listed in the table below.

COMMAND	SHORTCUT KEYS	FUNCTION	
New		Creates a new item depending on what is selected in the tree control.	
Rename		Renames the selected item.	
Multiply	CTRL+M	Opens the <b>Multiply Item</b> dialog box, which allows you to multiply an item in the tree control.	
Delete	CTRL+DEL	Deletes the selected object.	
Cut	CTRL+X	Cuts the selected object from the view and places it on the clipboard.	
Сору	CTRL+C	Copies the selected object to the clipboard.	
Paste	CTRL+V	Pastes the last object placed on the clipboard.	
		Selects all objects in a list. The selection is shown in the upper-right-hand section of the viewer.	
		Unselects all selected items and selects all unselected items in a list in the upper-right-hand section of the viewer.	

# **Multiplying Items**

The Configurator allows you to multiply items in the tree control. Multiplication provides a simple way of developing configurations where there are many similar items in a given category. To multiply an item:

- 1. Select the item in the tree control that you wish to multiply.
- 2. Either right-click the item and select **Multiply** from the pop-up menu, or select **Multiply** from the **Edit** menu. This opens the **Multiply Item** dialog box, shown below.

OK Cancel			
Cancel			
Address Space.NewFolder.Switch			

#### Multiply Item Dialog Box

- **3.** When the items are multiplied, they are all given a base name followed by a number. The default base text is the name of the item selected for multiplication. To modify the base text, change the Base Text field appropriately.
- 4. In the First Number field, specify the number to appear next to the first multiplied item.
- 5. In the Number of Items field, specify how many items you wish to create.
- 6. In the Numeric Places field, specify the minimum length of each number to append. Values that take up less space than the specified amount of numeric places will have zeros before the number.
- 7. If you want to multiply all subfolders as well, check the Including Subtree check box.
- **8.** Click the OK button to do the multiplication. The example configuration shown in the Multiply Item dialog box above creates three new items with the following names:
- Switch001
- Switch002
- Switch003

All subfolders will also be multiplied.

#### **View Menu**

The View menu commands are listed in the table below.

#### **View Menu Commands**

COMMAND	SHORTCUT KEYS	FUNCTION	
Toolbars		Toggles the standard and data manipulation toolbars.	
Status Bar		Toggles the status bar.	
Large Icons	F7	Displays items as large icons.	
Small Icons	F8	Displays items as small icons.	
List	F9	Displays items as a list.	
Details	F10	Displays items as a list along with detailed information	
		about the configuration of each item.	
Dialog View	F11	Toggles the configuration window (right-hand pane).	
Monitor View	F12	Displays OPC server data in a separate pane.	
Sort By		Displays a list of options for sorting the columns in the right-hand pane of the screen. The options listed depend on the level within the view.	
Show/Hide Columns		Displays a list of options that you can choose to show or hide in the view.	
Select		Opens the Select Language dialog box (see below).	
Language		Choose the language you wish to use for your system (Unicode version only) and click <b>OK</b> . For navigation purposes, use the buttons and check boxes in the <b>List</b> section.	
Global Refresh	F5	Refreshes the data for the entire Configurator screen.	
Subtree	CTRL+F5	Refreshes only the data contained in the currently	
Refresh		selected subtree.	

Selecting Languages The Select Language function on the View menu allows you to choose which language to use in your display. Choosing Select Language from the View menu opens the Select Language dialog box, shown in the figure below.

NOTES			
Language resource .dll is required for language switching.			
Language resource .dll is required for language switch  Select Language  English - Australia English - Belize English - Canada English - Canibbean English - Caribbean English - Ireland English - Jamaica English - New Zealand English - Republic of the Philippin English - South Africa English - Trinidad y Tobago English - United States	List ● English ● Localized ● Native ■ Installed Locales Only ■ Available Language Translations Only		
English - Zimbabwe	Help		

#### Select Language Dialog Box

Define the parameters listed in the table below. Then click **OK** to return to the work area.

PARAMETER	DESCRIPTION
List	Lists available languages. Depending on which item you have selected, the view on the left will change. If <b>English</b> is checked, the languages will appear as their English name. If <b>Localized</b> is checked, the languages will appear with the native country in parentheses (for languages with several dialects only). When <b>Native</b> is checked, the languages are displayed the way they would be written in that language.
Installed Locales Only	If this is checked, local languages appear in the box.
Available Language	Checking this box allows you to choose from available language
Translations Only	translations only.

#### Select Language Parameters

#### Go Menu

The Go menu commands are listed in the table below.

#### **Go Menu Commands**

COMMAND	SHORTCUT KEYS	FUNCTION
Up One Level		Moves the cursor up one level in the tree control.
Next Item	ALT+Down Arrow	Moves the cursor to the next item down in the tree control.
Previous Item	ALT+Up Arrow	Moves the cursor to the next item up in the tree view.
Expand Item	ALT+Left Arrow	Expands an item that contains a submenu.
Collapse Item	ALT+Right Arrow	Collapses an item that contains a submenu.
Page Up	ALT+PgUp	Moves the cursor up to the first item in the tree.

COMMAND	SHORTCUT KEYS	FUNCTION
Page Down	ALT+PgDown	Moves the cursor down to the last visible item in the tree.
Home	ALT+Home	Moves the cursor up to the first item in the tree.
End	ALT+End	Moves the cursor down to the last visible item in the tree.
Next Pane	F6	Moves the cursor to the next pane.
Previous Pane	SHIFT+F6	Moves the cursor to the last pane used.

### **Action Menu**

The Action menu commands are listed in the table below.

#### **Action Menu Commands**

COMMAND	FUNCTION
Start Runtime	Starts the DataWorX runtime operation.
Stop Runtime	Stops the DataWorX runtime operation.

### Tools Menu

The Tools menu opens the Options dialog box, which is described in the section below.

# Options

To choose additional settings, select **Options** from the **Tools** menu. This opens the **Options** dialog box, which contains the following tabs:

- General
- Browse Interface

# **General Tab**

The General tab of the Options dialog box, shown below, contains the following options:

- Save regional settings in registry: Checking this option allows you to save regional settings in the registry so that they are applied each time you start the configuration application. This applies to the language settings as well as time and date settings.
- Automatically apply changes when selection is changed: Checking this option allows changes to the configuration database to be saved each time you switch dialogs without clicking on the **Apply** button or being shown a message asking if you would like to apply changes.
- **Enable hover selection:** Checking this option allows you to highlight an item by moving the mouse pointer over that item and keeping it there for a specified amount of time (in milliseconds).
- **OPC Monitoring Update Rate:** This specifies the update frequency (in milliseconds) of the items in the Monitor View. The monitor scans the server and displays the tag values at the bottom of the Configurator screen.

Options	×
General Browse Interface	
Workspace settings Save regional settings in registry Automatically apply changes when selection is changed	
Enable hover selection. Hover Time: 500 [ms]	
Monitor view settings	
Update Rate: 500 [ms]	
OK Cancel Help	

**Options Dialog Box: General Tab** 

# **Browse Interface Tab**

The **Browse Interface** tab of the **Options** dialog box, shown below, contains the following commands:

- Browse Redundant Servers: When checked, the items of the servers defined as redundant (in the Redundancy menu) will be shown.
- Browse My Computer: When checked, the local OPC server and its items available through DataWorX will be shown.
- Browse Network Neighborhood or Internet: When checked, the OPC servers located on remote nodes and their items will be shown.

Options			×	
General	Browse Interface			
Brows	e redundant servers			
Brows	e 'My Computer'			
🗖 Brows	Browse 'Network neighborhood' or 'Internet'			
	ОК	Cancel	Help	

**Options Dialog Box: Browse Interface Tab** 

### Help Menu

The Help menu commands are listed in the table below.

### Help Menu Commands

COMMAND	SHORTCUT KEYS	FUNCTION
Help Topics	F1	Launches the online Help for the Configurator.
About Application		Launches the <b>About Box</b> , which contains information about the product version number, copyright, and available disk space. It also contains contact information.

# **CONFIGURING THE ADDRESS SPACE**

# **Overview of Address Space Configuration**

In the DataWorX Configurator, the parameters for data items are set up in the **Address Space** tree control, as shown in the figure below. When configuring the Address space, you can:

- Create folders to organize data items.
- Create and configure registers.
- Create and configure aliases.
- Create and configure switch aliases.
- Create and configure redundancy aliases.

	Address Space	Name NewFolder	Register Type	Data Type
Read	lv		1 Object(s)	NUT /

#### Address Space Tree Control

The **Address Space** tree control in the Configurator sets the properties and connection parameters for all data items, which can be organized hierarchically. It is similar to organizing directories and files on your computer's hard disk. A **folder** can contain additional folders and also data items. The **data items** are always the branches in the tree control hierarchy. The hierarchical structure of the folders and data items helps to organize the registers, aliases, switches, and redundancy aliases.

					NOTE				
The	ProcessView	installation	provides	а	sample	DataWorX	configuration	database	called
Dwx	SampleConfig	gurator.mdb	).						

# **Folders**

Folders can be used to group items logically. You can configure as many folders as required. Each folder can even have subfolders. The use of folders is not required. If desirable, the configuration could just contain data items without any folders. But most likely this will only be useful if the application does not demand too many persistent tags.

# **Creating New Folders**

To create a new folder:

1. Right-click the Address Space tree control of the Configurator and select New > Folder from the pop-up menu, as shown in the figure below.



Creating a New Folder

2. Type a name for the new folder, as shown in the figure below.

D	Address Space      MewFolder	Name  V
	R	
do Bra		

Naming the New Folder

**3.** When you have naming the folder, press Enter. The new folder appears under the tree control, as shown in the figure below.

	Address Space	Name
<b>£</b>		

New Folder Added to Tree Control

# Registers

Many clients require a common variable to share values. One of the key functions of DataWorX is to provide a mechanism for defining variables and making them available to *all* ProcessView clients and OPC clients. DataWorX uses the concept of **registers** to achieve this. DataWorX makes it possible to define many variables that are accessible to many clients simultaneously because DataWorX registers can be used as **global variables**. These variables can also act as aliases for clients. In the various client applications, you can configure global variables for use within that particular application, or possibly only within a particular document for that application.

#### **Register Names**

Each register has a unique name composed of only numbers, letters, and the underscore "_" character. DataWorX verifies the names are indeed unique, prompting you if this is not the case. The **Register name** field does not accept spaces. Spaces are disabled intentionally because the register names are used by OPC clients as tag names. The OPC specification allows for using spaces, but it is not recommended.

An Alias Register is a register that is used to keep the alias value and is of string data type. You

can access it like an ordinary register. The [[ and ]] are used to expand the alias, i.e. to replace the name of the alias with its value. For example:

Register 'REG' = 10; Alias Register 'MODBUS' = "ICONICS.ModbusOPCServer". 'DataWorX32\REG' = 10 'DataWorX32\MODBUS' = "ICONICS.ModbusOPCServer" 'DataWorX32\[[MODBUS]]Dev1.Tag1' = ICONICS.ModbusOPCServer\Dev1.Tag1 (value) DataWorX registers are accessible through the OPC Universal Tag Browser. DataWorX registers are accessible from VB using the "GetRegister" function of the Automation interface.

The count limit is not restricted by DataWorX itself, but is limited by system resources.

#### **Register Inputs**

A register has one input (or source) to define its content.

- An input may be assigned to an expression that, when resolved, defines the register's content.
- An input may be assigned to None to create a global variable. (The initial value is selectable.)
- An input may be assigned to an OPC data point (including the value itself, quality, and time stamp), using the OLExpress naming convention.
- An input may be assigned to the output of another DataWorX register.
- Besides OPC inputs, registers, and expressions, conditions can also be used as register inputs. The condition itself is connected to multiple OPC items or registers. One of these inputs is chosen depending on the selected criteria. Using conditions as register inputs is particularly useful when used in conjunction with switch aliases.

### **Register Outputs**

When the value of a register's input changes, it is written to all of the outputs assigned to that register (if any).

- An output may be assigned to an item of an OPC server. Thus, the register writes values to the server.
- An output may be assigned to the input of another DataWorX register.
- A register may be designated as "Read-Only." The register will still write to its outputs, but the value can only come from an input, such as another OPC server or an expression, not from an OPC client. If this is the case, clients may only view its contents.

Registers, aliases, and other objects in DataWorX can be hierarchically organized into groups (folders).

### **Using Registers**

One of the key functions of DataWorX is to provide a mechanism for defining variables and making them available to *all* ProcessView clients and OPC clients. DataWorX uses the concept of **registers** to achieve this.

The "Global Variable" name is simply the register's name. It can be given values through OPC tags, expressions, constants, or even VBA. OPC server data-bridging is accomplished by assigning the input of a register to one OPC data point, and assigning the output to different (even multiple) OPC data points.

This section describes how to configure Registers functions in the DataWorX Configurator in order to connect more than two servers. For example, if you want a client PC to send a value from a Modbus OPC server to a Bristol OPC server, you can define the **Register Name** in the **Properties** dialog box, define the **Properties** for that register, set the **Input** to the Modbus OPC server's tag, and set the **Output** to the Bristol OPC server's tag for a Register Tag using the **Register Settings** dialog box.

### **Registering Running Instances**

DataWorX now registers its dispatch pointer at GenRegistrar on startup and unregisters on exit. Dispatch pointers may be used by Visual Basic or other applications to control a running application. Now, a dispatch pointer to an instance of DataWorX running in both configuration mode and runtime can be obtained. In past versions of DataWorX, this was possible only in runtime.

# **Creating New Registers**

To create a new register:

1. Right-click the **Address Space** tree control of the Configurator and select **New > Register** from the pop-up menu, as shown in the figure below.

: Address Space	Name ∇ New ►	Register Type Folder	Data Type Ctrl+F
	Rename Multiply	Register Alias	Ctrl+R
	Delete	Switch Redundancy Alia	IS
	Cut Copy Paste		

#### Creating a New Register

- **2.** The properties dialog box for the new register appears in the right-hand pane of the Configurator, as shown in the figure below.
- 3. In the Name field, type a name for the new register.
- **4.** When you have finished configuring the register properties, click the Apply button. The new register appears under the tree control, as shown in the figure below.

Address Space	Properties   Input   OPC Outputs	1
E NewFolder	Name:	<u>R</u> egister Type:
	R012	Register 💌
	<ul> <li>Available through <u>O</u>PC</li> <li>Available through <u>A</u>utomation</li> <li><u>W</u>riteable</li> </ul>	Data Type: NATIVE/EMPTY
	Advanced Delay 0 milliseconds Disable input updates propagation	Banges       Low:     0       High:     0
	Apply Beset Add New	

**Configuring Register Properties** 

# **Configuring Register Properties**

The register properties dialog box contains the following tabs, as shown in the figure below:

- Properties
- Input
- OPC Outputs

The **Properties**, **Input** and **Output** tabs are the same for different register types. The **Register Type** can be modified on the **Properties** tab by selecting a type from the drop-down list, as shown in the figure below. Depending on this register type, other pages appear or get hidden. For example, aliases can be browsed, so they have the **Browse Interface** tab (unlike registers). On the other hand redundancy aliases, for example, do not have inputs, so the **Input** tab disappears when you select a register to be a redundancy alias. It is important to understand that everything (aliases, switches, etc.) is a register. Its features then depend on the type of register (e.g. the data type for an alias is always STRING).

**NOTE** Each register configuration has a limit of 4 kilobytes (4,096 characters). This limit applies to the entire register record (e.g. register name, expression strings, outputs, list of condition inputs, list of redundancy nodes, etc.).

R012	Register
	<u>D</u> ata Type:
Available through OPC	NATIVE/EMPTY
✓ Available through <u>A</u> utomation ✓ Writeable	
Advanced	<u> </u>
Delay 0 milliseconds	Low: 0
Disable input updates propagation	High: 0

**Configuring Register Properties** 

# **Register Settings: Properties Tab**

The **Properties** tab in the **Register Settings** dialog box, shown below, allows you to set the following register parameters, as described in the table below.

Properties Input OPC Outputs	
Name: R012	<u>R</u> egister Type: Register
<ul> <li>✓ Available through <u>O</u>PC</li> <li>✓ Available through <u>A</u>utomation</li> <li>✓ <u>W</u>riteable</li> </ul>	Data Type: NATIVE/EMPTY
Advanced Delay 0 milliseconds Disable input updates propagation	Banges       Low:     0       High:     0

Register Settings: Properties Tab

#### **Properties Tab Parameters**

NAME	A common tag name.
REGISTER TYPE	Specifies Register, Alias, Switch Alias, or Redundancy Alias.
AVAILABLE THROUGH OPC	Checking this box makes the register available to OPC clients.
AVAILABLE THROUGH	Checking this box makes the register available to VB
AUTOMATION	applications so that it could be edited by a VB editor.
WRITEABLE	Checking this box makes the register writeable. Uncheck the box for a read-only OPC client.
<b>ДАТА ТҮРЕ</b>	Allows you to select from the following data types: Native/Empty, Float, Double, Boolean, Byte, Word, DWord, Character, Short, Long, String. All data types available in GraphWorX are supported in registers for DataWorX.
RANGES	Checking this box enables the High and Low ranges fields.
HIGH RANGE	You can specify a High Range in the box provided.
LOW RANGE	You can specify a Low Range in the box provided.
DELAY	You can specify a delay time for the register (in milliseconds) in the box provided.
DISABLE OPC PROPAGATION SUPPORT	When an OPC item is connected to a register as both input and output, a fast sequence of writes to that register may cause item value oscillation. (This may happen when two subsequent writes to the register are faster than the OPC item can perform the write operation. The acknowledge of the first write then overwrites the second written value already being stored in the register.) To avoid this behavior, Check the <b>Disable input</b> <b>updates propagation</b> check box in the register properties.
	NOTE

By default, the data type and range information are obtained from the input of register.

# **Register Settings: Input Tab**

The **Input** tab in the **Register Settings** dialog box, shown below, allows you to set the following register input parameters:

- OPC Point
- Register
- None
- Expression
- Condition Criteria

- Condition Result
- Condition Inputs

	)PC Outputs	📴 None	🔛 Expression	🐏 Condition
, —	Er Register	in None	W Expression	l <mark>∰"</mark> Condition
Input OPC Point:				
P				
Requested Data Typ	De:			Scan Rate [msec]:
NATIVE/EMPTY	-			50 💌

Register Settings: Input Tab

### Input Tab: OPC Point

The **OPC Point** section of the **Input** tab, shown in the figure below, specifies that the input is an OPC item. In the **Input OPC Point** field, you can type in an item name (tag name) or browse for one by clicking the ... button, which opens the Unified Data Browser. The **Registered Data Type** field allows you to select from the following data types: Native/Empty, Float, Double, Boolean, Byte, Word, DWord, Character, Short, Long, String. All data types available in GraphWorX are supported in registers for DataWorX. You can also specify the **Scan Rate** for OPC inputs (in milliseconds)

📕 OPC Point 🛛 🗍	Begister	📴 None	🔛 Expression	🔛 Condition
nput of C F ont.				
Requested Data Typ	De:			Scan Rate (msec
NATIVE/EMPTY	•			50

Input Tab: OPC Point

### Input Tab: Register

In the **Register** section of the **Input** tab, shown in the figure below, you can type in an **Input Register** or browse for one by clicking the ... button, which opens the Unified Data Browser. This lists the registers defined in DataWorX. You may select an input coming from another register.

📕 OPC Point	Register	📴 None	🔛 Expression	🔛 Condition
Input Register:				
· · · ·				



### Input Tab: None

Selecting the **None** section of the **Input** tab, shown in the figure below, means no input will be provided to this register. This could be used when you want to write a value from the client and send it to many OPC servers at the same time. This is also the mechanism for creating a global variable. Checking the **Initial Value** check box allows you to specify an initial value in the field to the right.

📕 OPC Point	🚯 Register	None None	🔛 Expression	n 🔛 Condition
🔽 Initial Value:				

Input Tab: None

### Input Tab: Expression

The **Expression** section of the **Input** tab, shown in the figure below, allows you to specify an expression in the box provided. Clicking the **Edit** button opens the **Edit Expression** dialog box, which allows you to edit expressions using the Arithmetic, Relational, Logical, Bitwise, and Functions methods, as well as OPC tags and registers. The result of expression includes a quality evaluation. You may specify how the quality should be evaluated. You can also specify the **Scan Rate** for OPC inputs (in milliseconds)

📕 OPC Poir	nt 📴 Register	📴 None	Expression	🔛 Condition
Expression:				
				~
Scan Rate [m:	sec]:			E dit
50 50	- 			
100 200	Č			
500 1000				
2000				

Input Tab: Expression

# Input Tab: Condition Criteria

Besides OPC inputs, registers and expressions, **conditions** can be used as register inputs. The conditions themselves may be useful, but their biggest advantage is in use with Switch Aliases. The condition itself is connected to multiple OPC items or registers. One of these inputs is chosen depending on the selected criteria. The result of the condition (i.e. the value of the register having input set to this condition) may be:

- The value of the chosen input; the data type of the register will be the same as the data type of the input (by default).
- The zero-based index of the chosen input; the data type of the register will be a integer number in range 0..*N*-1, where *N* is the number of the condition inputs.
- The name of the chosen input; the data type of the register will be a string.

The **Condition Criteria** section of the **Input** tab, shown in the figure below, includes the following possible criteria:

- First with good quality
- First with good or uncertain quality
- First nonzero
- Highest value
- Highest absolute value
- Lowest value
- Lowest absolute value



Input Tab: Condition Criteria

# Input Tab: Condition Result

The **Condition Result** section of the **Input** tab, shown in the figure below, specifies the result of the condition (i.e. the value of the register having input set to this condition):

- The value itself (the value of the chosen input): The data type of the register will be the same as the data type of the input (by default).
- **Zero-based index of the chosen input:** The data type of the register will be an integer number in range 0..*N*-1, where *N* is the number of the condition inputs.
- Input Name: The data type of the register will be a string.

🛋 OPC Point 🗈 Register Criteria Result Inputs	🔛 None	🔛 Expression	Condition
The <u>Value</u> Itself			
© <u>Z</u> ero-based Index			
C Input Name			

#### Input Tab: Condition Result Input Tab: Condition Inputs

The **Condition Inputs** section of the **Input** tab, shown in the figure below, enables you to specify the Input(s) of the condition. You can select an OPC tag from the Unified Data Browser by clicking **Add Tag.** You can also specify the **Scan Rate** for OPC inputs (in milliseconds).

📕 OPC Po Criteria   R		ister 📴 None	🔛 Expression	Condition
			Add Tag	Move Up
			Remove	Move Down
			Scan Rate (mse	-al-
			500	
			50	
	Reset	Add New	200 500	~~
			1000 2000 5000	

Input Tab: Condition Inputs

# **Register Settings: OPC Outputs Tab**

In the **OPC Outputs** tab in the **Register Settings** dialog box, shown below, you can select OPC tags and /or registers from the Unified Data Browser by clicking **Add OPC Output.** 

When bridging OPC data, values are written to the outputs only when the input value changes. This is the default behavior. To modify this behavior, you can force DataWorX to refresh outputs periodically. Then the value is written to the outputs even if the input value does not change. You can specify a **Refresh Rate** for outputs by checking the **Refresh Outputs** check box and typing the output refresh rate (in seconds) in the edit box.

NOTE	
You may select more than one tag for the output.	
Properties Input OPC Outputs	
	Add OPC Output
	<u>R</u> emove
Refresh Outputs	
Refresh Rate: 0 seconds	

Register Settings: OPC Outputs Tab

# Aliases

DataWorX contains a mechanism for defining aliases. Aliases are symbols that are expanded to strings, known as "alias values," during runtime. Aliases are enclosed in double brackets: [[ and ]].

The main requirements for aliasing are as follows:

- Every alias must be defined before it is first used (that is, before the first item is requested with this alias). Otherwise the item name containing the alias is treated as invalid.
- If any name is syntactically valid and contains only aliases that have already been defined, it is treated as valid, even though after expanding aliases the name may not correspond to any existing item.
- The resolution of these aliases ("alias values") can change during runtime mode. When an alias changes, the items having the alias in their names stay valid. They simply change reference to another item after the change is made.

# **Creating New Aliases**

To create a new alias:

1. Right-click the Address Space tree control of the Configurator and select New > Alias from the pop-up menu, as shown in the figure below.

- 🎘 Address Space	Name 🗸	Reaister Type	Data Type
	New	Folder	Ctrl+F
	Rename	Register	Ctrl+R
	Multiply	Alias	
	Delete	Switch Redundancy A	6 Alias
	Cut		

Creating a New Alias

- 2. The properties dialog box for the new alias appears in the right-hand pane of the Configurator, as shown in the figure below.
- 3. In the Name field, type a name for the new alias.
- **4.** When you have finished configuring the alias properties, click the Apply button. The new alias appears under the tree control, as shown in the figure below.

Address Space	Properties   Input   OPC Outputs   Browse Interface			
NewFolder	Name:	<u>R</u> egister Type:	<u>R</u> egister Type:	
	Alias004	Alias		
		<u>D</u> ata Type:		
1	Available through OPC	STRING	Ψ.	
	<ul> <li>Available through <u>Automation</u></li> <li>Writeable</li> </ul>			
	Advanced	🗖 🗖 🖪 anges 👘		
	Delay 0 milliseconds	Low: 0		
-	Disable input updates propagation	High: 0		
	<pre></pre>			

**Configuring Alias Properties**
# **Configuring Alias Properties**

The alias properties dialog box contains the following tabs, as shown in the figure below:

- Properties
- Input
- OPC Outputs
- Browse Interface

Alias004	Name:	Register Type:		
	Alias004	Alias		
		<u>D</u> ata Type:		
	Available through OPC	STRING		
	Available through Automation			
	l IV <u>W</u> riteable			
	Advanced	<u> </u>		
	Delay 0 milliseconds	Low: 0		
	Disable input updates propagation	High: 0		

**Configuring Alias Properties** 

### **Alias Settings: Properties Tab**

The **Properties** tab in the **Alias Settings** dialog box, shown below, allows you to set the following alias parameters, as described in the table below.

Properties Input OPC Outputs Browse Interface	
<u>N</u> ame: Alias004	<u>R</u> egister Type: Alias
<ul> <li>Available through <u>O</u>PC</li> <li>Available through <u>A</u>utomation</li> <li>Writeable</li> </ul>	<u>D</u> ata Type: STRING ▼
Advanced Delay 0 milliseconds Disable input updates propagation	Low: 0 High: 0

Alias Settings: Properties Tab

### **Properties Tab Parameters**

NAME	A common tag name.	
REGISTER TYPE	Specifies Register, Alias, Switch Alias, or Redundancy Alias.	
AVAILABLE THROUGH OPC	Checking this box makes the register available to OPC clients.	
AVAILABLE THROUGH AUTOMATION	Checking this box makes the register available to VB applications so that it could be edited by a VB editor.	
WRITEABLE	Checking this box makes the register writeable. Uncheck the box for a read-only OPC client.	
DATA TYPE	This field is not available for aliases.	
RANGES	This field is not available for aliases.	
HIGH RANGE	This field is not available for aliases.	
LOW RANGE	This field is not available for aliases.	
DELAY	You can specify a delay time for the register (in milliseconds) in the box provided.	
DISABLE OPC PROPAGATION SUPPORT	When an OPC item is connected to a register as both input and output, a fast sequence of writes to that register may cause item value oscillation. (This may happen when two subsequent writes to the register are faster than the OPC item can perform the write operation. The acknowledge of the first write then overwrites the second written value already being stored in the register.) To avoid this behavior, Check the <b>Disable input</b>	
	updates propagation check box in the register properties.	

Note: By default, the data type and range information are obtained from the input of register.

### Alias Settings: Input Tab

The **Input** tab in the **Alias Settings** dialog box, shown below, allows you to set the following alias input parameters:

- OPC Point
- Register
- None
- Expression
- Condition Criteria
- Condition Result
- Condition Inputs

For more information about input settings, please refer to the "Register Settings: Input Tab" section above.

Properties Input	OPC Outputs	Browse Interfac	ce		
CPC Point	🚯 Register	📴 None	🔛 Expression	🔛 Conc	lition
Input OPC Point:					
1					
Requested Data T	уре:			Scan Rate	[msec]:
NATIVE/EMPTY	-			50	-

Alias Settings: Input Tab

### Alias Settings: OPC Outputs Tab

In the **OPC Outputs** tab in the **Alias Settings** dialog box, shown below, you can select OPC tags and /or registers from the Unified Data Browser by clicking **Add OPC Output.** 

When bridging OPC data, values are written to the outputs only when the input value changes. This is the default behavior. To modify this behavior, you can force DataWorX to refresh outputs periodically. Then the value is written to the outputs even if the input value does not change. You can specify a **Refresh Rate** for outputs by checking the **Refresh Outputs** check box and typing the output refresh rate (in seconds) in the edit box.

NOTE	
You may select more than one tag for the output.	
Properties Input OPC Outputs Browse Interface	
	Add OPC Output
	<u>R</u> emove
Refresh Outputs       Befresh Rate:         0   seconds	

Alias Settings: OPC Outputs Tab

### Alias Settings: Browse Interface Tab

In the **Browse Interface** tab in the **Alias Settings** dialog box, shown below, you can define how the alias should appear in the browse interface:

- Show the alias like an item: Selecting this option causes the alias to be displayed as a leaf of the tree.
- Show the alias like a tree: The subtree of items will appear as a subtree of the alias. In other words, the hierarchy displayed in the browser will mirror the exact tree structure of the alias set up in the group sub-window of DataWorX.

Then simply follow the two steps indicated on the **Browse Interface** tab. If you choose to show the alias like a tree, first select an item you want to access using the alias. Click the ... button to open the Unified Data Browser. Then select a part of the item name you selected in Step 1. This selected part is the one you intend to replace with the alias.

Properties Input OPC Outputs Browse Interface
<ul> <li>○ Show the alias like an item</li> <li>○ Show the alias like a tree</li> </ul>
1. Select an item you want to access using this alias
2. Select the part of the item name you want to be replaced with the alias value

Alias Settings: Browse Interface Tab

# Switch Aliases

A **switch alias** is a special kind of alias. Unlike a regular alias, it has a numeric input. It contains a predefined set of values. The value of the alias is the one of the predefined set that corresponds to the input value.

# **Creating New Switch Aliases**

To create a new switch alias:

1. Right-click the **Address Space** tree control of the Configurator and select **New > Switch** from the pop-up menu, as shown in the figure below.

🖳 🔚 Address Spa	ce Name 🗸	Register Type	Data Type
	New 🕨	Folder	Ctrl+F
	Rename Multiply	Register Alias	Ctrl+R
	Delete	Switch	
	Cak.	Redundancy Alia	s NS
	Сору		

Creating a New Switch Alias

- **2.** The properties dialog box for the new switch alias appears in the right-hand pane of the Configurator, as shown in the figure below.
- **3.** In the Name field, type a name for the new switch alias. The name of the switch alias must meet the conditions for register name (unique, consisting of letters, numbers, and underscores).
- 4. Use the Values tab to define the values for the switch alias.
- 5. When you have finished configuring the switch alias properties, click the Apply button. The new switch alias appears under the tree control, as shown in the figure below.

Name:	Register Type:	
Switch006	Switch Alias	
	<u>D</u> ata Type:	
Available through OPC	STRING	
Available through Automation		
✓ Writeable		
Advanced	Eanges —	
Delay 0 milliseconds	Low: 0	
Disable input updates propagation	High: 0	

**Configuring Switch Alias Properties** 

# **Configuring Switch Alias Properties**

The switch alias properties dialog box contains the following tabs, as shown in the figure below:

- Properties
- Input
- OPC Outputs
- Browse Interface
- Values
- Input Limits

Name:	Register Type:	
Switch006	Switch Alias	
	<u>D</u> ata Type:	
Available through <u>O</u> PC	STRING	
Available through Automation		
✓ Writeable		
Advanced	Eanges	
Delay 0 milliseconds	Low: 0	
Disable input updates propagation	High: 0	

**Configuring Switch Alias Properties** 

### Switch Alias Settings: Properties Tab

The **Properties** tab in the **Switch Alias Settings** dialog box, shown below, allows you to set the following switch alias parameters, as described in the table below.

Properties Input   OPC Outputs   Browse Interface   Valu	ues Input Limits
Name: Switch006	Register Type: Switch Alias
<ul> <li>Available through <u>O</u>PC</li> <li>Available through <u>A</u>utomation</li> <li><u>W</u>riteable</li> </ul>	<u>D</u> ata Type: STRING ▼
Advanced Delay 0 milliseconds Disable input updates propagation	Low: 0 High: 0

Switch Alias Settings: Properties Tab

### **Properties Tab Parameters**

	The second of the excitate all a moved as a title a condition of features		
	The name of the switch alias must meet the conditions for		
NAME	register name (unique, consisting of letters, numbers, and		
	underscores).		
REGISTER TYPE	Specifies Register, Alias, Switch Alias, or Redundancy Alias.		
AVAILABLE THROUGH OPC	Checking this box makes the register available to OPC clients.		
AVAILABLE THROUGH	Checking this box makes the register available to VB		
AUTOMATION	applications so that it could be edited by a VB editor.		
WRITEABLE	Checking this box makes the register writeable. Uncheck the		
WRITEADLE	box for a read-only OPC client.		
<b>DATA TYPE</b>	This field is not available for switch aliases.		
RANGES	This field is not available for switch aliases.		
HIGH RANGE	This field is not available for switch aliases.		
LOW RANGE	This field is not available for switch aliases.		
DELAY	You can specify a delay time for the register (in milliseconds) in the box provided.		
	When an OPC item is connected to a register as both input and		
	output, a fast sequence of writes to that register may cause item		
	value oscillation. (This may happen when two subsequent writes		
DISABLE OPC	to the register are faster than the OPC item can perform the		
PROPAGATION SUPPORT	write operation. The acknowledge of the first write then		
	overwrites the second written value already being stored in the		
	register.) To avoid this behavior, Check the <b>Disable input</b>		
	updates propagation check box in the register properties.		

### NOTE

By default, the data type and range information are obtained from the input of register.

### Switch Alias Settings: Input Tab

The **Input** tab in the **Switch Alias Settings** dialog box, shown below, allows you to set the following switch alias input parameters:

- OPC Point
- Register

٠

- None
- Expression
- Condition Criteria
- Condition Result
- Condition Inputs

For more information about input settings, please refer to the "Register Settings: Input Tab" section above.

Properties	Input	OPC Outputs	Browse Interfac	e   Values   Input	Limits
C OPC	C Point	📴 Register	📴 None	🔛 Expression	🔛 Condition
Input OP	C Point:				
1					<u></u>
Requeste	ed Data T	уре:			Scan Rate [msec]:
NATIVE	/EMPTY	•			50 💌

Switch Alias Settings: Input Tab

### Switch Alias Settings: OPC Outputs Tab

In the **OPC Outputs** tab in the **Switch Alias Settings** dialog box, shown below, you can select OPC tags and /or registers from the Unified Data Browser by clicking **Add OPC Output.** When bridging OPC data, values are written to the outputs only when the input value changes. This

is the default behavior. To modify this behavior, you can force DataWorX to refresh outputs periodically. Then the value is written to the outputs even if the input value does not change. You can specify a **Refresh Rate** for outputs by checking the **Refresh Outputs** check box and typing the output refresh rate (in seconds) in the edit box.

NOTE	
You may select more than one tag for the output.	
Properties Input OPC Outputs Browse Interface Values In	nput Limits
	Add OPC Output
	<u>R</u> emove
Refresh Qutputs     Befresh Rate:     0     seconds	
	a

### Switch Alias Settings: OPC Outputs Tab

### Switch Alias Settings: Browse Interface Tab

In the **Browse Interface** tab in the **Switch Alias Settings** dialog box, shown below, you can define how the switch alias should appear in the browse interface:

- Show the alias like an item: Selecting this option causes the alias to be displayed as a leaf of the tree.
- Show the alias like a tree: The subtree of items will appear as a subtree of the alias. In other words, the hierarchy displayed in the browser will mirror the exact tree structure of the alias set up in the group sub-window of DataWorX.

Then simply follow the two steps indicated on the **Browse Interface** tab. If you choose to show the alias like a tree, first select an item you want to access using the alias. Click the ... button to open the Unified Data Browser. Then select a part of the item name you selected in Step 1. This selected part is the one you intend to replace with the alias.

Properties Input OPC Outputs Browse Interface Values Input Limits	
<ul> <li>Show the alias like an item</li> <li>Show the alias like a tree</li> <li>Select an item you want to access using this alias</li> </ul>	
2. Select the part of the item name you want to be replaced with the alias value	

Switch Alias Settings: Browse Interface Tab

### Switch Alias Settings: Values Tab

In the Values tab in the Switch Alias Settings dialog box, shown below, use the Add New field and the Add button to add new values for the switch alias. Use the Move Up, Move Down, and Remove buttons to change the order of the values. To edit a value, simply click it in the Value column. The corresponding numbers for particular values are listed in the Index column. The switch alias will be assigned the value corresponding to its numeric input.

	NOTE
The indexes cannot be changed.	

Properties   In	put   OPC Outputs   Browse Interface	Values Input Lim	its
Add <u>n</u> ew:			Add
	Value	Index	<u>R</u> emove
	New Value	U	Move <u>U</u> p
			Move <u>D</u> own
			<u>E</u> dit
	The switch alias will be asigned the valu to its numeric input.	ue corresponding	

Switch Alias Settings: Values Tab

### Switch Alias Settings: Input Limits Tab

When the input is outside the range of the defined indexes, you can select an input type on the Input Limits tab in the Switch Alias Settings dialog box, shown below. For example, suppose you have defined four values for the switch alias; thus, their indexes are "0," "1," "2," and "3." The Input Limits tab allows you to define what should happen when the switch alias's input is less than "0" or greater than "3":

- The value with index "0" can be used
- The MODULUS function can be used.
- It can indicate "bad quality."
- You can also specify a value in the edit box.

Properties Input OPC Outputs Browse Interface Values Input Limits
When input is out of the defined indexes
C Use this <u>v</u> alue:

Switch Alias Settings: Input Limits Tab

# Example of Using a Switch Alias

Assume that a Modbus OPC Server with two devices is connected to one PC. Both devices are getting the same process data. The task is to establish redundancy on these devices.

Assume further that the connection from DataWorX to the OPC server works well. What can go wrong is the connection from the OPC server to the devices. Redundancy aliases cannot solve this problem as it works on the server level. This is a task for switch aliases and conditions.

1. Assume that a tag connected to the first device is: Smar.ModbusOPCServer\device1.Tag1 The same data can be accessed via the second device as: Smar.ModbusOPCServer\device2.Tag1

2. Now define a switch alias that will switch between the two devices:

Alias name: DEVICE

Set of predefined values: device1, device2

Tag1 mentioned above will be then accessed using the switch alias as:

Smar.ModbusOPCServer\[[DEVICE]].Tag1

Depending on the input of the DEVICE alias, either device1 or device2 will be involved.

- **3.** To set up the correct value on the DEVICE alias input, a register with condition will be used. Define such a register:
- Add a new register and choose a name, such as RCOND.
- Go to the Input tab, select Condition > Criteria.
- Select First with Good Quality as the criterion,
- On the Input tab, select Condition > Result.
- Select Zero-Based Index as the result.
- Switch to the Condition > Inputs tab, and then add the two tags mentioned above:

Smar.ModbusOPCServer\device1.Tag1

Smar.ModbusOPCServer\device2.Tag1

The output of the RCOND register is a number that tells which is the first tag with the good quality.

4. Finally, connect the output of the RCOND register to the DEVICE alias.

### Redundancy Aliases

The **Redundancy** feature of DataWorX allows you to utilize other PCs as backup servers if a primary server goes offline. This means that you can designate alternative PC machines as backup servers if a designated primary server goes offline. Once a primary server does go offline, DataWorX will default to the backup server or servers in the sequence in which the backup servers were designated.

If the appropriate option is selected in the dialog box provided for this purpose, DataWorX will default to the primary server once it returns online.

The main qualifying factors for using the redundancy feature in DataWorX are as follows:

- 1. You must designate one OPC server as the "Primary" server in each set.
- 2. You may designate one or more OPC servers as the "Backup" server(s) in each set. (The number of servers is not restricted by DataWorX itself; rather it is limited only by system resources). If more than one backup server is specified, they should be ordered (2nd, 3rd, 4th, etc.) You will see a message outlining the details of the discrepancies and will be allowed to either accept it as is or permit reconfiguration.
- **3.** The various OPC client applications request data from DataWorX, rather than from the OPC server directly. This way if a primary OPC server failure occurs (due to any number of conditions), an automatic switchover to the backup OPC server occurs.
- 4. DataWorX monitors the OPC servers and aggregates the data to the requesting clients.

### Creating New Redundancy Aliases

To create a new redundancy alias:

1. Right-click the **Address Space** tree control of the Configurator and select **New > Redundancy Alias** from the pop-up menu, as shown in the figure below.

Address Space	Name ⊽ New	Register Type     Folder	Data Type Ctrl+F
	Rename Multiply	Register Alias	Ctrl+R
	Delete	Switch Redundancy Alia:	5
	Cut		-2

Creating a New Redundancy Alias

- 2. The properties dialog box for the new redundancy alias appears in the right-hand pane of the Configurator, as shown in the figure below.
- 3. In the Name field, type a name for the new redundancy alias.
- 4. When you have finished configuring the redundancy alias properties, click the Apply button. The new redundancy alias appears under the tree control, as shown in the figure below.

<u>N</u> ame:	<u>R</u> egister Type:
Redundancy006	Redundancy Alias
	<u>D</u> ata Type:
Available through OPC	STRING
✓ Available through <u>Automation</u> ✓ <u>W</u> riteable	
Advanced	🖳 🗖 🖪 anges ————
Delay 0 milliseconds	Low: 0
Disable input updates propagation	High: 0

Configuring Redundancy Alias Properties

# **Configuring Redundancy Alias Properties**

The redundancy alias properties dialog box contains the following tabs, as shown in the figure below:

- Properties
- OPC Outputs
- Redundancy

Name	£	<u>R</u> egister Type:	
Red	undancy006	Redundancy Alias	
		<u>D</u> ata Type:	
🔽 🗛	vailable through <u>O</u> PC	STRING	
and the second second second	vailable through <u>A</u> utomation /riteable	,	
- Ad	vanced	<u> </u>	
De	ay 0 milliseconds	Low: 0	
	Disable input updates propagation	High: 0	

Configuring Redundancy Alias Properties

# **Redundancy Alias Settings: Properties Tab**

The **Properties** tab in the **Redundancy Alias Settings** dialog box, shown below, allows you to set the following redundancy alias parameters, as described in the table below.

Properties OPC Outputs Redundancy	
<u>N</u> ame: Redundancy006	<u>R</u> egister Type: Redundancy Alias
<ul> <li>✓ Available through <u>O</u>PC</li> <li>✓ Available through <u>A</u>utomation</li> <li>✓ <u>W</u>riteable</li> </ul>	Data Type: STRING
Advanced Delay 0 milliseconds Disable input updates propagation	Banges       Low:     0       High:     0

Redundancy Alias Settings: Properties Tab

### **Properties Tab Parameters**

NAME	A common tag name.	
REGISTER TYPE	Specifies Register, Alias, Switch Alias, or Redundancy Alias.	
AVAILABLE THROUGH OPC	Checking this box makes the register available to OPC clients.	
AVAILABLE THROUGH AUTOMATION	Checking this box makes the register available to VB applications so that it could be edited by a VB editor.	
WRITEABLE	This field is not available for redundancy aliases.	
DATA TYPE	This field is not available for redundancy aliases.	
RANGES	This field is not available for redundancy aliases.	
HIGH RANGE	This field is not available for redundancy aliases.	
LOW RANGE	This field is not available for redundancy aliases.	
DELAY You can specify a delay time for the register (in milliseconds the box provided.		
DISABLE OPC PROPAGATION SUPPORT	When an OPC item is connected to a register as both input and output, a fast sequence of writes to that register may cause item value oscillation. (This may happen when two subsequent writes to the register are faster than the OPC item can perform the write	

operation. The acknowledge of the first write then overwrites the second written value already being stored in the register.) To avoid this behavior, Check the **Disable input updates propagation** check box in the register properties.

NOTE
By default, the data type and range information are obtained from the input of register.

### **Redundancy Alias Settings: OPC Outputs Tab**

In the **OPC Outputs** tab in the **Redundancy Alias Settings** dialog box, shown below, you can select OPC tags and /or registers from the Unified Data Browser by clicking **Add OPC Output**.

When bridging OPC data, values are written to the outputs only when the input value changes. This is the default behavior. To modify this behavior, you can force DataWorX to refresh outputs periodically. Then the value is written to the outputs even if the input value does not change. You can specify a **Refresh Rate** for outputs by checking the **Refresh Outputs** check box and typing the output refresh rate (in seconds) in the edit box.

	NOTE	
∕ou r	nay select more than one tag for the output.	
	Properties OPC Outputs Redundancy	
		Add OPC Output
		<u>R</u> emove
	Refresh Outputs	
	Befresh Rate: 0 seconds	

Redundancy Alias Settings: OPC Outputs Tab

### **Redundancy Alias Settings: Redundancy Tab**

In the **Redundancy** tab in the **Redundancy Alias Settings** dialog box, shown below, you can define select redundant nodes/servers. Click the **Add** button to browse for computers on the network through the Unified Data Browser to be designated as a primary or secondary node. Click the **Move Up** and **Move Down** buttons to change the order of the nodes. Clicking the **Remove** button deletes a network node from the list of primary or secondary nodes.

The **Server** field displays the name of the server from which the designated PC is receiving its input. Click the ... button to browse a list of OPC servers in order to choose a server from which the PC that will be designated as a primary or secondary node will receive its input.

When DataWorX detects that a primary server is running again (after having crashed), it switches back to the primary server from the backup server. If the **Switch Back to Primary** check box is checked, you will be asked before DataWorX switches back to the primary server. This is in case you may not want to the primary server for some reason (e.g. the server is in testing mode).

Clicking the **Create Status Register** button allows you to specify whether the primary node is online or offline using the integers "0" or "1." It creates/updates a register that will be set to TRUE when the primary node is used, and set to FALSE otherwise. This register could be very helpful in triggering

alarms and starting/stopping data-logging.

Properties OPC Outputs Redundancy	
Nodes	Options
<u>A</u> dd	Switch back to Primary
<u>R</u> emove	Create Status Register
Move <u>Up</u> Move <u>D</u> own	This will create/update a register, which will be set to TRUE, when primary node is used, FALSE otherwise.
	The register will be named:
Server:	Redundancy006_isprimary
	Note: This obsoletes the Node Status Registers from DWX 7.x

Redundancy Alias Settings: Redundancy Tab

# **RUNTIME OPERATIONS**

# DataWorX Runtime Environment

The runtime environment of DataWorX lets you view real-time data as they are transmitted between the servers on the network. This is the state in which you can view the live data being received according to the parameters you set in configuration mode. The aggregation feature of DataWorX is especially useful during runtime mode. A register with its input connected to an OPC point can be used to "prerequest" items from the OPC servers. Because registers remain in existence during the entire runtime operation, the items connected to their inputs are also requested for the entire duration of runtime. Because of the feature of OPC aggregation, clients can then request these items without a delay.

During runtime, you can perform the following tasks:

- Open a DataWorX file.
- Edit the value of a register.
- Change the value of an alias.
- Edit an alias and change its default value.

# Starting and Stopping Runtime Mode

You can switch to runtime mode by selecting **Start Runtime** from the **Action** menu in configuration mode. You can stop runtime mode by selecting **Stop Runtime** from the **Action** menu. Clicking the traffic light button on the toolbar, shown at left, also commences or stops runtime mode. The traffic light icon switches from red to green once you switch from the configuration mode to runtime mode.



The runtime module loads its configuration from the active configuration database. The Configurator sets this setting by the **Make Active** command on the **File** menu of the Configurator. During runtime mode, the runtime monitor shows live data for the items displayed. It logs the start and stop of runtime as many times as runtime is started and stopped. It also displays messages giving the current status of the tags. Selecting **Update Runtime Configuration** from the **File** menu forces the DataWorX runtime engine to reload any changes made in to the configuration database since runtime mode was started.

When the **DwxRuntime** is in memory (running), it is accessible to OPC clients, which may connect to it. If DwxRuntime is in runtime mode, it connects to the underlying OPC servers and gets data, does data bridging, etc. If DwxRuntime is in memory but not in runtime mode, OPC clients can connect to it but they do not get any data.

# **Monitor View**

The Configurator includes a runtime monitor for viewing live server data. To change to the monitor view, select **Monitor View** from the **View** menu. The runtime monitor appears in the bottom pane of the Configurator screen, as shown in the figure below. During runtime, the monitor scans the displays the tag values and other statistics such as date, time, and quality.

Monitoring is enabled for each item with a check mark next to it. To enable/disable monitoring for an item, you can click on the box to the left of the item. A check mark inside the box means the item is enabled for monitoring. If there is no check mark, then the item is disabled.

Item ID	Value	Timestamp	Quality	Subquality	Lir
🗹 LogicalDataItem	0 (VT_BOOL)	09/29/03 17:40:39.558	Good	Non-specific	No
✓ NumericDataItem	0.053987243263039 (V	09/29/03 17:40:40.058	Good	Non-specific	No
✓ TextualDataItem	"HqM(Ubiqo;q\f" (VT_BS	09/29/03 17:40:40.058	Good	Non-specific	No
•					Þ

### **Runtime Monitor View**

### Monitor View Refresh Rate

To set the **OPC Monitoring Update Rate** (in milliseconds), select **Options** from the **Tools** menu and click on the **General** tab of the **Options** dialog box, as shown in the figure below.

Dptions	×
General       Browse Interface         Workspace settings         Image: Save regional settings in registry         Image: Automatically apply changes when selection is changed	
Enable hover selection. Hover Time: 500 [ms]	
Monitor view settings Update Rate: 500 [ms]	
OK Cancel Help	

**Options Dialog Box: General Tab** 

# **Enable Monitoring**

Monitoring is enabled for each item with a check mark next to it. To enable/disable monitoring for an item, you can click on the box to the left of the item. A check mark inside the box means the item is enabled for monitoring. If there is no check mark, then the item is disabled. To enable monitoring for an unchecked item in the monitor view, you can also right-click on the item and select **Enable Monitoring** from the pop-up menu, as shown in the figure below.

<u>ه</u>	Item ID	Value		Timestamp	
3- 8-	LogicalDataItem	NA 0.992034669026765		able Monitoring	970
	✓ TextualDataItem	"B%62IxRa4UF" (VT_	Se	lect All	970
anah Sinah	✓ le monitoring for select	ted item(s).	In	vert Selection 6 Object(	(s)

Enabling Monitoring for an Item

# **Disable Monitoring**

Monitoring is enabled for each item with a check mark next to it. To enable/disable monitoring for an item, you can click on the box to the left of the item. A check mark inside the box means the item is enabled for monitoring. If there is no check mark, then the item is disabled. To disable monitoring for a checked item in the monitor view, you can also right-click on the item and select **Disable** 

Monitoring from the pop-up menu, as shown in the figure below.

	Item ID	Value		Timesta	an
_□	✓ LogicalDataItem	1 (VT_B)	100	09/29/0	03
-	✓ NumericDataItem	0.59981	Enable Monitorin	19 <u>/</u> (	03
-0-	🗹 TextualDataItem	"qvs/^"	Disable Monitori	ng 🕡	03
			Select All	hs	
=	•		Invert Selection		
	A Monitoring for selec	toditor	Invert Selection		

isable Monitoring for selected item(s).

Disabling Monitoring for an Item

# Running DataWorX As a Service

In general, DataWorX can be registered and run as a service (e.g. under Windows NT and Windows 2000) as well as a stand-alone COM server. However, the following differences apply:

To configure DataWorX to run as a service, do the following:

- 1. Install ProcessView or DataWorX.
- 2. Use the DataWorX Configurator to configure your application.
- Once the application setup is completed, use the ProcessView Tray to register to DataWorX as an NT Service. To do this, start ProcessView Tray from the Windows Start menu by selecting Programs > Smar ProcessView > Tools > ProcessView Tray.
- 4. A purple triangle appears in the task bar, as shown in the figure below.



Task Bar With ProcessView Tray Icon

 Right-click on the triangle to open the ProcessView Tray menu, as shown in the figure below. Select DataWorX > NT Service from the pop-up menu, as shown in the figure below.

**NOTE** You can also use ProcessView Tray to set DataWorX to start automatically as an NT service the next time the PC is rebooted; select **DataWorX > Automatic** from the pop-up menu.

	GenBroker	•
Start	DataWorX	•
Stop	Secure Desktop	₽
Auto Start	ScriptWorX	Þ
Auto Stop	AlarmWorX	•
✓ NT Service	GraphWorX	•
	Screen Manager	•
Automatic		

Registering DataWorX As a Service

# OLE Automation in DataWorX

DataWorX 8.0 consists of two parts – the Configurator and the Runtime part. Both expose an OLE Automation interface; however the Configurator's interface is designed for use with ProjectWorX.

The interface of the Runtime part is described below.

The name of the ProcessView DwxRuntime Automation Library is **AutoDwxRuntimeLib.** It defines the following classes and interfaces:

- DwxRuntime
- IPoint
- IRegister
- IRedundancyAlias

### **DwxRuntime Object**

This object represents the whole DataWorX Runtime module. It contains other DataWorX objects like points and registers. It can be used to create or access them.

### Methods

### GetPoint(strName As String, nScanRate As Long) As IPoint

Creates a point object with the specified name and scan rate and returns and interface of it. The point object can be subsequently used to read and/or write values from/to OPC servers. The **strName** parameter should meet ProcessView point name convention:

i.e. [\\node\]OPCServer\TagName.

The nScanRate is the requested scan rate in milliseconds.

#### GetRegister(strName As String) As IRegister

Returns an interface of an existing DataWorX register. This interface can be used to access the registers value and some of its properties.

#### GetRedundancyAlias(strName As String) As IRedundancyAlias

Returns an interface of an existing DataWorX Redundancy Alias object.

#### ConfigurationUpdate()

Forces DataWorX to reload the active configuration and include changes made since the configuration was loaded last time.

#### Shutdown()

Forces DataWorX to quit immediately. Any reference to DwxRuntime object becomes invalid after calling this function. Users should not call this function – it has been primarily designed for ProcessView ProcessView Tray.

#### Property

### **Runtime As Boolean**

This is a read-write property that tells whether DataWorX is in runtime mode. Writing to it starts or stops the runtime operation. When starting the runtime operation, DataWorX requests points on OPC servers; the data updates from the OPC servers are propagated during runtime (data bridging).

### **IPoint Interface**

An interface to a point object can be obtained by calling the **DwxRuntime.GetPoint()** function. The point objects represent a non-persistent connection to OPC servers.

#### **Properties**

#### Name As String

Read-only property; name of the relevant OPC point, in the ProcessView point name convention.

### Value As Variant

Read-write property; represents value of the relevant OPC point. Writing to this property causes an asynchronous write to the OPC server.

#### Method

GetValueEtc(Value, Quality As Long, Timestamp As Date, Milliseconds As Long) Gets the current value, quality and timestamp of the relevant OPC point object.

### **IRegister Interface**

An interface to a register existing in DataWorX. It may represent registers of any type (i.e. aliases, switch aliases, etc.) defined in DataWorX. This interface can be obtained by calling

### DwxRuntime.GetRegister().

### Properties

**Name As String** Read-only property; name of the relevant DataWorX register.

### Value As Variant

Read-write property; represents the value of the relevant DataWorX register. Writing to this property changes the value of the register. If the register has defined any output, the new value may be also written into the output.

#### **Ranges As Boolean**

Read-write property telling the user whether the ranges of the DataWorX register are valid and should be used.

### HiRange As Double

#### LoRange As Double

Read/write properties containing ranges of the register. Writing to these properties modifies the ranges used in runtime to clip the register value. The range changes are not persistent (do not get stored into the active configuration database.)

### **REGISTER_TYPE** RegType

Read-only property; type of the register, one of the REGISTER_TYPE values:

RT_REGISTER = 0 RT_ALIAS = 1 RT_REDUNDANCY_ALIAS = 2 RT_REDUNDANCY_FLAG = 3 RT_SWITCH_ALIAS = 4

### Method

GetValueEtc(Value, Quality As Long, Timestamp As Date, Milliseconds As Long) Gets the current value, quality and timestamp of the DataWorX register.

### **IRedundancyAlias Interface**

An interface to a redundancy alias existing in DataWorX. It can be obtained by calling Application.GetRedundancyAlias(). It can be used to force a redundancy switchover.

#### Methods

### **SwitchToPrimary**

Forces redundancy switchover to the node defined as primary.

### SwitchToNext

Forces redundancy switchover to the backup node following the node that is currently used. If the currently used node is the last backup node, it will switch again to the primary node.

### **Properties**

#### **IsPrimary As Boolean**

Returns TRUE if redundancy currently uses the node defined as primary; otherwise returns FALSE.

#### PrimaryNodeName As String

Returns the name of the node defined as primary.

#### CurrentNodeName As String

Returns the name of the currently used node.