EXOR® *Tech-note*

New Features in Designer 5.08/UniOP 4.40

The new UniOP Designer version 5.08 and its companion UniOP firmware version 4.40 come with plenty of new interesting features. This Technical Note contains highlights of the new release and will help you point out the differences and the improvements from the previous versions.

Contents

1.   Data Acquisition and Trends

Trending is divided into two main parts: trend acquisition and trend viewer. The acquisition module has the responsibility of collecting the data into a database. The trend viewer has the responsibility of displaying the data from this database in a graphical format.

1.1   Trend buffer

The first step in creating a trend is to create a trend buffer. The user will need to define two items: the PLC variable that is to be sampled and the method in which the variable is to be sampled. The variable can be sampled from the UniOP panel or the variable can be sampled directly from the PLC. If the variable is sampled from the UniOP panel, all of the data from the trend buffer will be stored within the memory of the UniOP panel. If the variable is sampled directly from the PLC, the data from the trend buffer will be stored in the memory of the PLC. In the latter case, the only duty of the UniOP will be to graphically display the trend buffer data from the PLC.

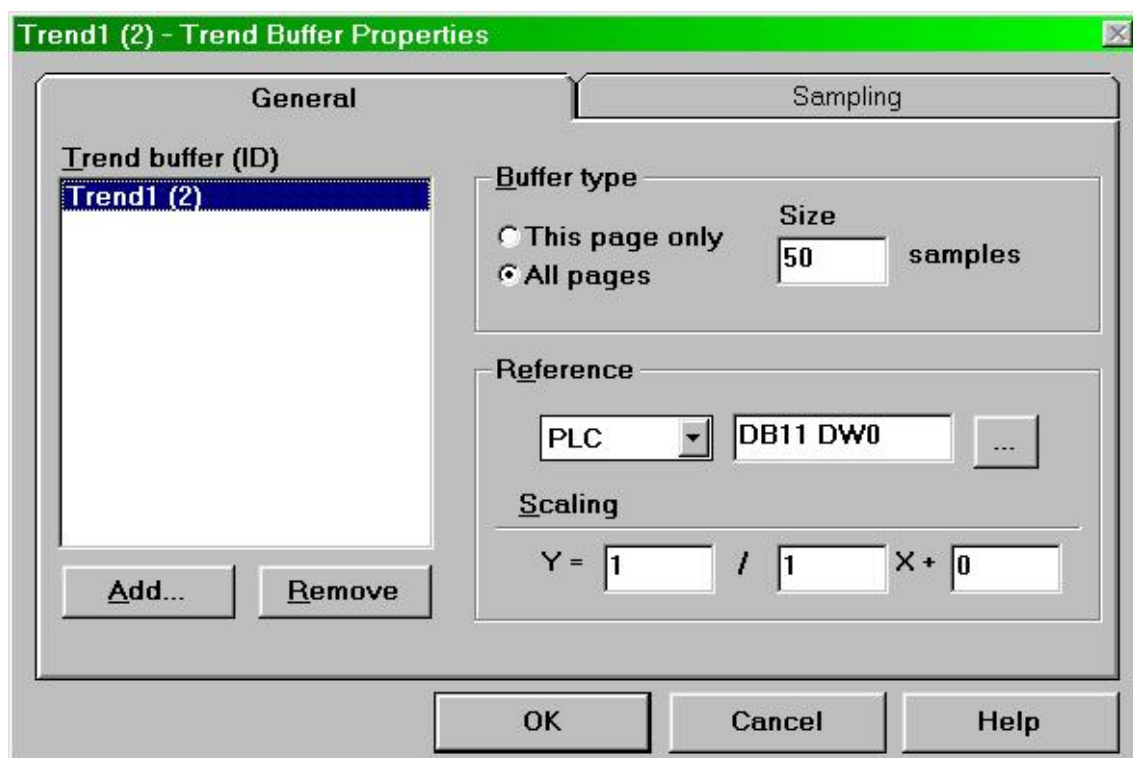
Figure 1

Add/Remove Trend buffer

To define a trend buffer, select the Trend Buffer option from the Project menu and click the Add… button to define a Trend Buffer name. After defining the name, select the Reference that is to be sampled.

To remove a previously defined trend buffer, select the name of the buffer from the Trend buffer list and click the Remove button.

Buffer Types

It is necessary for the user to select the size and type of buffer to be defined. Trends can be sampled in one of two ways. One option is to sample the trend buffer only when the page where the trend associated with the trend buffer is being displayed. The other option is to continuously sample the trend buffer, regardless of whether or not the trend associated with the trend buffer is being displayed. Please note that number of trends that can be sampled in background is limited.

This page only	Trend buffer will be sampled only when the page containing the trend associated with the trend buffer is displayed.
All pages	Trend buffer will be sampled regardless of what page is being displayed.
Size	Buffer size, number of samples that will be kept during the background sampling.

Tips:

- When a trend is sampled in the background (All pages), the sample size reflects the number of old samples that will be shown when the page that contains the trend associated with the trend buffer is displayed.

- When a trend is sampled in real time (This page only), the user will never see any old samples because sampling begins when the page that contains the trend is displayed. In this configuration the sample size is useful only when using the macros to scroll the trend along the X-axis. If these macros will not be used, the user can save UniOP memory by setting the sample size to 1.

Reference

The variable to be sampled. This can be a PLC variable or an internal UniOP variable.

Scaling

Allows for a linear transformation of the data being sampled. This allows the user to scale the data before storing it inside the trend buffer.

1.2   Sampling methods
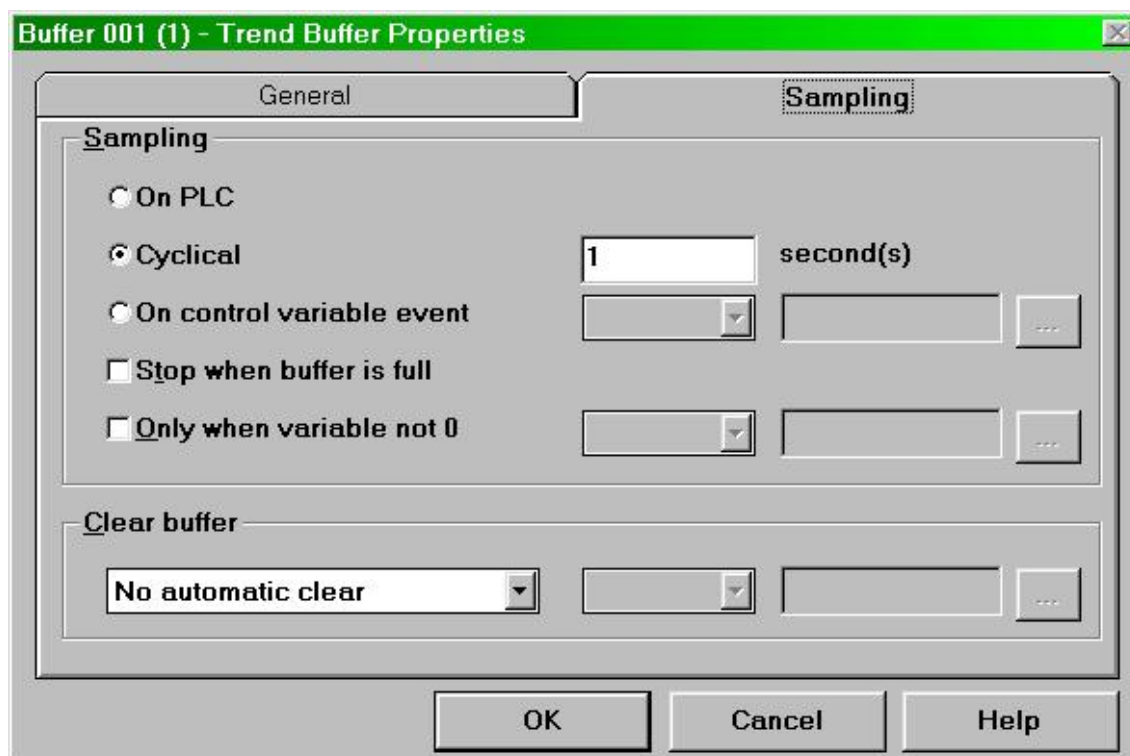
Figure 2

This area allows the user to define when the trend samples will be taken.

On PLC   Samples are collected from the trend buffer stored inside the memory of the PLC.

Cyclical   Samples are taken from the memory of the UniOP on a cyclical basis. The cycle time, in seconds, must be defined.

On control variable event Samples are taken, one a time, when a PLC variable changes value (Tip: use a counter to trigger the sampling: 000->001->002->003....)

Stop when buffer is full
Use this checkbox to stop the sampling when the trend buffer is full. This is a first-in first-out (FIFO) buffer. Once the buffer is full, older sample values will be erased to allow the new sample values to be stored.

Only when variable is not 0
When this checkbox is set, data will be sampled only when the defined PLC variable does not contain a value of zero. When the PLC variable contains a value of zero, sampling is suspended.

Clear buffer
This option allows the user to define when to clear the trend buffer.

No automatic clear   Trend buffer is never cleared. However if the "Stop when buffer is full" checkbox is not selected, the oldest sample is removed and the newest sample is stored when the buffer is filled.

On panel startup   Trend buffer is cleared upon power up of the UniOP

On controlling variable Trend buffer is cleared when the selected PLC Reference changes value
When full The entire trend buffer is cleared when it becomes full.

1.3   Trend viewer

The Trend Viewer is the window used to display the trend buffer. To define a trend viewer, click and drag an area and select the Trend Viewer icon from the floating TouchScreen toolbox. This icon is shown at right.

Within the **General** index tab of the **Trend Viewer Properties** dialog box, the user can define the main trend viewer properties such as the title, colors, border, grid, etc..
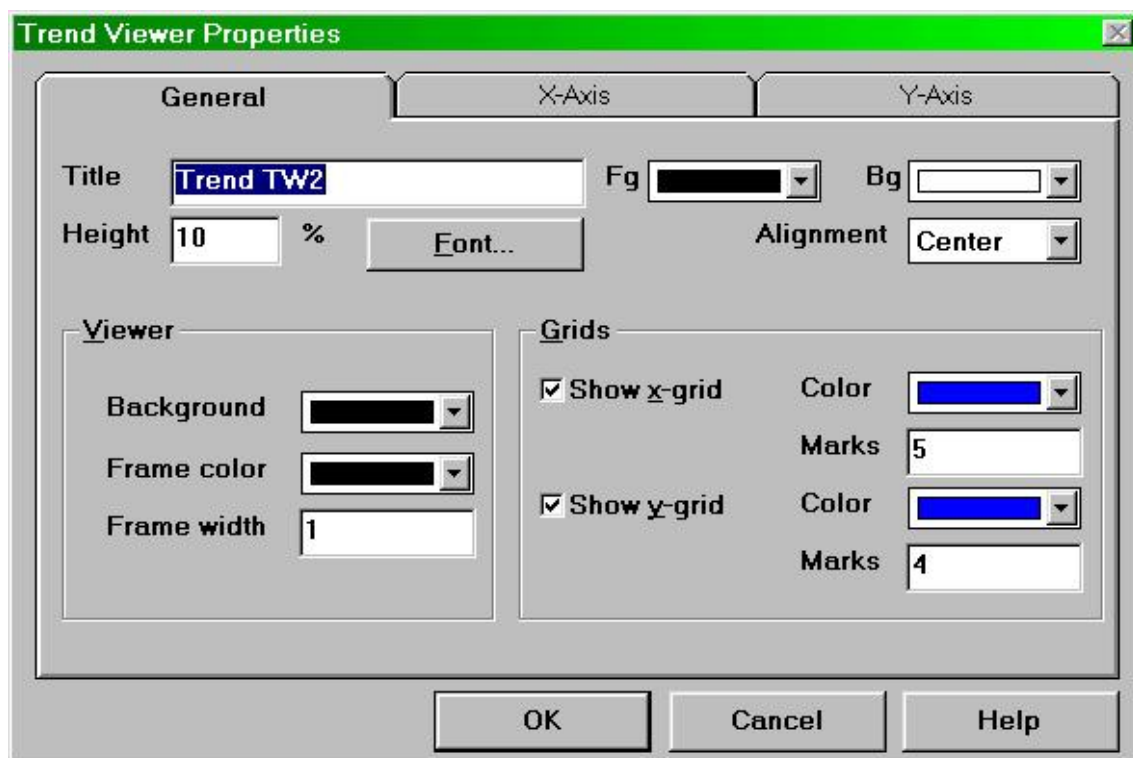

Figure 3

Options in the Title section defines the visual appearance of the trend viewer window title

Title
Trend title (this is a label).

Height
Height of the reserved area for the trend viewer title.

Font
Title fonts (can be select from installed Windows fonts).

Foreground
Title foreground colors.

Background

Title background colors.

Alignment
Title alignment. Can be Left, Right or Center.

Options in the viewer section define the appearance of the trend viewer window.

Background
Trend window background colors.

Frame color
Trend frame color.

Frame width
Trend frame width (set to 0 for no frame).

Grids sections contains the options of the grid in the viewer window.

Show x-grid
Check box to enable the horizontal grid.

Color
Horizontal grid color.

Mask
Number of horizontal grid lines.

Show y-grid
Check box to enable the vertical grid.

Color
Vertical grid color.

Mask
Number of vertical grid lines.

1.3.1 Y-Axis

Selecting the **Y-Axis** index tab will allow the user to select the trend buffers (curves) to be displayed inside the trend viewer. Use the Add… and Remove buttons to add or remove trend buffers. For any curve, the user can choose the visualization properties such as line type, style, size and color.

Please note that once a curve is added to the trend viewer, the user will only be able to add additional curves of the same sampling method to that particular trend viewer.
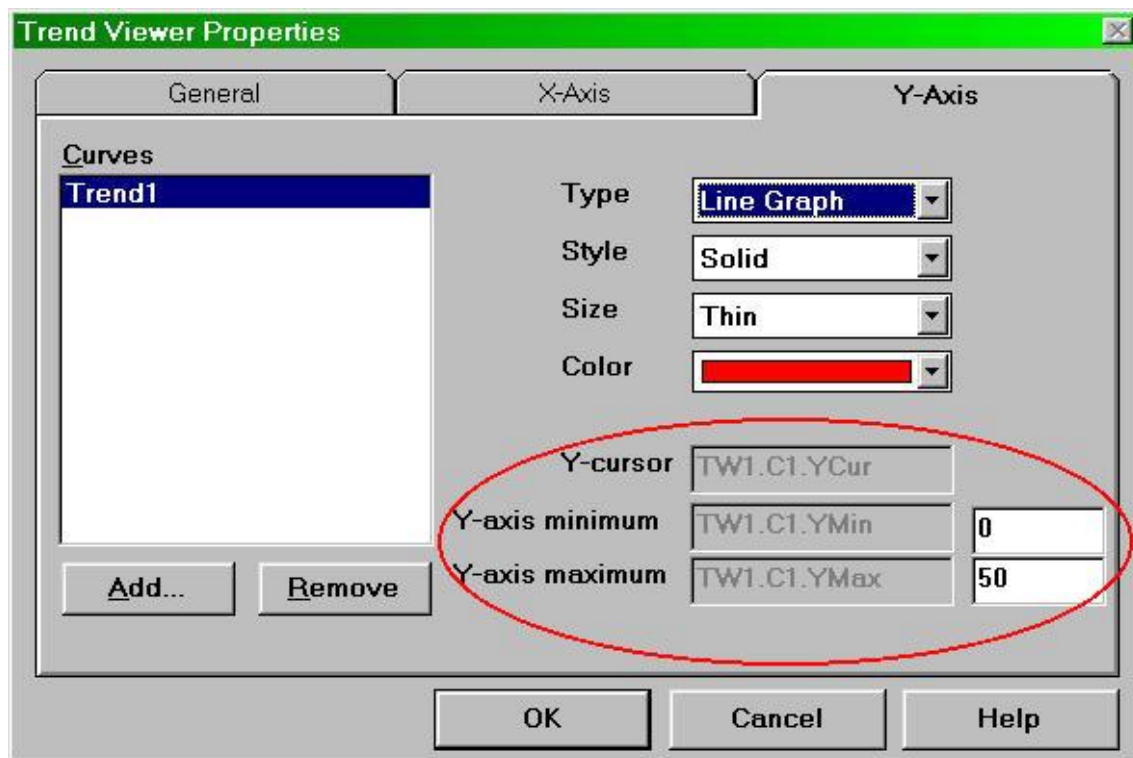
Figure 4

Add/Remove Curves

The Add… button opens a dialog box that contains a list of all the active trend buffers that can be used. Please remember that if a curve is already inserted on the trend viewer, only the trend buffers that are sampled in the same manner as the already-inserted curve will be displayed.

To remove a previously inserted curve, select it from the Curves list and click the Remove button.

Type

Curve type. Can be *Line*, *Step* or *Filled bar graph*

Style

Curve style. Can be *Solid*, *Dotted*, *Dashed*, *Dash Dot* and *Dash Dot Dot*. The style type is applicable only when curve is line type.

Size

Curve size. Can be *Thin*, *Medium* and *Thick*.

Color

Curve color. The basic 16 colors are supported.

Designer creates three new variables for every curve defined. These variables are internal panel control variables that can be used to display properties of the trend on the UniOP in alphanumeric format.

Y-cursor
This variable can be used to display the value of the curve at a point on the Y-axis. Use the trend macros to activate the trend cursor.

Y-axis minimum
Y-axis maximum
These variables contain the minimum and maximum values of the defined Y-axis. On the right of the dialog box, the user can define the default value (Y-axis range) that will be used when the trend viewer is displayed. If the user puts these internal panel control variables on the UniOP as read/write fields, their values can be modified on-line, allowing the user to dynamically change the Y-axis range.

1.3.2   X-Axis

Use this index tab to define the X-axis properties of the trend viewer. Please note that a single X-Axis exists for all of the curves that have been inserted inside the same trend viewer window.

Figure 5

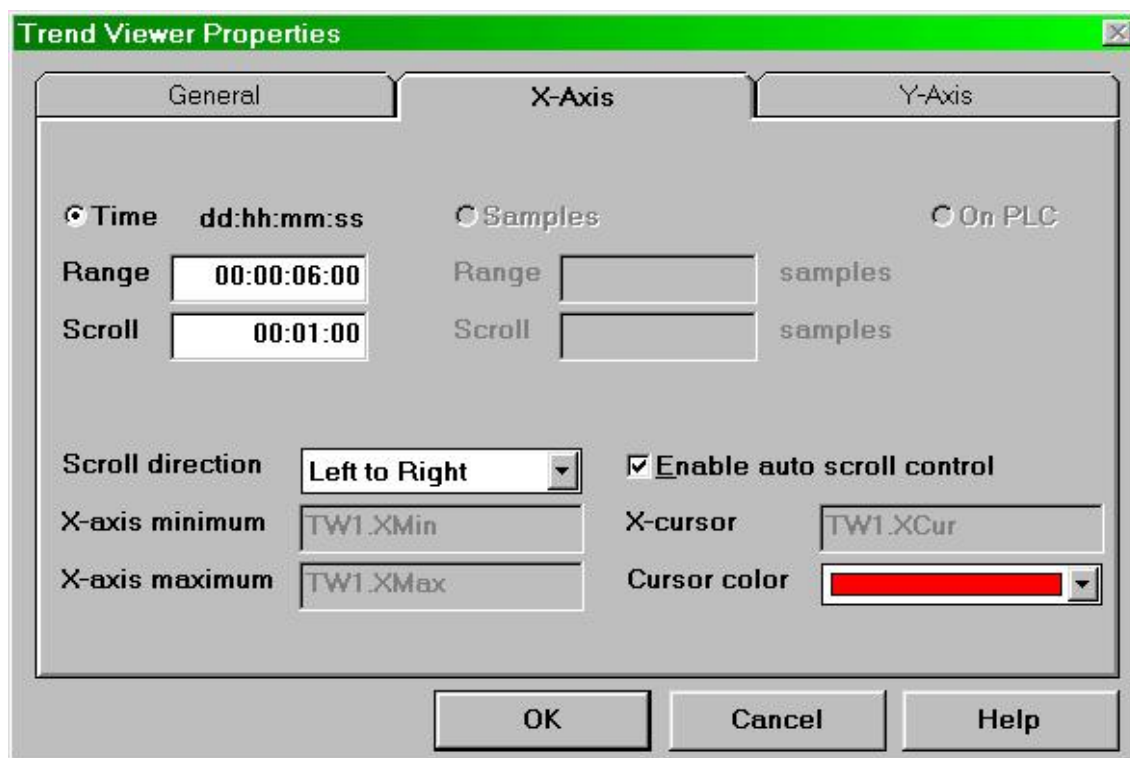The format of the X-Axis (Time, Samples or On PLC) is defined from the curves that are inside the trend viewer. When no curves are defined, all of these radio button are disabled. After adding one or more curves, only the appropriate radio button is enabled.

Time
X-axis range is time defined. This will be enabled when the trend buffers inside the trend viewer are sampled cyclically from the UniOP.

Samples
X-axis range is defined by a maximum number of samples. This will be enabled when the trend buffers inside the trend viewer are sampled on PLC events.

On PLC
X-axis range is defined by a maximum number of samples. The number of samples must be defined inside the PLC memory. See the Trend Buffer on PLC section for details.

Enable auto scroll control
Use this checkbox to enable a trend viewer shift when the trend viewer becomes full.

Scroll
The scroll parameter defines how much the trend viewer will be shifted upon each scroll operation. The scroll parameter can be a fixed amount of time or a fixed number of samples.

Scroll direction
This parameter defines the direction of the curve. The curve can be drawn *Left to Right*, *Right to Left*, *Up to Down* or *Down to Up*.

X-cursor
This variable can be used to display the value of the curve at a point on the X-axis. Use the trend macros to activate the trend cursor.

Cursor Color
Color used to draw the X-axis cursor.

X-axis minimum
X-axis maximum
These variables contain the minimum and maximum values of the defined X-axis. The user can put these variable on the UniOP by selecting the Time/Date icon located on the floating TouchScreen toolbar.

1.4   Trend buffers on PLC

Samples can be collected and stored inside the trend buffer of the UniOP or in the memory of the PLC. This section describes how to set up and organize trend buffers that are sampled inside the PLC.

Note: Trend buffers on PLC are available only on a few selected communication drivers. Please enquiry for availability.

To enable a trend buffer in PLC memory, select the On PLC radio button inside the Trend Buffer Properties dialog box.
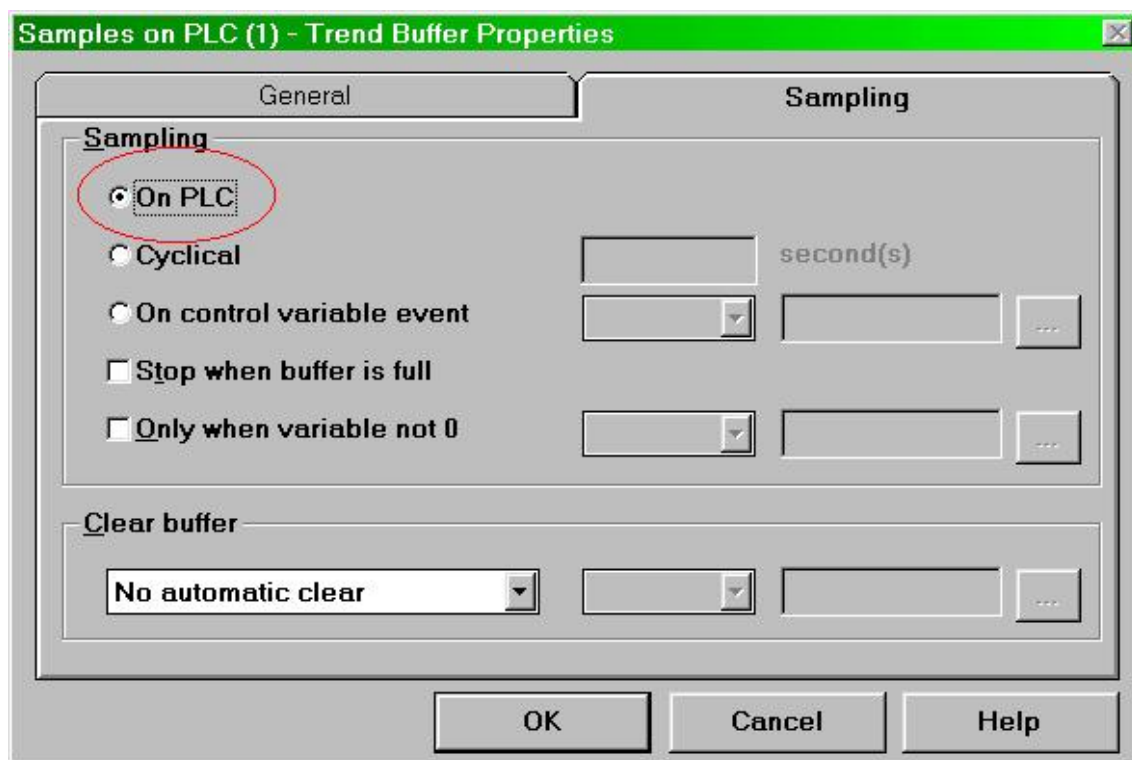
Figure 6

1.4.1 PLC memory area

To properly sample and store the data in the PLC, the trend buffer needs to be defined as a consecutive number of words with the following structure:

Word	00	Trend buffer identify (counter)
Word	01	Max number of samples (size of the trend window)
Word	02	Number of samples available to be displayed in the PLC memory
Word	03	Sample #01
Word	04	Sample #02
Word	05	Sample #03
Word	06	Sample #04
	....	
Word	nn	Sample #nn

The address of the first PLC word (Word 00) needs to be entered in the Reference field of the Trend Buffer Properties dialog box.

Word 00 Identification number of the trend buffer being displayed. The UniOP will erase its internal copy of samples when it detects a change in the value of this word.

Word 01 Size of the trend window displayed on the UniOP as a number of samples. The uses this information each time a page of the project file is initialized.

Word 02   Number of active samples inside the PLC memory. The UniOP will draw a trend based on the number of samples entered in this memory location. When this value is increased, a new piece of the trend will be drawn. Likewise, when this value is decreased, a portion of the trend will be removed.

If the user wants to "freeze" the trend, enter a value of zero in this memory location. To erase the entire trend from the UniOP, this value must be set to zero AND the value of Word 00 must be changed.

PLC operation mode

Initialization

Word 00	= 0
Word 01	= <Buffer width in samples>
Word 02	= 0

Sampling (loop)

Word 03/nn	= Add samples
Word 02	= Update the number of ready samples

New trend

Word 02	= Set to 0 to invalidate the PLC trend buffer (UniOP can continue to use and display the samples already displayed, but it cannot display new samples)
Word 03/nn	= Add new samples
Word 00	= +1 (UniOP detects this change and erases the trend)
Word 02	= Update the number of ready samples

1.5   Internal panel control variables

The internal panel control variables associated with trending can be defined and used from the trend viewer. Alphanumeric values of these variables can be displayed on the UniOP. To access these variables, it is necessary to switch the Designer into Control Variables mode and create a numeric field. The user will need to select UniOP variable within the Data Type list box. The Variable name control will show the list of variables that have already been defined. The meaning of these variables can be found inside the trend viewer.
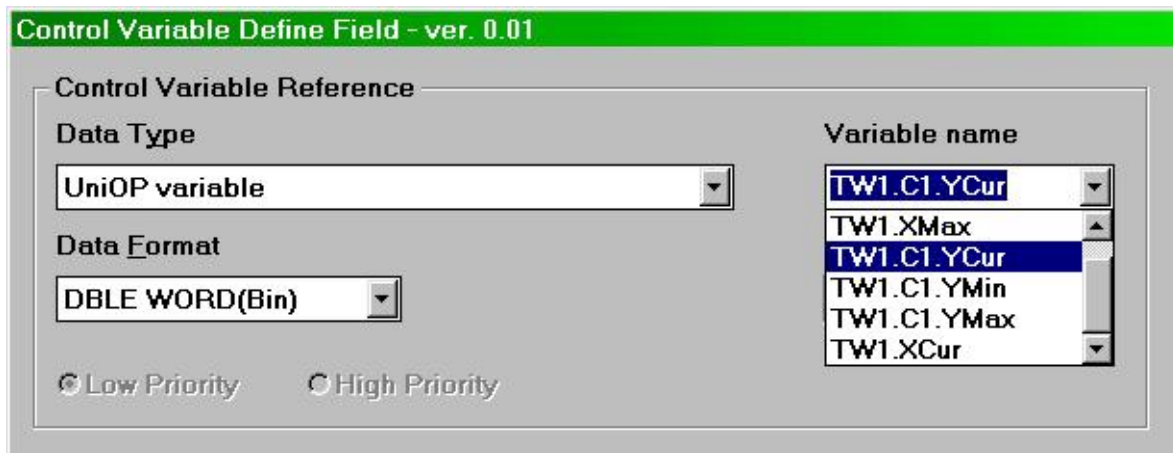
Figure 7

1.6 Trend macros

There have been two icons added to the Macro Editor that are associated with trending. The first macro, Trend buffer print, can be defined as a global macro (define the macro within the All Pages index tab). The second macro, Trend Window, can be defined only on a local basis (define the macro within the Page index tab). Please note that the Trend Window icon will not be visible when the Page index tab is not selected.
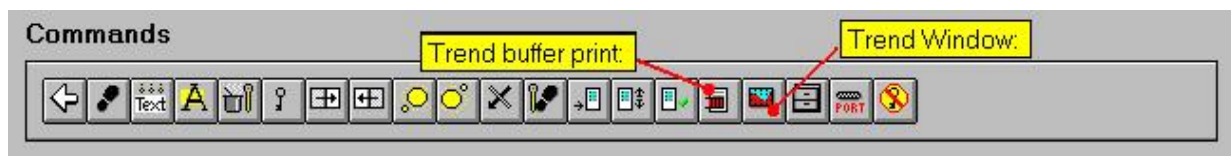
Figure 8

Trend buffer print
This macro gives the user the ability to print the trend buffer in alphanumeric format. The "buffer to print" parameter shows all of the active trend buffers that can be printed

Trend Windows
This macro allows for manipulation of the trend currently being viewed.

Trend viewer scrolling

- Action: Scroll Forward, Scroll Backward
  Scroll the entire trend viewer left or right. The scroll step parameter defines the scrolling size.

- Action: Automatic Scroll On/Off
  Trend viewers are configured to scroll the trend to the left by default. This macro will disable the automatic scrolling feature.

Trend viewer zooming

- Action: Zoom X, Zoom Y
  The zoom percentage parameter defines the new displayed range of the trend. For example, a zoom percentage of 200% will show half of the originally displayed trend, while a 50% value will show an area twice the size of the originally displayed trend.

- Reset Trend Wnd. Time
  This command resets the axes ranges to their original values.

Trend cursor

- Action: On/Off Cursor
  This command will enable/disable the graphic cursor. When a graphic cursor is enabled, the scrolling of the trend is stopped. The user can implement the scroll cursor macros to move the graphical cursor over the curves or to move the entire trend window.

  Tips:
  - To display values from the Y-axis on the UniOP, use the Internal panel control variables. The names of the available Y-cursor variables can be found by looking inside the Trend Viewer dialog box.

  - To display values from the X-axis, use the Time/Date icon that is located in the floating TouchScreen toolbar.

- Action: Scroll Cursor Forward, Scroll Cursor Backward
  Use these commands to create buttons that move the cursor forward or backward. The scroll step parameter defines the scrolling size.

  Tips:
  - In order to have a smooth cursor movement over the curve, it is helpful if the user programs these commands in the Autorepeat Mode.

1.7   Printing

Trend buffers can be printed in either alphanumeric format or in graphic format. To print a trend buffer in **alphanumeric format** use the print trend macro. To print in **graphic mode**, use the Print Report features within Designer. To do this, it will be necessary for the user to create a page that contains the trend view to be printed.

1.8   Mailbox

The user can start a trend buffer printout by issuing a mailbox command.

The Mailbox command used to print a trend buffer is **0x00A1.** The first mailbox parameter is the trend ID number. The user can find the ID number assigned to the trend buffer by looking inside the Trend Buffer dialog box.
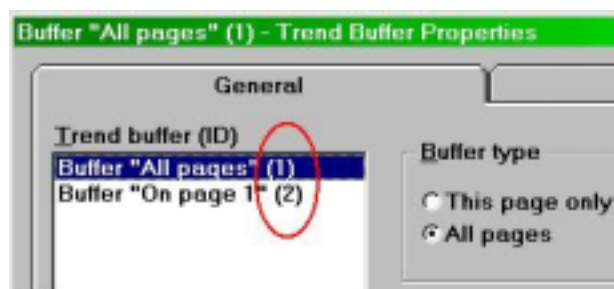
The mailbox command response codes are:

0	=	OK	Command executed successfully
1	=	ERROR	Printer is busy (another print job in execution)
2	=	ERROR	Invalid trend buffer ID

An example of using a mailbox command to start a trend buffer print is shown below:

DB10, DB01 <- 161 (0x00A1)	Write the mailbox command code
DB10, DB02 <- 1	Write the trend ID
DB10, DB00 <- 1	Start the mailbox command

1.9   Limitations

Max number of trend windows inside the same page	10
Max number of curves inside the same trend window	10
Total number of curves that can be use inside the same page	20
Max number of global trend buffers sampled in background	10
Cyclical sampling period	1-9999 sec
The total memory reserved for trend buffer	20 KB

The available memory area in the PLC that can be used to store trend buffers is limited to 60 bytes.

2.   Gauges

Gauges are simple instruments that display numerical values by moving a needle to the appropriate position over a labeled scale. A typical gauge on a UniOP could look like this:
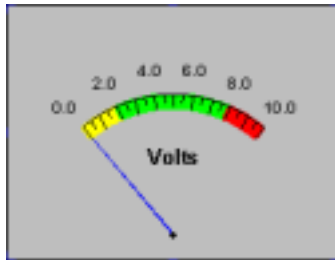
Using the Gauge dialog box, the look of the gauge can be change to suit the needs of the user. Here are some examples:
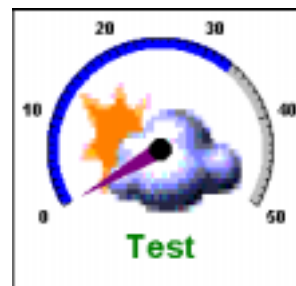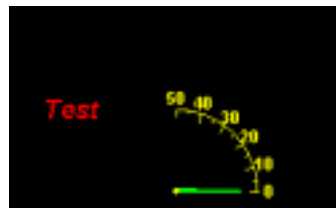
Up to 10 gauges can be displayed on a single page within a project.

2.1   To insert a gauge on page

To insert a gauge in Designer, click and drag an area where the gauge is to appear and click the Gauge button on the floating toolbar.

2.1.1   General parameters

Within this index tab, the user can enter the main properties that define the gauge, such as the Title, Minimum and Maximum scale values, etc
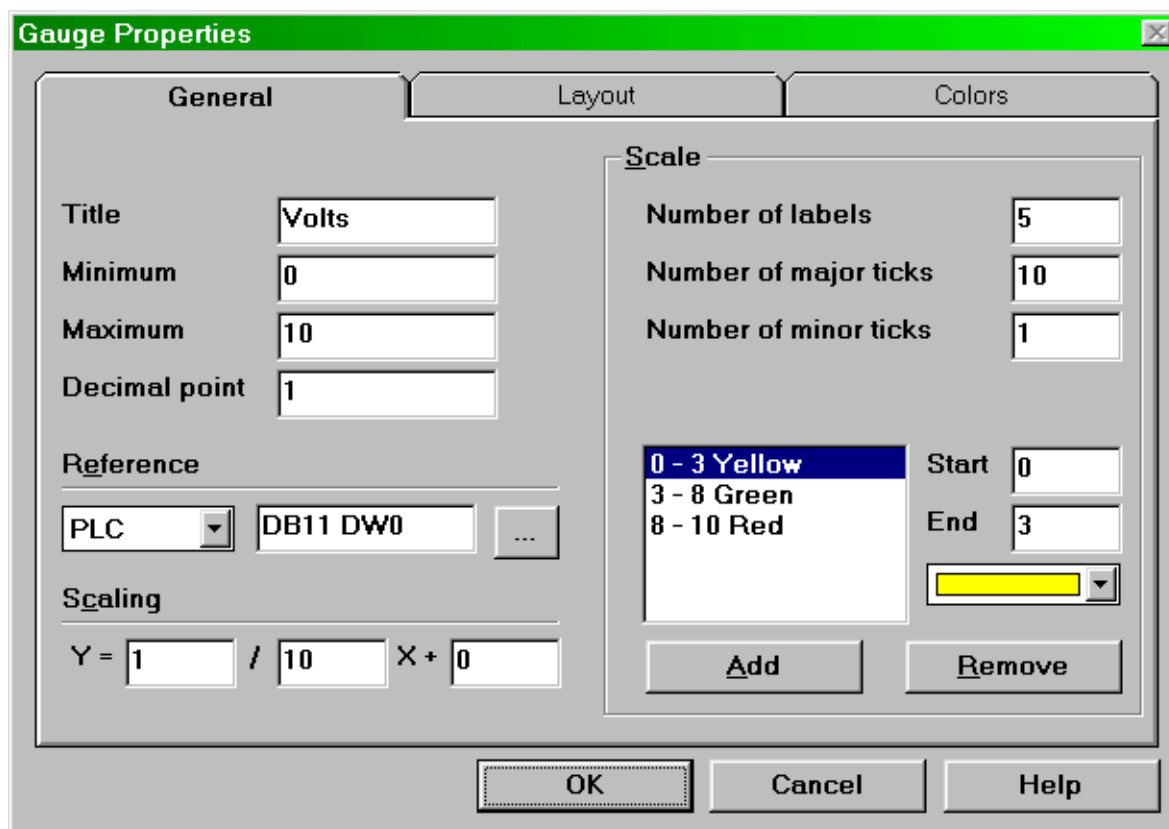
Figure 9

Title
This is the title for the gauge.

Minimum
Maximum
Minimum and maximum values on the gauge scales

Decimal point
Number of digits past the decimal point to be displayed on the gauge. A value of zero means that only integer values will be displayed.

Reference
Defines the variable to graphically represent. Variables can be PLC references or internal UniOP variables.

Scaling
By using the scaling parameter, it is possible to perform a linear transformation on the value to be displayed.

Scale label parameters
By using these parameters, it is possible to define the labels, tick marks and directionality of the gauge.
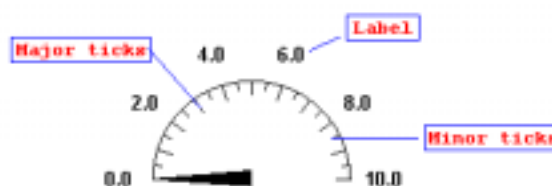
Number of labels
Number of labels on the scale

Major ticks
Number of major ticks on the scale

Minor ticks
Number of minor ticks on the scale

Colored arcs
These parameters are used to define different colored zones on the gauge. To define a color range on the gauge, click the Add button. Fill in the Start and End edit boxes with the range and select the color. To delete a color zone, select the color zone from the list and click the Remove button.

Figure 10

2.2   Layout parameters

The parameters within this index tab are used to define the layout of the gauge.

Figure 11

Figure 12

Title x position
Title x position. 50% is in the middle of the box area, 0% on left border and 100% on right border.

Title y position

Title y position. 50% is in the middle of the box area, 0% on upper border and 100% on bottom border.

Title font

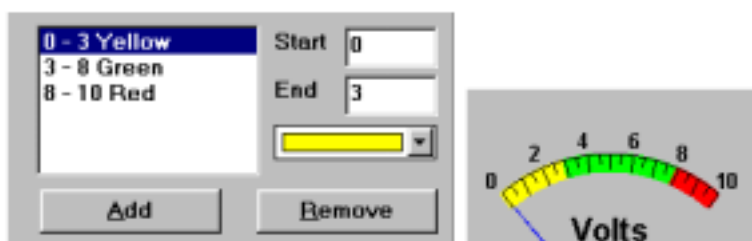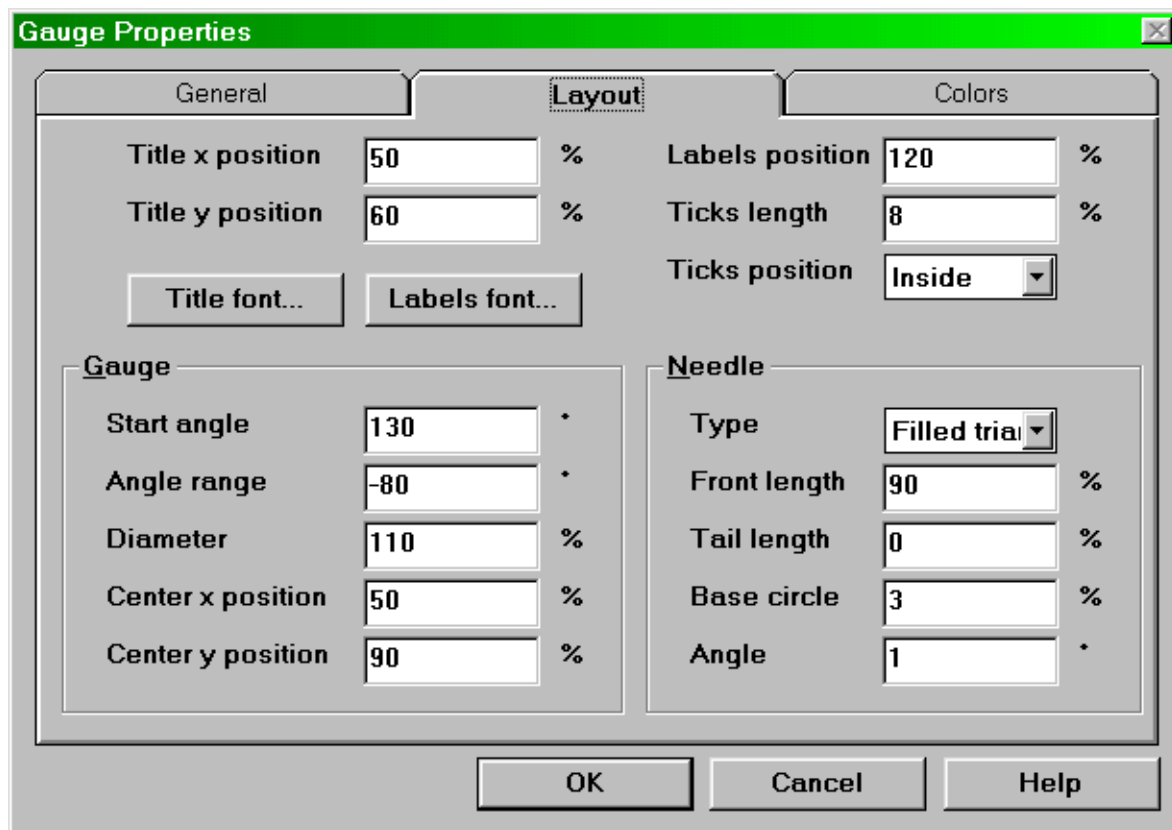Title fonts (can be select from installed Windows fonts).

Label position

Label position. 100% is on the gauge scale circle. Greater of 100% is outside the scale and less of 100% is inside the scale.

Ticks length

Dimension, in pixels, of major tickets. Minor tickets are half the size of major ticks.

Ticks position

Ticks position on the gauge scale. Can be *Inside*, *Outside* or in the *Middle* of the scale.

Label font

Title fonts (can be select from installed Windows fonts).

Gauge

Start angle

Scale start angle. It can be from -360° to +360°

Angle range

Scale range. It can be from -360° to +360°. Use negative values the have clockwise movement, positive values to have counterclockwise movement.

Diameter

Diameter is a percentage (0-100%) of the lowest box side

Center x position

Gauge x position. 50% is in the middle of the box area, 0% on left border and 100% on right border.

Center y position

Gauge y position. 50% is in the middle of the box area, 0% on upper border and 100% on bottom border.

Needle

Front length

Needle length. It is in percentage of the gauge radius.

Tail length

Needle tail length. It is in percentage of the gauge radius.

Base circle

It is a circle that highlights the needle rotations point. Size of this circle is defined in percentages of the gauge diameter.

Angle

Width of the needle. It is express in degrees.

2.3   Gauge colors

The Colors index tab allows the user to define the different colors of the gauge.
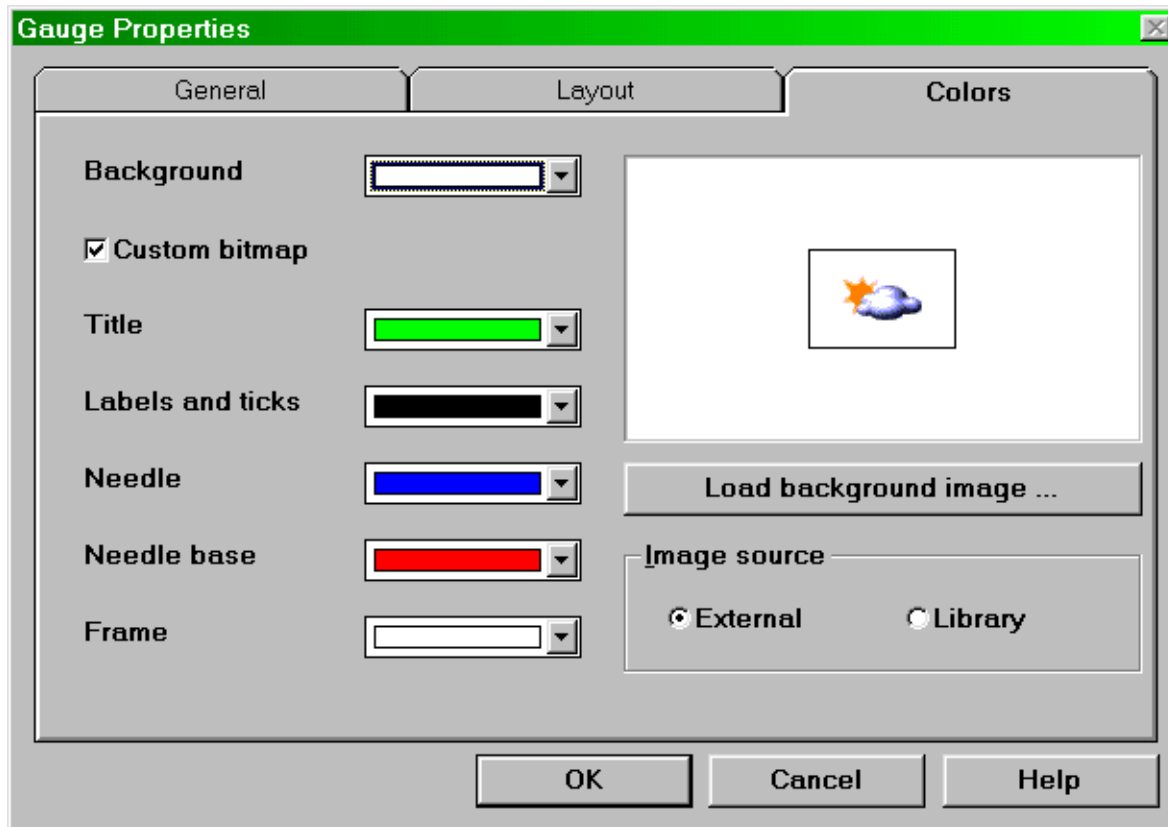
Figure 13

Background
Gauge background color. (It is not used when background is a custom bitmap).

Frame
Gauge frame color. (It is not used when background is a custom bitmap).

Custom bitmap
When checked the Load background image pushbutton will be enabled

Title
Gauge title foreground color

Labels and ticks
Scale label and ticks color

Needle
Gauge needle color

Needle base
Base of the gauge needle color

Load background image
By selecting the Custom bitmap checkbox, the user can enter a custom bitmap as the background for the gauge. The bitmap can come from an external file that the user has, or from the graphics library that is supplied with Designer. Select the image source to be used, select the bitmap and click the Load background image… button.

3.   Variable References for Min/Max Values and Scaling Parameters

It is now possible to attach the minimum and maximum values and all of the scaling parameters to memory locations in the controller. This allows the user to dynamically scale their values at run time as required.

Figure 14

When dynamic references are required for the minimum/maximum values or the scaling parameters, the corresponding References checkbox needs to be selected. Upon doing so, the Scaling … button and/or the Min/Max… button will be activated, thus allowing access to the Extended Settings dialog box. Figure 2 shows the Extended Settings dialog box for Scaling.
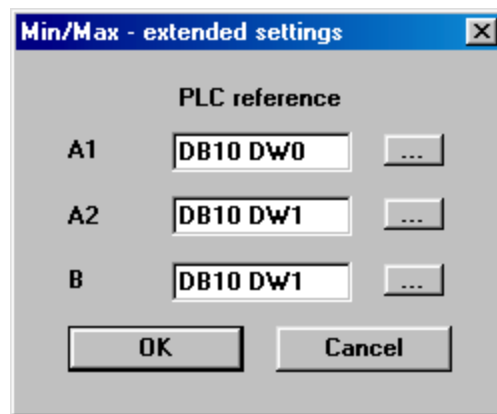
Figure 15

In this dialog box, the variables A1 and A2 represent the numerator and denominator of the linear scaling factor applied to the actual value being read from the controller. The variable B represents the offset, which is the scaled value at origin.

For example, let's assume that when the value being read from the controller is 1, the user wants to display a value of 50 on the UniOP. In this case, the user would load a value of 1 into the memory locations assigned to both variables A1 and A2, and a value of 50 into the memory location assigned to variable B.

Figure below shows the Extended Settings dialog box for the Min/Max values.

Please note that once the user has decided to use dynamic variable references for either scaling or the min/max values, all the variables associated with the dynamic references must be assigned to memory locations in the controller.

For example, let's assume the user wants to use dynamic references for scaling but not for the min/max values. In this case, the user would need to reference all three of the scaling variables (A1, A2 and B) to memory locations in the controller. It is not possible to enter a constant value in the Extended Settings dialog box.
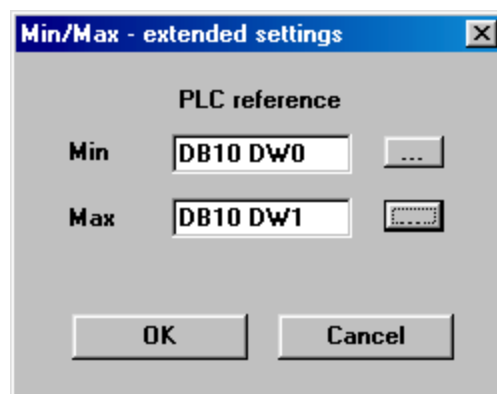
Figure 16

3.1   Updating Variable Reference Fields

When using dynamic variable references for either scaling or the min/max limit settings, the user can select how the UniOP retrieves these values. Selecting Project – Panel Setup and clicking on the Settings index tab will reveal a checkbox called Update PLC References (see Figure 17).

If this checkbox is marked, the dynamic variable references will be updated on a continuous basis. If this checkbox is unmarked, the dynamic variable references will be updated only after a page change when the destination page contains variable reference fields.
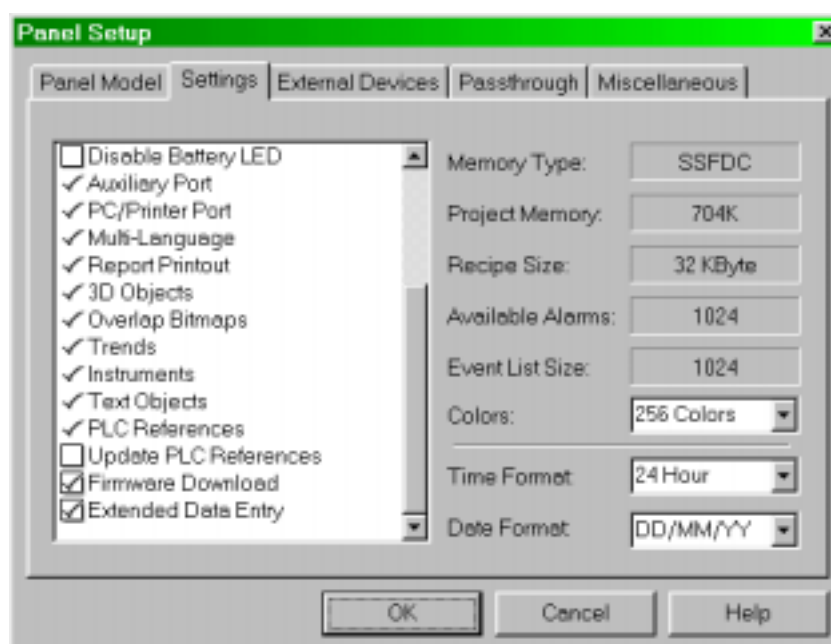
Figure 18

Note: *When the continuous mode is used to get dynamic variable references from the controller, communication performance can be reduced due to the increasing number of variables being transmitting through the communication channel between UniOP and the controller.*

4.   Touch Data Entry Keypads

It is now possible for the user to define customized floating popup keypads. Instead of defining a single keypad by modifying the Data Entry screen within Designer, the user can now define custom popup keypads for four different types of fields – numeric fields with a decimal base, numeric fields with a hexadecimal base, ASCII fields and message fields – by using the new UniKEY utility. These popup keypads are dynamic objects that are displayed by the UniOP firmware over the current page whenever Data Entry is started on a field for which a popup keypad is defined.

Note: Touch Data Entry Keypads are only supported by firmware type 58 starting from version 4.40.

4.1   The UniKEY Software

The UniKEY utility is a Windows-based application that allows the user to design, manage and download custom keypads to a UniOP. Figure below shows the main UniKEY programming window.

To create a new popup keypad, select File – New. The UniKEY utility will present the user with a blank programming area where the keypad can be designed.
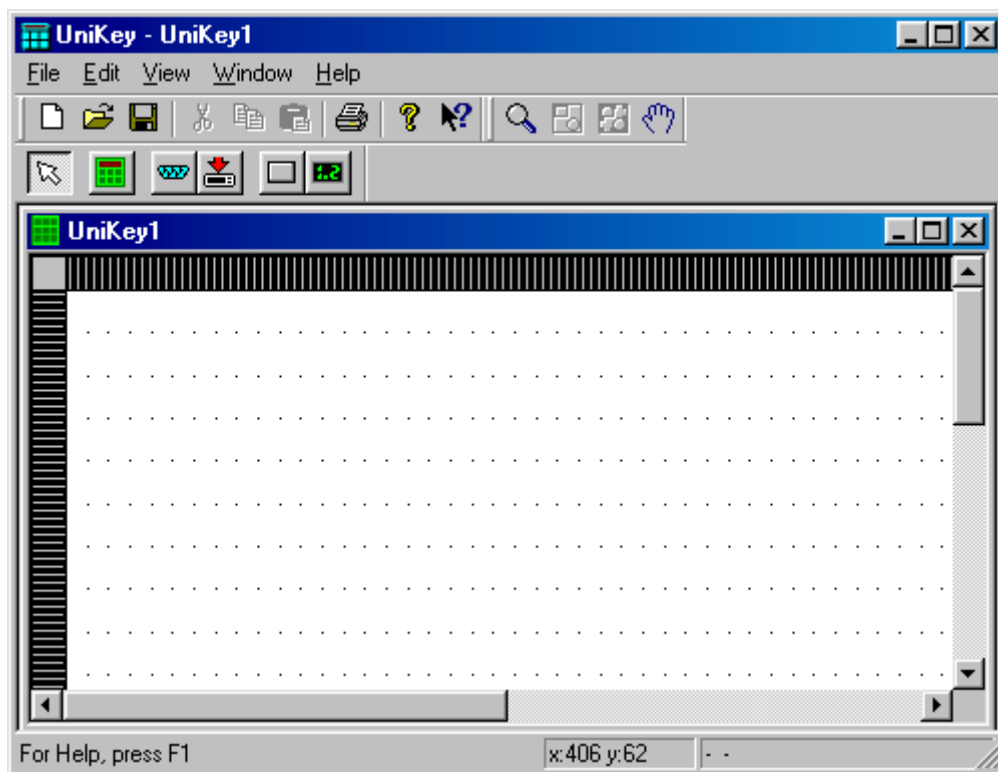
Figure 19

A UniKEY keypad can contain two types of objects:
- Buttons
- Value Objects

Buttons can represent any of the keys that are present on a standard keyboard (i.e., F1, ENTER, →). Configuration of Buttons is described later in this section.

Value Objects are rectangular areas inside the keypad where the UniOP firmware displays different information related to the field that is being edited. The four available Value Objects are: Current Value, Old Value, Maximum Value, and Minimum Value. Each of the Value Objects is described in detail later in this section.

4.2   Keyboard Properties

By selecting the Keyboard Properties icon, UniKEY will display the dialog box shown in Figure 6, allowing the user to define the basic parameter of the keypad.

Name
The name assigned to the keypad. This is used by UniKEY to identify different keypads.

Background
The Browse button allows the user to search for a bitmap image to be used as the background of the keypad.

Colors
Allows the user to select the number of colors used to represent the keypad. The Background button located below the Color list box allows for selection of the desired background color.

The **Position** area contains the controls used to define where the keypad will appear on the display.

Avoid Field
When checked, this specifies that the keypad will be displayed in a position such that the field being edited will not be covered by the keypad. When Avoid field is checked, the Horizontal and Vertical controls allow the user to define the position of the keypad.

The **Horizontal** position can be Left, Right or Center. The **Vertical** position can be Up, Center or Bottom. Both of these items are relative position, the references of which can be specified in each of the corresponding From list boxes.

Absolute coordinates
When this checkbox is marked and the Display has been selected (see later in this section) the keypad will be placed by the UniOP firmware in the same position as it is displayed in the UniKEY utility. If the Avoid field checkbox is also selected, the firmware will place the keypad in the specified position only if the field under editing is not covered by the keypad.
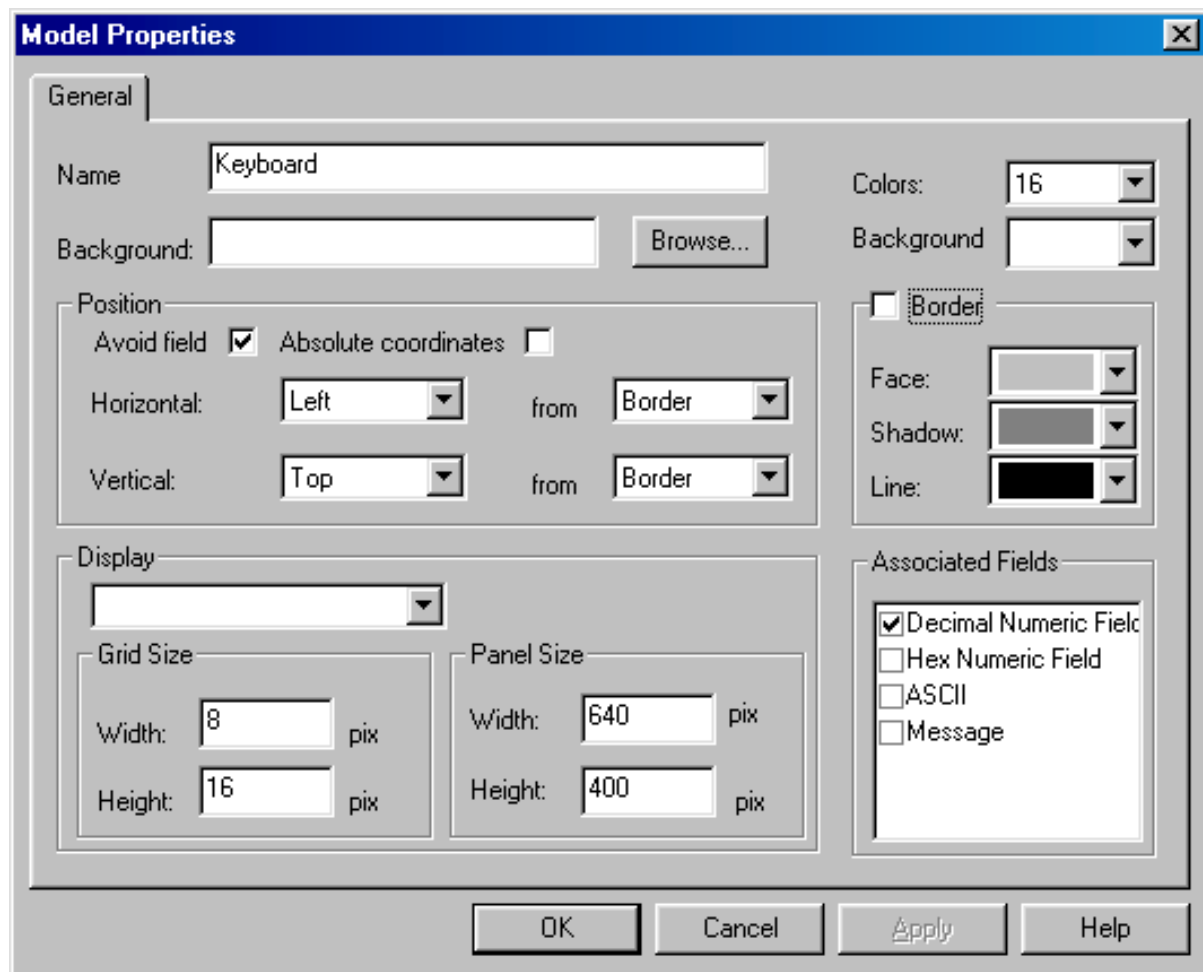
Figure 20

Display
Allows the user to specify the display type of the panel to which the keypad will be downloaded. This is especially useful when absolute coordinates are used to place the overlapping keypad.

Grid Size
Specifies the character grid size of the panel where the keypad will be download. Correct values for the grid size can be derived from Designer by selecting one character and reading the pixel size of the selected are in the Designer Status Bar.

Panel Size
This can be used to set the dimensions of the UniOP when the Display option is not defined.

Border
Allows the user to specify the color of the border of the keypad.

Associated Field
Specifies the types of fields that can be edited using the selected keypad. Please note that a field type (i.e., numeric field with decimal base) can have only a single keypad associated with it.

4.3   Creating Buttons

To create a Button, click the Button icon and select an area on the screen. After doing this, double clicking on the button will bring up the Button Properties dialog box, allowing the user to define the functionality of the button..

UniButton
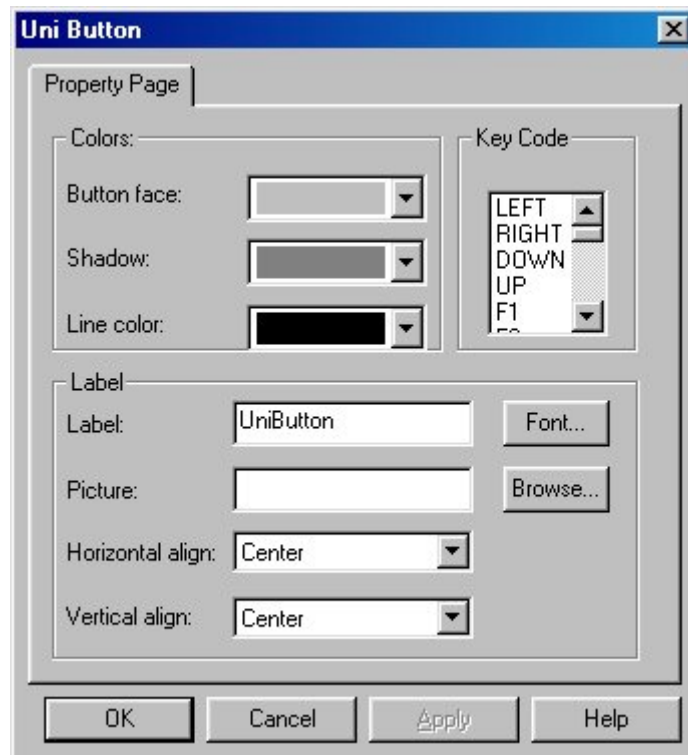
Figure 21

The **Colors** area contains three list boxes that allow the user to select the colors for the button face, the button shadow and the button line. Using a proper combination of the three colors will result in a three-dimensional aspect of the button. The button can also be made to appear as a "flat button" by assigning the same color to the Shadow and Line color.

The **Label** area contains the necessary selections required to customize the button label.

Label
The text that will appear on the face of the button.

Font
The font in which the label is displayed. This can be any Windows font that is installed on the computer that is running the UniKEY utility.

Picture
This allows the user to specify a background bitmap image for the button.

Horizontal align
Specifies the horizontal position of the label (right, center, left).

Vertical align
Specifies the vertical position of the label (top, center, bottom).

Key Code
The functionality assigned to the button. Each button can be assigned as a standard UniOP key or as an ASCII character. Please note that the available selections in the list can be fully personalized by modifying a configuration file that is present in the UniKEY installation directory. The configuration file is a text file called **KeyCodes.txt**. This file contains the ASCII codes and the UniOP key definition used by the UniKEY software to build the Key Code list of available functions and can be modified by any text editor.

4.4   Value Objects

Creating Value Objects is done in much the same manner as creating a Button. Simply click the Value icon and select an area on the screen. After doing this, double clicking on the value object will bring up the Value Box dialog box, allowing the user to define the functionality of the value object (see **Error! Reference source not found.**8).

Type
The type of value object being created – Edit (current) value, Old value, minimum value, maximum value.

Edit
The field is configured for the editing process.

Old
The field is configured to display the old value of the controller variable being edited.

Min
The field is configured to display the minimum allowable value that has been programmed for the controller variable being edited.

Max
The field is configured to display the maximum allowable value that has been programmed for the controller variable being edited.

Alignment
Specifies the alignment of the different value objects. Possible options are: Left, Center, Right and Default.

The Background and Foreground controls within the **Colors** area allow the user to specify the background and foreground colors for the value object.
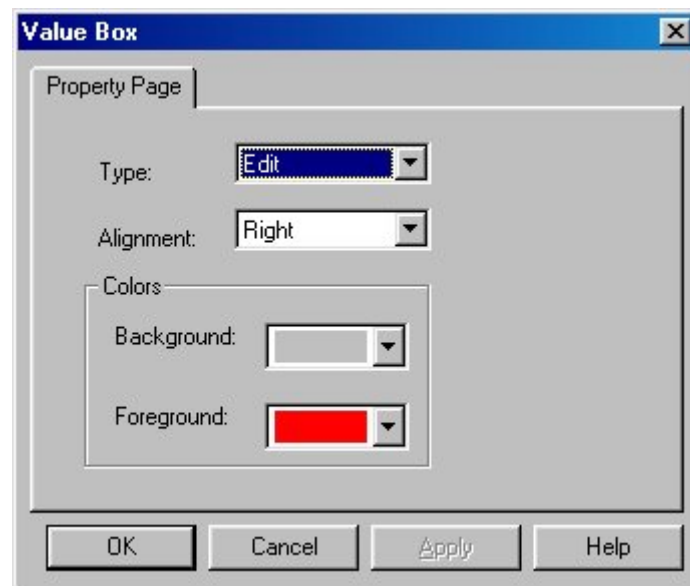
Figure 22

4.5 Downloading Keypads to the panel

Floating keypads created with the UniKEY software need to be downloaded to the panel in addition to the standard project file. Once the keypads have been downloaded, the UniOP will use them for editing when in Data Entry mode.

Please note that if the user has created a custom Data Entry screen using the Special Pages section in Designer, the keypads created in the UniKEY software will not be used.

4.5.1 Communication Port Setup

The Com Port icon allows the user to configure the settings of the communication port. This dialog box is shown in Figure 23.
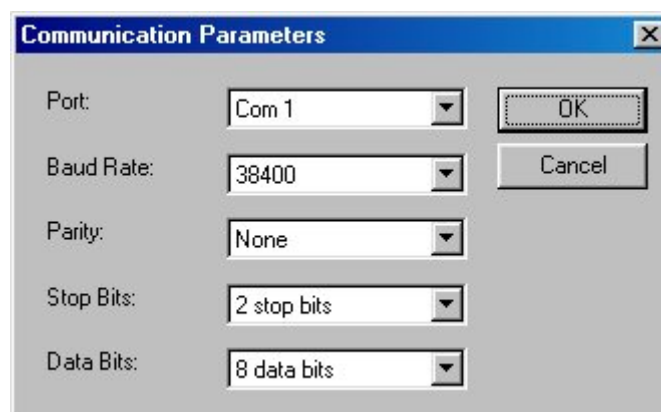
Figure 23

The communication parameters need to be set as follows in order to perform a successful keypad download:

- Baud rate: 38400 (recommended)
- Parity: none
- Stop bits: 2
- Data Bits: 8

4.5.2 Transferring Files to UniOP Memory

UniKEY keypads can be downloaded to the UniOP by using the standard download cable (CA1 or CA2) connected to the PC/Printer port.

Selecting the Download icon will start the communication session between the UniKEY utility and the UniOP. The dialog shown in Figure 240 will appear.
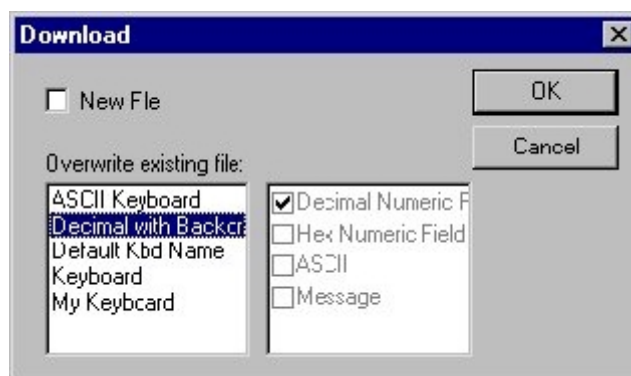
Figure 24

When the New File checkbox is marked, this indicates that the keypad being downloaded is a new object that is not intended to substitute an existing keypad.

The left part of the dialog box shows the keypads that have been downloaded to the UniOP. The right part of the dialog box shows the association between each of the keypads and the corresponding field types.

When selecting OK, the download procedure will begin and the Transfer dialog box shown in Figure 251 will be displayed. This dialog box shows information about the current download process, such as the completion rate of the process, the estimated time for completion and the average transfer speed.
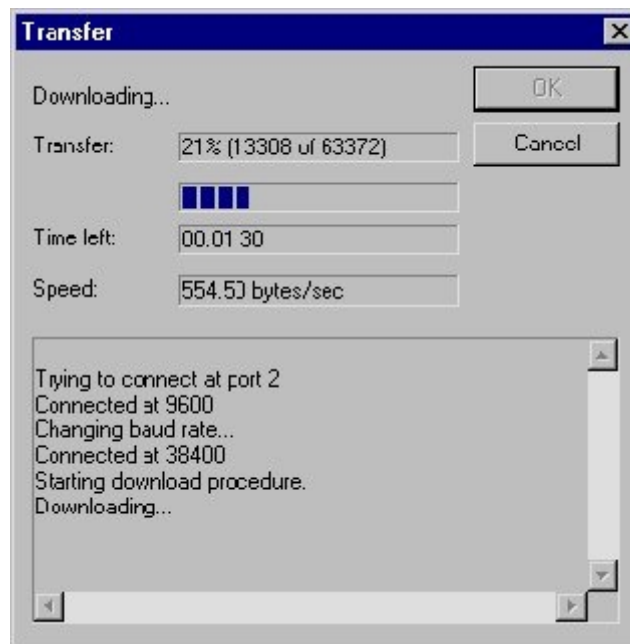
Figure 25

Once the file download is completed, the next keypad can be downloaded to the UniOP.

4.5.3 Deleting Keypads from Memory Card

When the UniOP is in Configuration Mode, selecting Edit-SSFDC from within the UniKEY software will return a list of all the keyboard files currently stored in the UniOP memory, as shown in Figure 262.
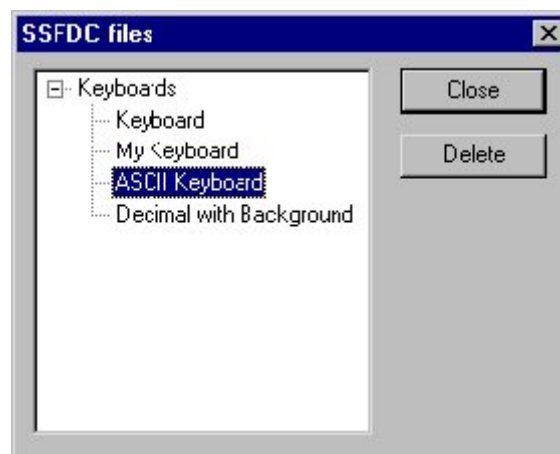
Figure 26

To delete a particular keypad, simply select the name of the keypad from the list and click on the Delete button. To close the communication session, click on the Close button.

5.   Text Box Objects

A Text Box object is a new component that enhances the method of creating text. This component uses the new font enhancement support to draw text.
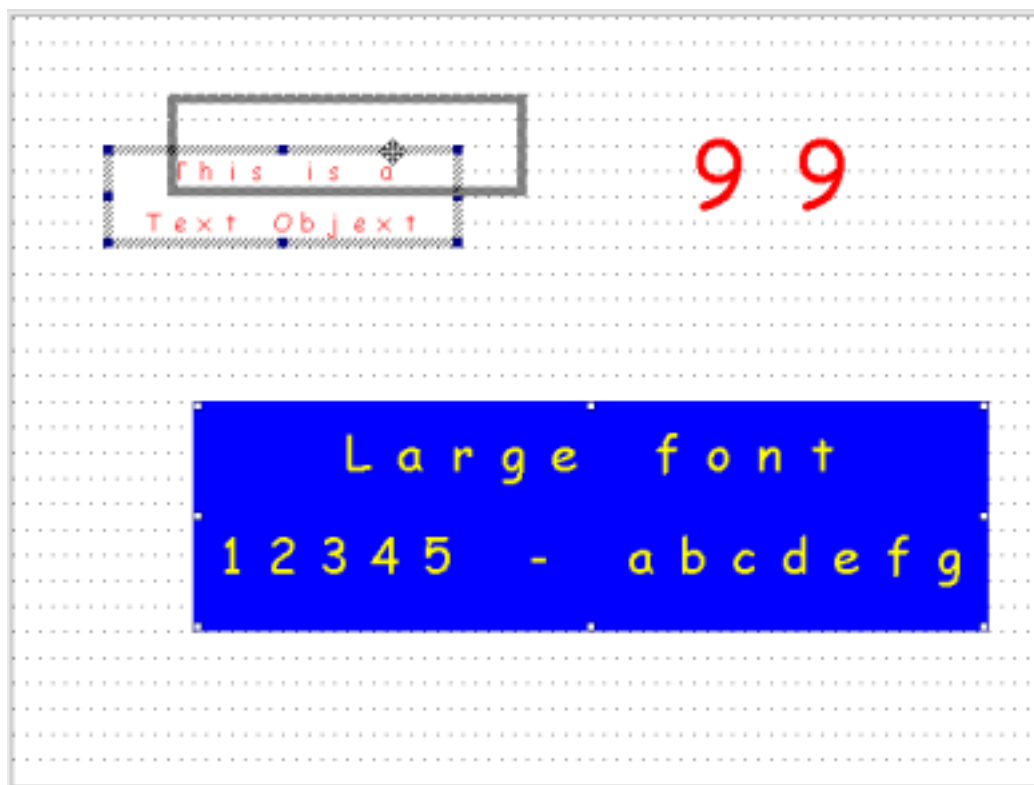
Figure 27

Please note that the Text Box icon in the floating TouchScreen toolbar will only be enabled when the selected font is an enhanced font. To create a Text Box, click and drag an area where the text box is to appear and select the Text Box icon from the TouchScreen toolbar.
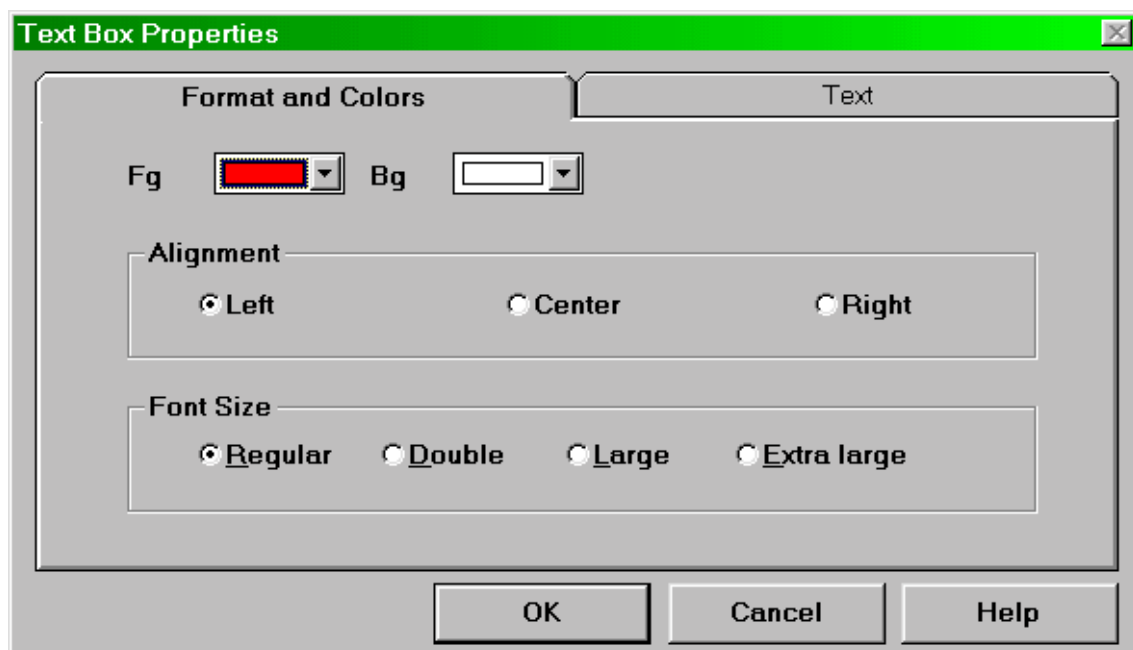
Figure 28

The following items can be defined from within the Text Box Properties dialog box:

Foreground colors
Text box foreground color

Background colors
Text box background color

Alignment
Text alignment (inside the text box component). Can be *Left*, *Center* or *Right*.

Size
Text size. Can be *Normal*, *Regular*, *Large* or *Extra large*.
Please note that when the selected area is too small, only the sizes that can fit inside the selected area will be enabled.
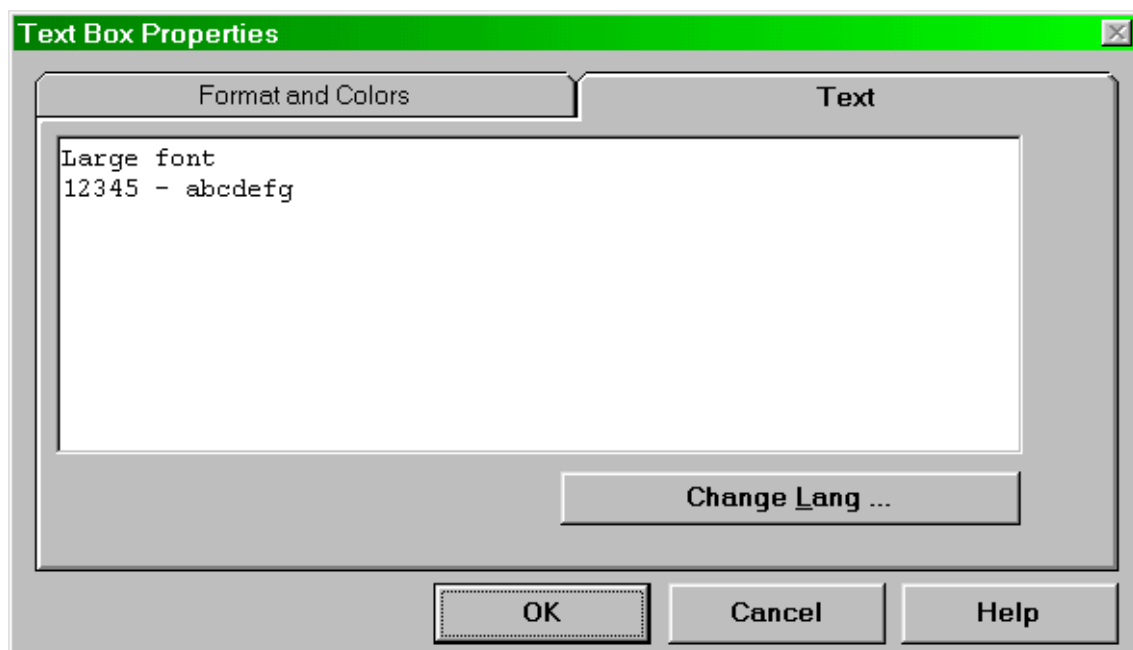
Figure 29

Selecting the Text index tab will allow the user to enter the text to be displayed within the Text Box. If the user wishes to write on the second line of the Text Box (assuming the selected area is large enough), pressing CTRL-ENTER will split the line.

Change Language
The change language button is enabled only when more than one language is defined in the project file.

Tips:
- When creating Text Box objects, it is suggested to select an area for the Text Box that is larger than desired. Once the text is entered into the Text Box, it can be resized to the required dimensions. Please note that when the user shrinks the size of the Text Box, Designer will scale the text such that it fits within the Text Box.

6. Improved Font Support

It is now possible on certain UniOP panels to have up to 4 different fonts. When the new enhanced fonts are installed, the user can select the font to be used by selecting Project – Select Font. This will bring up the Select Font dialog box. Please note that once an enhanced font is selected, the Text Box icon will be enabled.
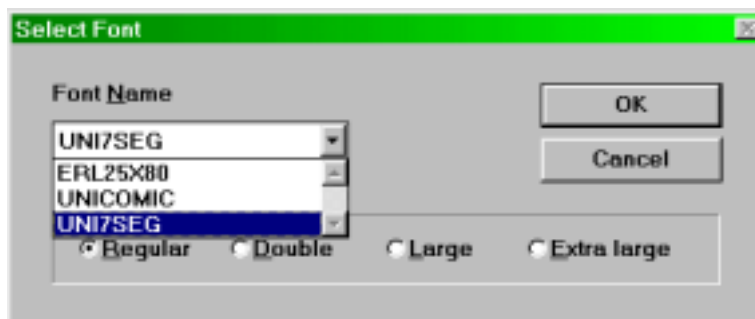
Warning:
- If a project is developed using an enhanced font, it is necessary for the user to use the Text Box component to write Large and Extra large text.
- If a project file contains Text Box components, switching to a standard font (not an enhanced font) will erase all of the Text Box components in the project.

Download Enhanced Fonts

Designer automatically downloads the enhanced fonts along with the project file whenever enhanced fonts have been used in the project file. These fonts will be downloaded to the UniOP each time the project file is downloaded. If these fonts have already been downloaded to the UniOP, it is not necessary to re-download them. To save time, the user can select Transfer-Options and click on the Advanced Options button. By marking the Do not download fonts checkbox, the enhanced fonts will not be downloaded to UniOP. The user can also erase the previously downloaded fonts by selecting Erase Fonts.

Compress Enhanced Fonts

In order to save memory in the UniOP, Designer automatically compresses the enhanced font files that it downloads. If necessary, the user can disable this optimization by using the **Do not compress fonts** checkbox inside the Advance Options dialog box. Please note that font optimization will be automatically disabled in the case where PLC references in ASCII format are used.

6.1 Install new enhanced fonts

Enhanced fonts, as all of our standard fonts, are associated to the various display types. To add a new font, it is necessary to copy the .FON file inside the working directory that contains the DESIGNER.EXE file. It will also be necessary to modify the DISPLAYS.INI file as described below.

```
DISPLAYS.INI

  [DTYPE25]
  ...
  CharHeight=16
```

```
CharWidth=8
...

[DTYPE25 Fonts]
ERL25X80=ERL25X80.FON
UniCOMIC=UniCOMIC.fon
Uni7SEG=Uni7SEG.fon

[Uni7SEG Font]
BargraphStart=226
BoxChars=218,191,192,217,196,179,196,179,180,194,193;201,187,200,188,205,186,205,186,0,0,0
BigCharStart=128
```

First, it is necessary to know that some panels use an 8x16 character size and other panels use an 8x15 character size. A font that has an 8x16 character size cannot be used on a UniOP that supports only an 8x15 character size and vice versa. The panel characters size can be found inside the [DTYPEnn] section. The DTYPE code used for a particular panel can also be found by reading the panel database file.

All new fonts must be declared inside the [DTYPEnn Fonts] section and a new [<Font Name> Font] section with the necessary graphic character codes must be added. The necessary graphic character codes to be used are shown below.

6.2   Uni7Seg.fon - Uni7Seg5.fon

Figure 30

Normal: Courier New (only first 127 characters)
Double: Ni7Seg
Large: Ni7Seg
Extra Large: Ni7Seg

Basic font for 8x16 panel type: ERL25x80.FON

```
[Uni7SEG Font]
BargraphStart=226
BoxChars=218,191,192,217,196,179,196,179,180,194,193;201,187,200,188,205,186,205,186,0,0,0
BigCharStart=128
```

Basic font for 8x15 panel type: SH164015.FON

```
[Uni7SEG5 Font]
BargraphStart=226
BoxChars=218,191,192,217,196,179,196,179,180,194,193;201,187,200,188,205,186,205,186,0,0,0
BigCharStart=128
```

6.3   UniComic.fon - UniComi5.fon

Figure 31

Normal:	Courier New (only first 127 characters)
Double:	Comic Scans MS
Large:	Comic Scans MS
Extra Large:	Comic Scans MS

Basic font for 8x16 panel type: ERL25x80.FON

```
[UniComic Font]
BargraphStart=226
BoxChars=218,191,192,217,196,179,196,179,180,194,193;201,187,200,188,205,186,205,186,0,0,0
BigCharStart=128
```

Basic font for 8x15 panel type: SH164015.FON

```
[UniComi5 Font]
BargraphStart=226
BoxChars=218,191,192,217,196,179,196,179,180,194,193;201,187,200,188,205,186,205,186,0,0,0
BigCharStart=128
```

7. UniOP Networking with Ethernet

The networking capabilities of the UniOP operator panels have been extended with additional options including the connection to Ethernet-based networks.

There are two main classes of applications where the Ethernet networking capabilities can be successfully used:

- Direct connection to Ethernet-based PLC networks
- Extending the UniNET network

Ethernet is becoming a popular communication support for cell-level industrial controllers. There is no standard set in the industry for the application level protocol, but there are several non-compatible protocols. As the only common point, they are all based on the TCP/IP or UDP/IP protocols.

Note: *UniOP can be successfully connected to one of such PLC networks only if the specific application layer protocol has been implemented.*

The UniOP UniNET network has also been extended to use Ethernet, when available, as the communication media. The advantages, compared to the conventional UniNET technology, are the possibility of using existing network cables and a more effective solution for connecting a computer to the UniNET network.

7.1 The TCM10 Ethernet Module

UniOP requires an additional hardware module to connect to Ethernet networks.

The module for Ethernet communication is the TCM10. TCM10 is intended for connection to 10Base-T networks (10 Mbit, twisted-pair cables). The TCM10 requires an external network adapter. The network adapter must be plugged into the UniOP Aux port.

The TCM10 external network adapter is equipped with a standard RJ45 connector. The TCM10 can be directly connected to a hub using standard Ethernet twisted-pair patch cables.

The TCM10 external network adapter has two diagnostic LED indicators:

LED	Description	
RED – Link	When ON indicates that Ethernet link is missing. In this condition the GREEN LED is normally OFF.	
GREEN – Activity	**ON**	**Blink**
	No network activity for the UniOP panel	Network activity detected for the UniOP panel

Table 1

The compatibility information of the TCM10 module is included in the appendix.

7.2   Configuring Ethernet

When the TCM10 communication module is used to connect UniOP to Ethernet based PLC networks, the Designer configuration is fully dependent on the protocol type used over the network. From the Designer point of view, the UniOP project needs to know the IP addresses of the TCM10 card and the IP addresses of the devices connected on the network with which the panel has to exchange information.

The Controller Setup will normally allow configuring of the IP address of the communication partners of the UniOP that are connected over the Ethernet network. Figure 32 shows a typical Controller Setup configuration box where, for each communication partner, an entry point in the list informs about the IP address assigned to the device. The Access Multiple Controllers checkbox can be used when connection to more than one device is required.
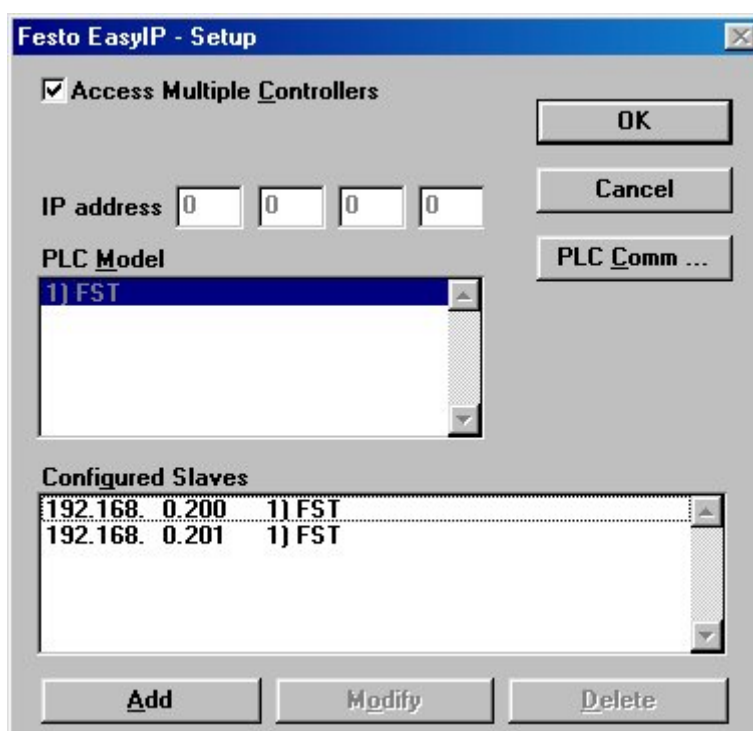
Figure 32

Because the UniOP panel is a partner of the Ethernet network like all of the other devices, a proper IP address must be assigned to UniOP. In the Panel Setup tool, the options available under the External Device index tab can be used to specify the presence of the TCM10 communication module and an IP address assigned to it, as is shown in Figure 33.
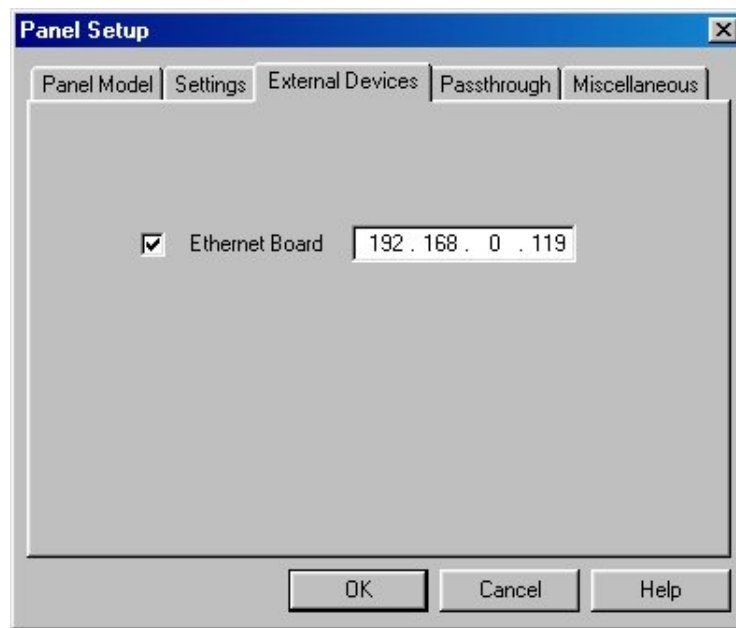
Figure 33

The IP address used in Controller Setup and in Panel Setup/External Devices has to be chosen according to the overall Ethernet configuration.

7.3   UniNET on Ethernet

When the TCM10 communication module is used to extend the UniNET connectivity capabilities, the network setup follows the basic concepts of a normal UniNET network.

Designer 5.08 introduces an additional step in the project network setup. When the Ethernet communication media is required for the UniNET network, the Ethernet option has to be selected in the Network media and Protocol selection dialog box directly accessible from the Option/Configure Network menu. This dialog box is shown in Figure 34.

Like the traditional UniNET network, the next step consists of making the UniNET topology selection. The possible available layouts are still represented by:
- Single Server – Multiple Clients
- Multiple Servers – Multiple Clients
- Mixed Multiple Servers – Multiple Clients

The Network Type Selection dialog box is shown in Figure 35.
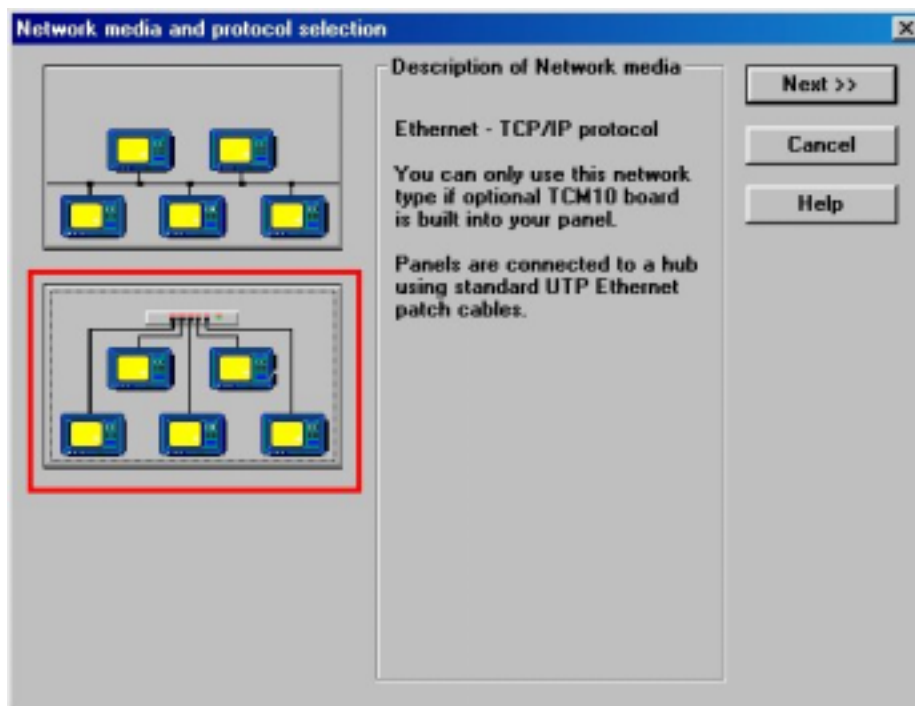
Figure 34
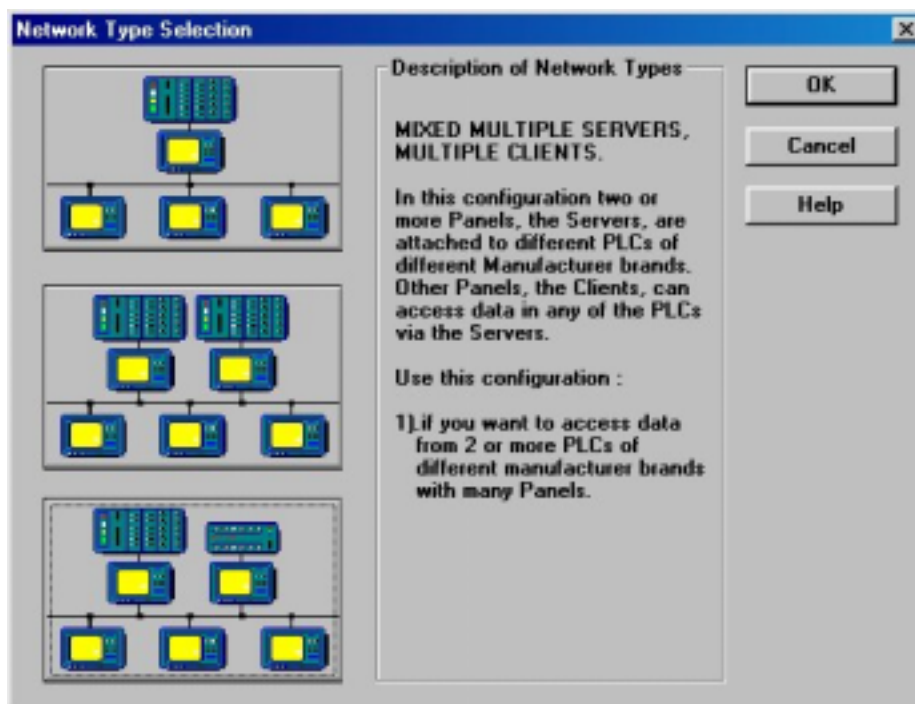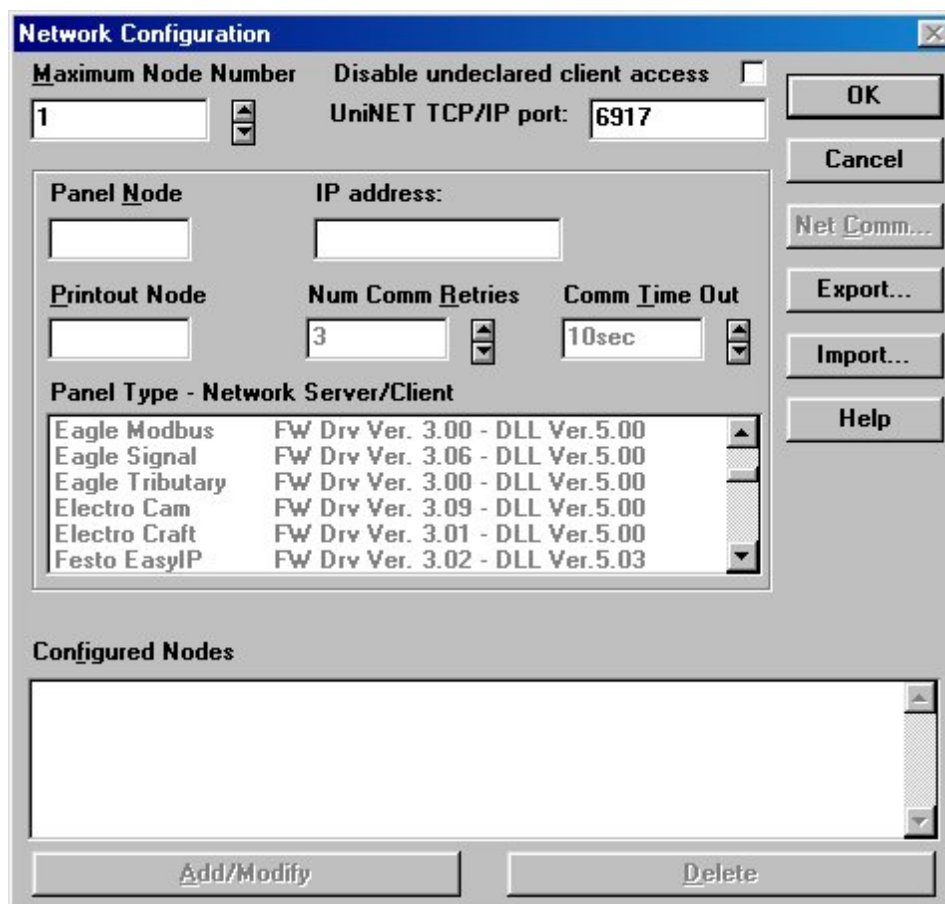
Figure 35

The Mixed Multiple Server – Multiple Clients layout is the more general network layout. Figure 36 shows the Network Configuration dialog box for this case.

Following Figure 36 is a description of all the options related to the Ethernet support. The traditional options maintain the classic meaning.

Figure 36

IP Address
Represents the IP address assigned to the UniNET node. This must be unique in the Ethernet network.

Panel node
Represents the UniNET node of the panel. Ethernet networks are still based on the UniNET application layer protocol. Please note that more than one panel can have the same Panel Node. The configuration corresponds in this case to several different UniNET networks that cohabit on the same Ethernet line. Each time two partners are configured with the same UniNET node and they reside together on the same Ethernet network, they are conceptually part of distinct UniNET networks. This concepts allows to put more than 32 UniNET nodes on the same UniNET Ethernet based network.

IP Address
Represents the IP address assigned to the current UniNET node. It must be unique over the network.

UniNET TCP/IP Port
Represents the port number from which the UniNET protocol services respond. The default value is normally correct. However, it may be changed in case the default port is already assigned to another service.

Disable Undeclared client access
When checked specifies that partners of the UniNET network can not be accessed by a Client not expressly declared to be a member of the network itself. With reference to the section "Extending the

Connectivity with the UniNET OPC Server" it might be useful when an OPC Server UniNET Client is present on the network and it is not allowed to access the current UniNET resources.

Note that a general configuration where the UniOP UniNET node is set to 1 and several Servers are configured with different IP address is allowed if it corresponds to several UniNET networks, each one composed of only one panel working as Server. These UniNET networks are part of the same Ethernet network; the UniOP Servers are independent from each other and the use of a similar layout is useful when an UniNET Client running on a PC is may be required to collect data coming from several different Controllers. The description and the use of the UniNET Client for a computer are described in the section "Extending the Connectivity with the UniNET OPC Server".

Like a standard UniNET network, once the configuration is completed it has to be enabled under "Panel Setup".
Figure 37 shows the Network tab in the Panel Setup dialog box where the configured network has to be enabled. This is required in order for the user to specify the UniNET node number of the UniOP.
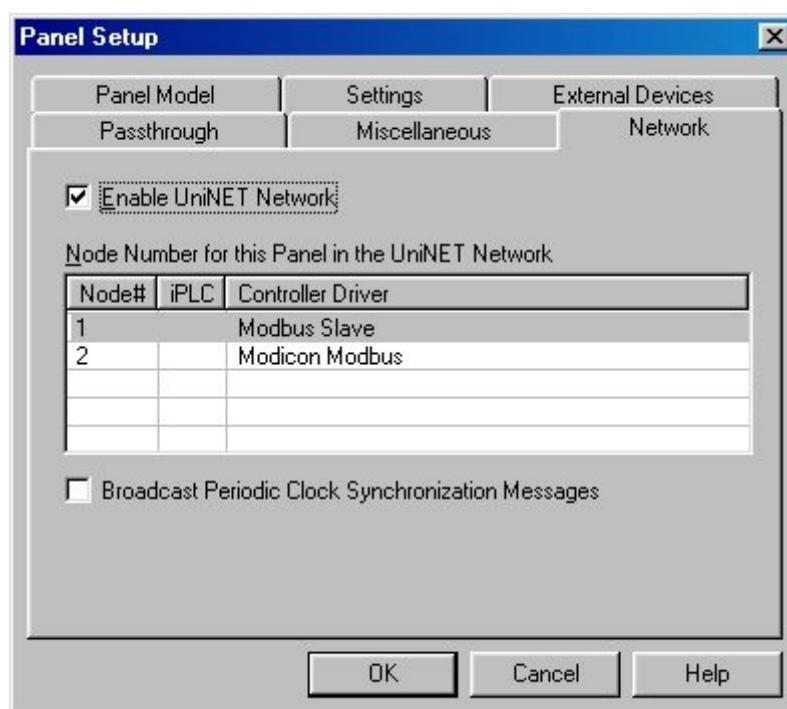
Figure 37

When the UniNET network is enabled, the External Device tab will simply show that the IP address for the current panel is assigned. This dialog box is shown in Figure 38.
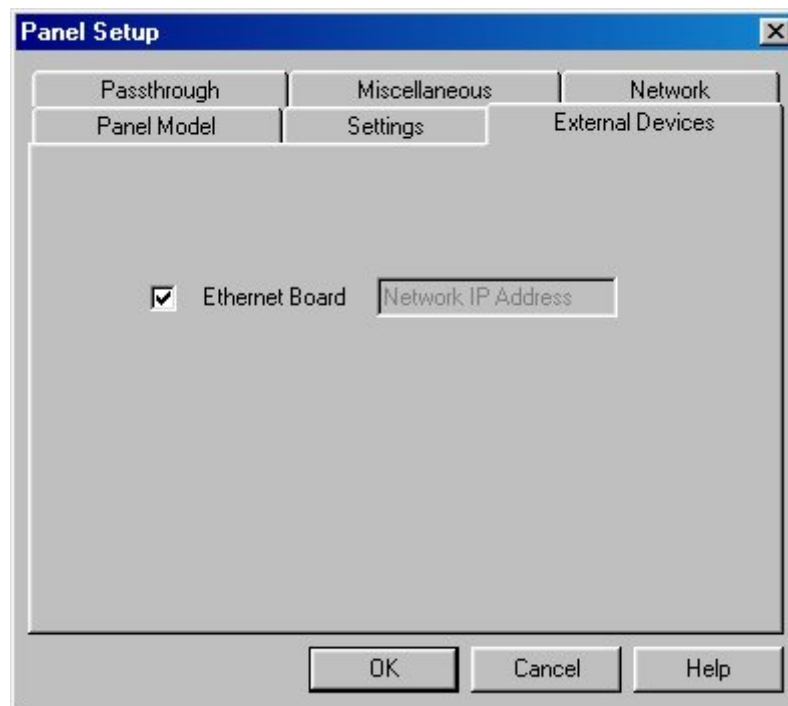
Figure 38

8.   Extending the Connectivity with the UniNET OPC Server

The implementation of the UniNET network using Ethernet technology allows for an easy extension of the connectivity options of the system. One of the most important advantages of the Ethernet based technology is the availability of a UniNET Client for a computer.

The UniNET Client for a computer consists of a software component designed to work as a Client in the network. The software component is a program based on the OPC technology (*OLE for Process Control*) working as OPC Server. Once the software component is installed on the computer, all of the OPC Client programs will have full access to data coming through the UniNET Network. They can also fully interact with the Controllers connected to the UniNET Server panels.

8.1   UniNET OPC Server

The UniNET OPC Server is a program that is distributed separately from Designer. The UniNET OPC Server program has the following minimum requirements:
- Microsoft Windows 98 or NT
- 15MB of free hard disk space
- Ethernet card

The installation procedure of the UniNET OPC Server software components will automatically provide the registration of the Server at the system level. It will make the server visible to all of the OPC Clients that are already installed. Likewise, any OPC clients that are installed after the UniNET OPC server software is installed will also "see" the server.

The UniNET OPC Server main window appears as is shown in Figure 39.
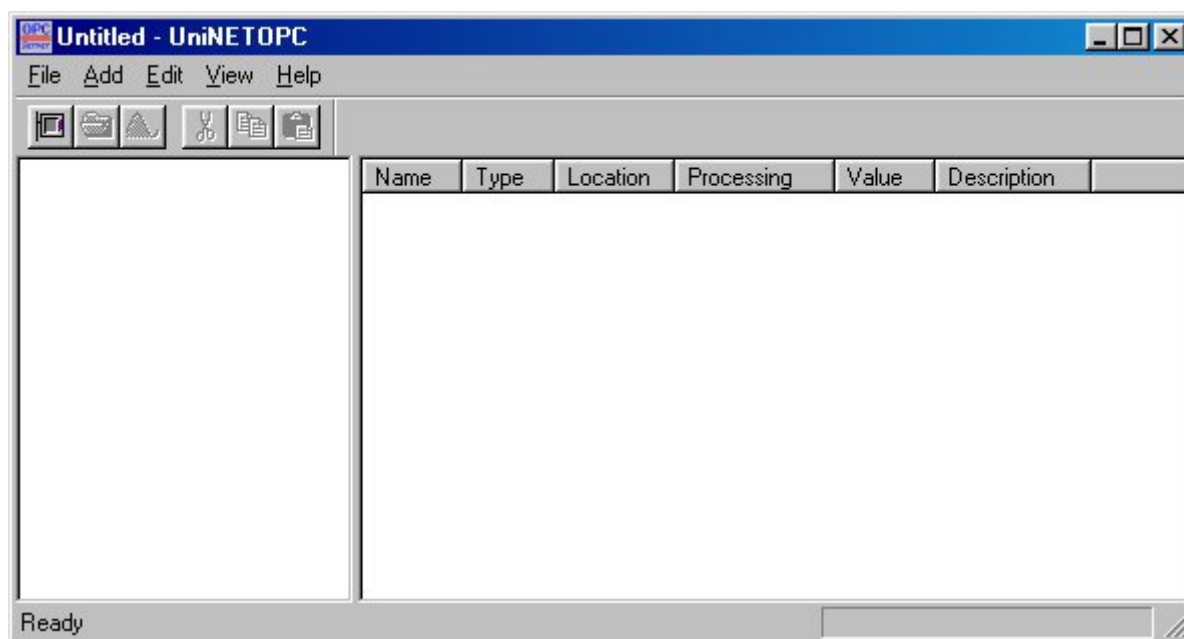
Figure 39

The OPC Server has to be properly configured in order to collect data coming from the UniOP panels working as UniNET servers on the network. The software uses the concepts of *Device* and *Tag* to identify the controllers connected to the server panels and the variables requested by them. These variables will be available to any OPC Client that may require their values. Please refer to specific OPC documentation for any additional detail regarding the theory of OPC technology.

Note: *OPC Client programs installed on the computer will only have access to the Data Sets configured in the OPC Server application.*

To create a new Device, select Add/New Device or click on the New Device icon. The Device Properties dialog box will be displayed as is shown in Figure 40.

Figure 40

Name
Represents a mnemonic description of the Device.

Device
The list box contains the list of all available drivers for the different controller types. Because OPC Server is a UniNET Client, the application needs to know the data structure of the controller connected to the UniOP UniNET Server panels.

Timeout
Period of time that the OPC server will wait to receive requested information before reporting a timeout error for the Device.

TCP/IP Access
Specifies if the UniNET network is Ethernet based. When the TCP/IP checkbox is not marked, the OPC server can be used to prepare a configuration file usable with the Windows CE OPC Server. Please refer to the specific documentation for further details.

IP Address
Represents the IP Address assigned to the UniOP Panel, working as UniNET Server, that is connect to the controller specified by the Device item. Please refer to the Networking with Ethernet section for a detailed description.

Socket Port
Represents the number of the socket port used by the UniOP panel to relay requests coming through the Ethernet network.

When the Device setup is completed, the OPC Server program has to be configured to read a certain amount of specific data from the UniNET network. Only this data will be available to an eventual OPC Client connected to the UniNET OPC Server. Required data from UniNET can be specified by inserting the Tags definition for the Device. To insert a Tag for the specific Device, use the Add/New tag menu or click on the New tag icon. Figure 41 shows the Tag Properties dialog box.
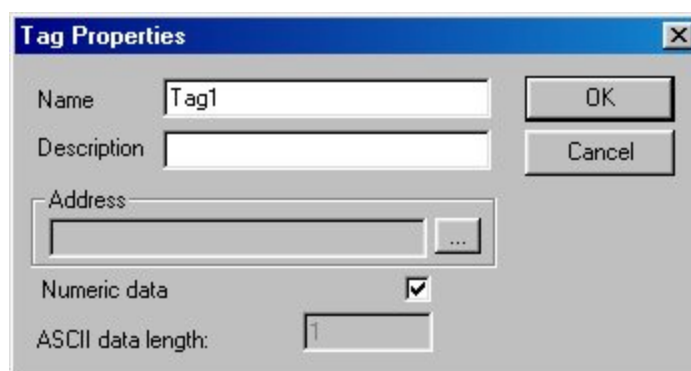
Figure 41

Name
The mnemonic name used by the OPC Server to uniquely identify the variable.

Description
Allows for the user to explain exactly to what the Tag refers.

Address
The tag address in terms of the native data types of the controller specified in the Device list box of the Device Properties dialog box.

Numeric Data
When marked, this specifies that the tag is to be treated like a numeric variable. When unmarked, it specifies that the variable is to be interpreted as the starting point of an ASCII string. The ASCII data length specifies the length of the ASCII string. If the ASCII representation is selected, the OPC Server program will retrieve an amount of bytes equal to the number of ASCII characters specified by the ASCII data length parameter from the UniNET network.

The UniNET OPC Server program has a monitor function useful when a check of the Ethernet connection link is required. Once the Device and the Tags are configured, select View/Monitor to activate the debug function. The Value column of the main window (see Figure 39) displays the current value of each configured tag. If the OPC Server program cannot retrieve the value from the network, it displays the string Bad.

8.2   Interfacing Microsoft Excel with the UniNET OPC Server

As an application example, it is important to consider a typical use of the UniNET OPC Server. The program Microsoft Excel can be easily equipped with the OPC Automation software components that will allow connection to any OPC Server installed on the computer.

EXOR has successfully tested a solution provided by FactorySoft that is downloadable free of charge from the following web site: http://www.factorysoft.com. The Excel interface to the OPC Server consists in software components called OPC 2.0 Data Access Components. FactorySoft provides an Automation interface and a Server browser service.

Automation   FactorySoft wrote the Automation interface sample code for the OPC Foundation. They provide a standard Automation component based on this code for redistribution. An OPC Server vendor may use these components to provide its server.

Server Browser   This COM server returns OPC Servers by Component Category. It can be used to find Data Access 1.0 or 2.0 servers, in addition to future OPC servers. Because this is a COM server that can be run remotely, clients can get access to remote servers without local registry entries.

The FactorySoft OPC Data Access Components downloadable will install the Server Browser, the Data Access 2.0 proxy DLLs and the Automation DLL in the System directory.

This installation is used to install the OPC components needed for the server and can be freely distributed with your products.

Once the required software components are correctly installed, the VBA (*Visual **B**asic for Application*) interface available in Excel can be easily used to give access to the UniNET OPC Server.

The read operation can be implemented using a simple form where a button is programmed to perform the following "Get OPC Data" subroutine.

```
Private Sub GetOpcData_Click()

'Get OPC Automation Reference
Set opcauto = CreateObject("OPC.Automation.1")

'Connect to the server
opcauto.Connect ("EXOR.UniNETOPC")

'Plays with groups and items
Set groups = opcauto.OPCGroups
Set group = groups.Add("Device1.Group")
group.IsActive = True
Set Items = group.OPCItems
Set Item = Items.AddItem("Device1.Group.tag1", 1)
Item.Read (1)
value = Item.value

'Display value
Sheet1.Range("a1").value = value
```

```
    End Sub
```

A working sample program is available on request.

9.   Recipes and Events Runtime Backup in Flash

On some of the UniOP panels, it is now possible to back up recipe data, as well as the event list, into flash memory inside the UniOP. This means that even the UniOP loses power AND the backup battery is discharged or missing, the recipe data and the event list will be preserved.

To use this feature, select the two checkboxes entitled Recipe Backup and Events Backup by selecting Project – Panel Setup and clicking on the Settings index tab. Please note that selecting these features uses memory within the UniOP that is normally reserved for the project file. Therefore, the amount of memory available for the project file is reduced by the amount of memory reserved for the entire backup of both recipe data and the event list, which is 128 KB.
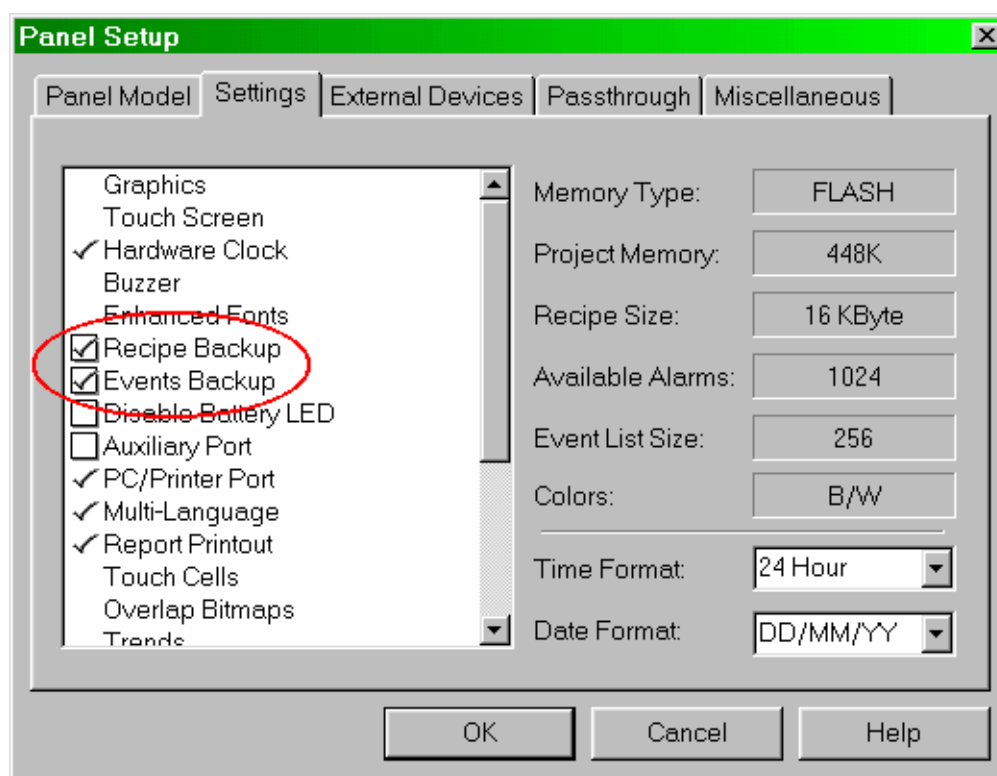
Figure 42

Panel Startup Sequence

With this feature enabled, the following sequence is performed on power-up of the UniOP:

1. Check the data inside RAM. If the data is valid, it will be used.
2. If the data inside RAM is invalid, the data in flash memory is checked. If the data inside the flash memory is valid, it will be used.
3. If the data in the flash memory is not valid, the recipe memory and the event list will be initialized with no data.

9.1 Recipes and Events backup execution

When this feature is enabled, recipes are copied to flash memory automatically from the UniOP after any recipe backup or recipe upload operation. The event list is copied to flash memory any time one event happens. A new macro can be use to perform a manually backup operations.

During the write operation to flash memory the panel LED #65 will flash to indicate that a write operation is in progress. Some UniOP panels do not have this LED. For those UniOP panels that do not have this LED, the control variable **Recipe/Event Backup** can be used to give feedback to the operator on the status of the backup operation. This control variable can assume the values listed below.

Recipe/Event Backup:

    0 = Standby
    1 = Backup operation in progress

The S12 bit of the RDA area is used to communicate to the controller when a backup operation to flash memory is in process. The UniOP will set this bit to 1 just before the backup operation begins. When the backup operation is complete, UniOP will set this bit to 0.

10. Assigning the Communication Port when Using the Internal Controller

The ISaGRAF Workbench can communicate with the SCM03 controller by connecting to the UniOP PLC Port or to the PC/Printer Port.

When UniOP does not contain a valid project, it will remain in Configuration Mode. In this situation the PLC port is assigned by default to the Internal Controller. To program the Internal Controller before loading a Designer project, the PLC programming cable should be connected to the PLC port.

If the UniOP has no PC/Printer Port, then the PC/PLC Port will be used for communication with the Designer software. The Internal Controller will be programmable only after a valid project has been transferred and the UniOP is in Operation Mode.

When a valid project is present in UniOP and the panel is in Operation Mode, the System Menu will let the user choose the mode of the communication port for the Internal Controller. Port assignment via the System Menu is described in greater detail in TN137. Please refer to it for a complete description.

Designer 5.08 and the companion firmware V4.40 introduce a new possibility to assign UniOP serial ports for communication with the Internal Controller. UniOP serial ports can be assigned for communication with the iPLC using macro commands while UniOP is in Operation Mode.

Note: *Two options are available for each UniOP port regarding the Internal Controller: the* ***Application Mode*** *and the* ***Service Mode***. *A port should always be assigned to the Internal Controller in* ***Application Mode*** *if it has to be used for normal operations such as ISaGRAF Project downloading and debugging. The* ***Service Mode*** *is reserved for special Internal Controller maintenance and should not be used.*

The Port icon available in the Keyboard Macro Editor allows access to the Port Assignment dialog box shown in Figure 43.
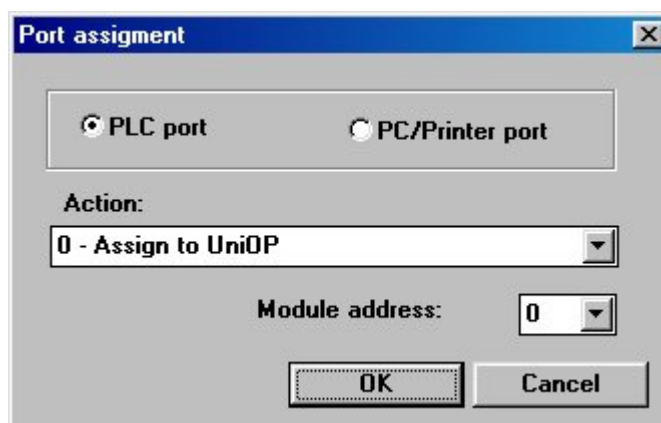
Figure 43

Each UniOP port can be assigned to the Internal Controller Communication or to the UniOP.

Note: *Only one port can be assigned to the Internal Controller. When a port is being assigned to communication with the iPLC, the other panel serial port must be assigned to UniOP. When a serial port is assigned to the Internal Controller communication, all other setup options are overridden (i.e. Printer, UniNET, Passthrough,…).*

Figure 44 shows all possible UniOP serial port assignments.
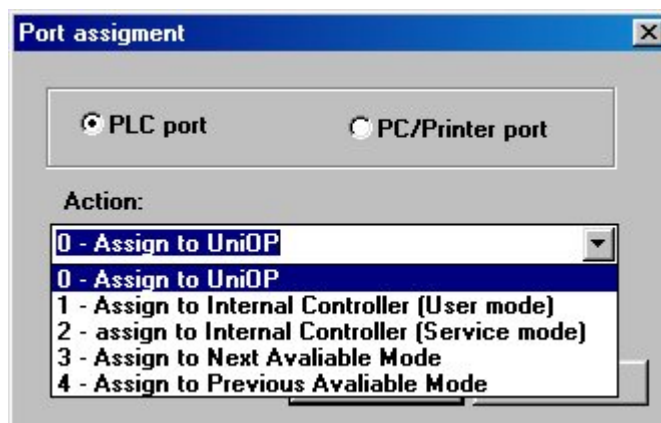
Figure 44

The PLC port and the PC/Printer port can be individually assigned to several operating modes. The port selection is done using the two radio buttons in the upper part of the dialog box. The actions are selected from the Action list box.

- **Assign to UniOP**
  The port is assigned for normal UniOP functionality. PC/Printer port can be used to connect a serial printer; PLC port can be used for an additional connection with an external controller. In case the Designer project is configured to use stand-alone iPLC, the PLC port is not in use.

- **Assign to Internal Controller (User Mode)**
  The port is assigned to the communication with the Internal Controller in the User Mode. The ISaGRAF Workbench can be connect to this port.

- **Assign to Internal Controller (Service Mode)**
  The port is assigned to communication with the Internal Controller in the Service Mode. The Service Mode is reserved for special Internal Controller maintenance and should not be used.

- **Assign to Next Available Mode**
  The port will be assigned to the next available mode following a rotation sequence between the available operation modes.

- **Assign to Previous Available Mode**
  The port will be assigned to the previous available mode following a rotation sequence between the available operation modes.

10.1 Displaying the Assignment Status of UniOP Serial Ports

Serial port assignment status can be displayed at run time while UniOP is in Operation Mode by using panel Control Variables. As shown in Figure 45, four control variables are available to inform the user of the status of the port assignments.
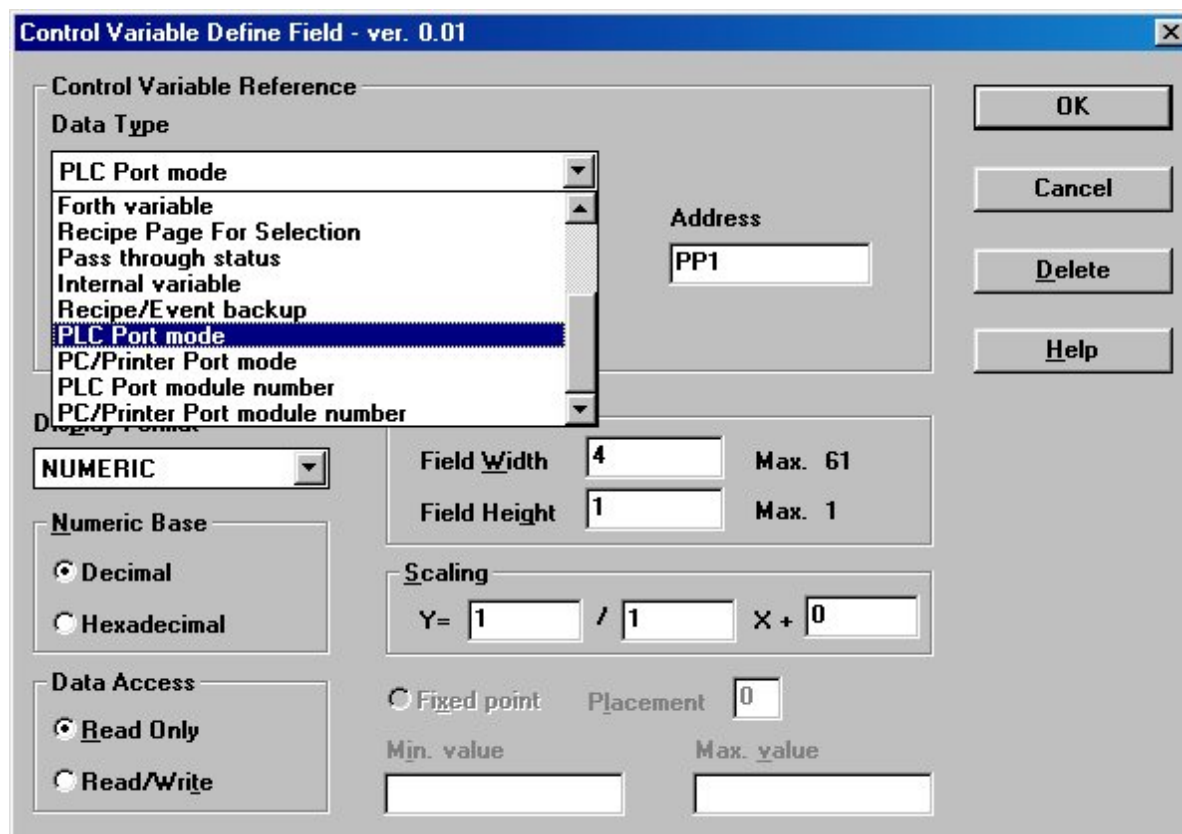
Figure 45

The possible values of each of the control variables are shown in Table 2.

	Assigned to UniOP	**Assigned to Internal Controller – User Mode**	**Assigned to Internal Controller – Service mode**
PLC Port Mode	0	1	2
PC/Printer Port Mode	0	1	2
PLC Port Module Number	7	SCM03 module number	SCM03 module number
PC/Printer Port Module Number	7	SCM03 module number	SCM03 module number

Table 2

The Port Module number control variable assumes a value of 7 if the port is assigned to UniOP. If the port is assigned to the communication with the Internal Controller, they inform on the SCM03 module address as displayed in the UniOP System Menu. Firmware V4.40 and the current UniOP hardware platform support only one SCM03 module; its default module number will be always set to zero.

Note: *Control variables can only be used to display the ports assignment status. They cannot be used to change the port assignment; data access to them is "Read Only".*

Message fields can be used in combination with these Control Variables to better report assignment status information of the UniOP ports.

11. Panel I/O

The UniOP panels with hardware type –0050 are ready to house the local I/O module UIM-03. It can be used in conjunction with the Internal Controller to be part of its I/O, it can be used as an extension of the external controller that is connected to the UniOP, or it can be used as a stand-alone module. The operation of the local I/O board in combination with the Internal Controller is described in the tech notes TN137 and TN156.

Note: The UIM05 I/O board cannot be used with Panel I/O.

Selecting Panel I/O from the Project menu of Designer will bring up the Panel I/O Setup dialog box, which is shown in Figure 463. The digital I/O points of the UIM03 board can be mapped to a free memory area within the connected controller (either the Internal Controller or an externally connected controller). The resident PLC program will read the physical status of the UIM03 inputs from the memory area dedicated to the input points; the UIM03 outputs are controlled by the PLC user program by writing to the memory area assigned to the UIM03 output points.
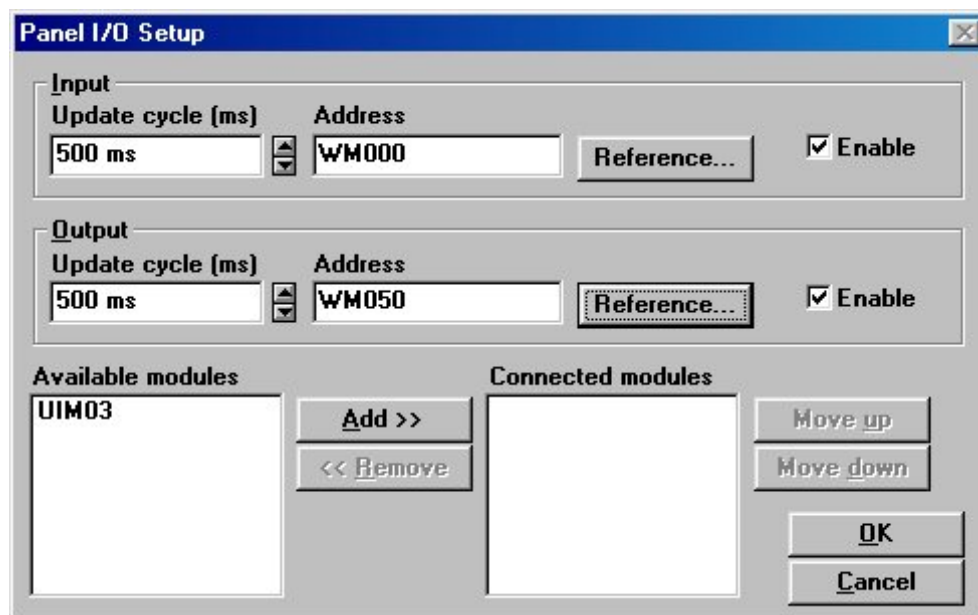
Figure 46

The **Input** area allows the user to specify the configuration parameters for the digital input points of the UIM03 board.

Update cycle
Specifies the average update cycle time used by the UniOP firmware to update the external controller memory area assigned to the input points. This memory area can be specified in the

Address
Specifies the starting address for copying the image of the input data.

The **Output** area allows the user to specify the configuration parameters for the digital output points of the UIM03 board.

Update cycle
Specifies the average update cycle time used by the UniOP firmware to update the status of the physical output points. The output points are updated by reading them from the external controller memory area assigned to the output points.

Address
Specifies the starting address for copying the image of the output data.

The **Enable** checkboxes allow the user to specify which part of the UIM03 has to be mapped to the external controller memory.

Note: *The Update Cycle time needs to be selected with care, as the UniOP is using the same communication channel to update the local I/O as it is for communication with the external controller. If the Update Cycle time is set to a value that is too small, communication performance between the UniOP and the external controller could be sacrificed.*

Available Modules
Designer shows a list of all the local I/O boards available for use with the Panel I/O feature.

Note: *Current UniOP hardware supports only one local I/O module. For this reason, the Move up and Move down controls are not used.*

12. Printing Designer Projects

Designer 5.08 contains a vastly improved printing routine for printing project file information. This new module is able to print graphical previews of the project pages, variable cross-references and much more!

This new printing routine is enabled automatically whenever Designer is installed. The following two lines are inserted in the DESIGNER.INI file upon installation. To use the older printing routine, simply set the value of the first line UsePrintDesigner equal to 0.

```
[Designer]
...
UsePrintDesigner = 1
PrintDesignerCommandLine = C:\DESIGNER\UReport.exe /t C:\DESIGNER\Samples\report.tpl /quit
                           /min /nosplash /p %p
```

(Please note that the pathname could be different on your machine).

Selecting File-Print or File-Print Preview will bring up the following dialog box.
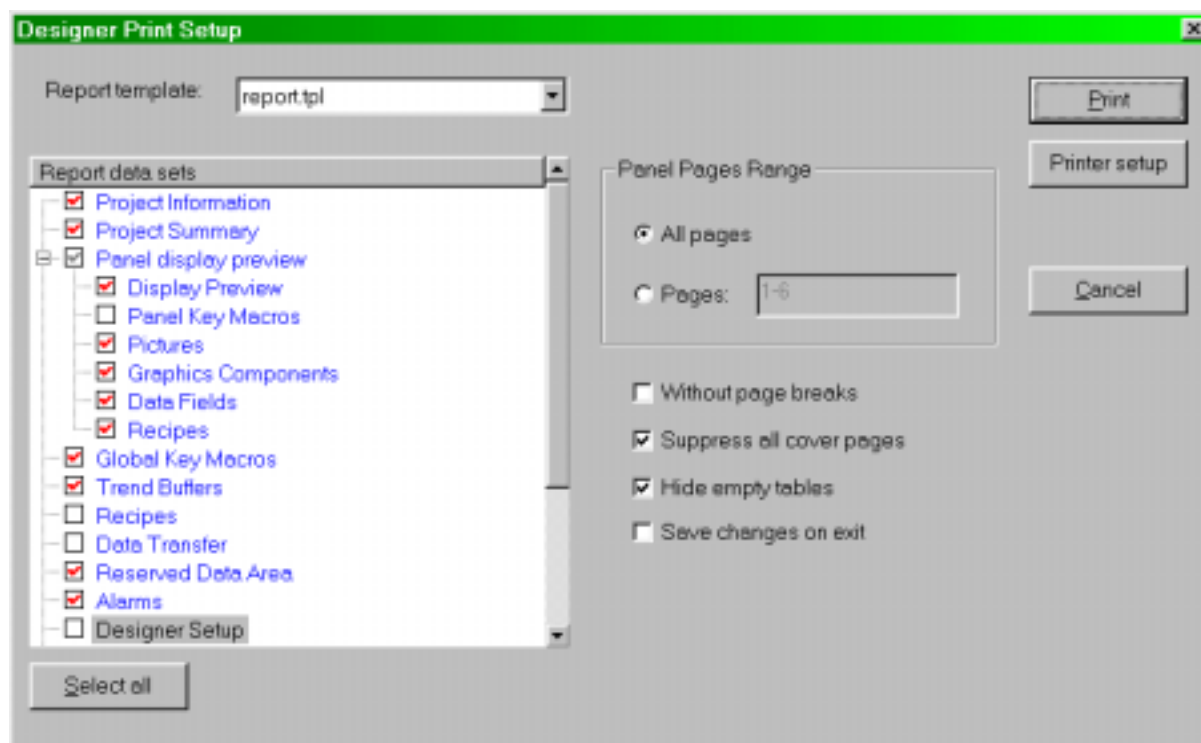

Figure 47

Print (or Print Preview)
Start (or view) the print operation.

Printer Setup
Open the standard Windows Printer Setup dialog box. Printer to use, page size, page orientation, etc. can be selected from this dialog box.

Cancel
Close the dialog box without executing the print operation.

UniOP Page Range

Define which panel pages need to be included in the printout.

- **All pages**   All data on all panel pages are printed.
- **Pages**   Only the data that is inside the selected pages are printed.
                         To specify the panel pages to print, the user needs to enter the page
                         sequence to print. A page sequence is a page range separated by
                         commas (i.e. 4-5, 8, 13-20). Valid ranges are a single page only, i.e. 8, or
                         consecutive pages, i.e. 4-5.

Without page breaks
Any new data section starts a new page. By selecting this checkbox, all data will be compressed on as
little number of pages as possible.

Suppress all cover pages
This checkbox should be selected if the user wants to suppress the cover pages.

Hide empty tables
Use this checkbox if the user wants to avoid printing tables relative to data sections that were not
configured inside the project.

Save change on exit
When this checkbox is marked, the selected Report Data Set will be saved for future use.

Report data sets
This section of the print dialog box contains the list of project data that could be printed. For any
items that are listed, a checkbox gives the user the possibility to enable or disable the table printout.

Project information
Generic project information. It contains the project name, panel type and name of the controller being
used.

Project Summary
Contains some statistical information such as the project file size, number of pages, number of used
pictures, etc.

UniOP page layout description data
List of page objects.

UniOP Page description
Description of the pages in the project.

Panel Key Macros
Local macro keys.

Pictures
Static images.

Touch Cells
List of graphic components: Object-oriented touch cells, Trends, Gauges.

Data Fields
List of PLC data field items.

Recipes
Recipe data set values.

Global Key Macros
Global macro keys.

Trend Buffers
Trend buffer parameters.

Recipes
Table with list of recipes that have the Multipage flag set.

Data Transfer
Data transfer jobs.

Reserved Data Area
RDA parameters.

Alarms
Alarm table with messages.

Designer Setup

Panel Printer and Reports
Printer setting and print report table parameters.

Panel Setup
List of panel capabilities and setup configuration

Controller and Network Setup
List of controller drivers connected on the panel network.

Remote Pass through
Remote Pass through parameters.

Password
Table with list of all defined passwords and their parameters.

Cross Reference
List of Pages, Pictures and Controller references with page references.

Report Contents
Table of the Report Contents with page numbers.

13. Visual Panel Setup Interface

Using the Panel Setup dialog box, it is possible to directly select the UniOP that is being used. The panel selection can be made manually or it can be obtained directly from the UniOP itself by using the Get Panel Resources command. This command retrieves the information directly from the UniOP that is connected to the PC. For older UniOP panels that are unable to send all the necessary information, please see the section old panel model recognition.
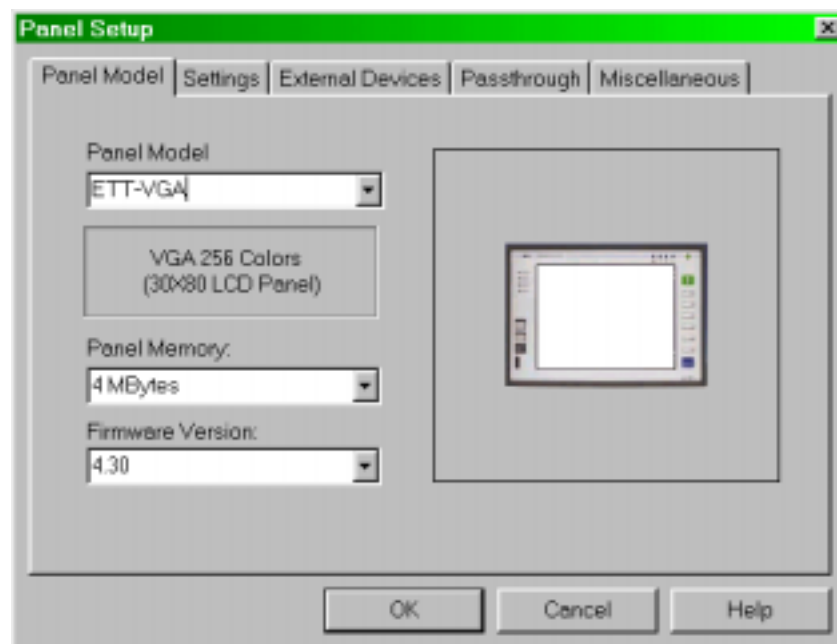
Figure 48

Panel Model
Allows the user to directly select the UniOP model being used. On the right side of the dialog box, a preview picture of the currently selected UniOP will be displayed. If the user is unsure of the UniOP being used, the Generic panel model can be selected. Please note that when using this selection, it will be the responsibility of the user to define the other panel definitions.

Panel Memory
Selects the memory size available in the currently selected UniOP.

Firmware Version
Selects the panel firmware version. If the user has a panel with a newer firmware version that is not yet defined inside the Designer package, please select the highest Designer firmware version. Selecting the All firmware version will enable only the basic panel capabilities that are supported with all panel firmware versions.
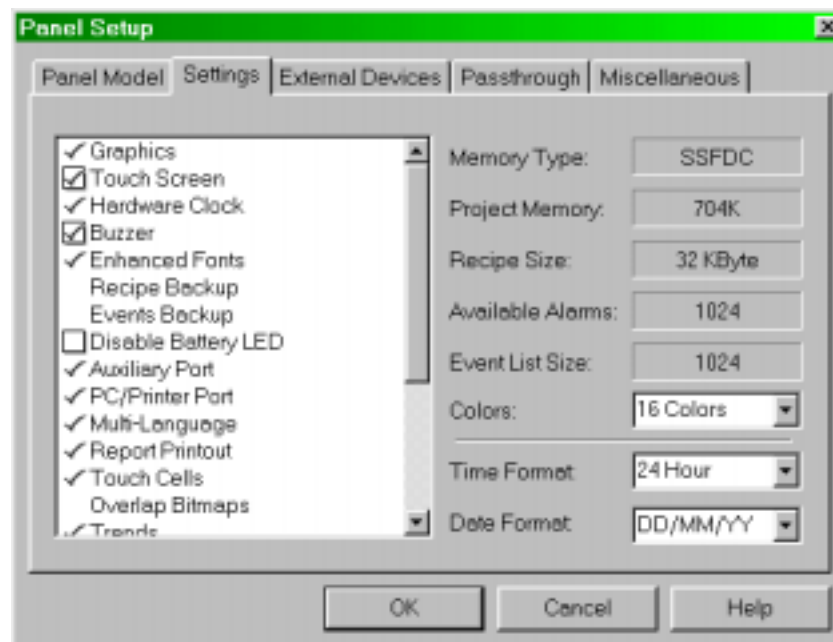
Figure 49

The Settings index tab shows the capabilities of the selected model. Note that some capabilities are fixed and cannot be changed by the user. Others have a checkbox or a list box and can be modified.

Memory Type
Can be FLASH for UniOP models with internal memory only or SSFDC for UniOP models with a removable SSFDC memory card.

Project memory
Internal memory reserved for project file.

Recipe Size
Internal memory reserved for recipe data.

Available Alarms
Number of available alarms.

Event List Size
Number of available events.

Colors
Number of supported colors. This list box is enabled only for panels that support 256 colors. For those models that do not support 256 colors, a fixed value is inside.

Time Format
Data Format
Time and date format.

The left side of the Settings index tab lists the capabilities supported by the selected panel. The user can modify these when the currently selected UniOP supports them.

Touch Screen

When touch screen is not enabled, the display window can be scrolled down to line 32. When touch screen is enabled, the display window has the same size of the panel display and cannot be scrolled.

Buzzer
Enable/Disable the panel buzzer (when available)

Recipe Backup
Enable/Disable the recipe backup inside the internal FLASH memory. See the Recipes and Events Runtime Backup section for details.

Events Backup
Enable/Disable the events log backup inside the internal FLASH memory. See the Recipes and Events Runtime Backup section for details.

Disable Battery LED
Enable/Disable the battery LED indicator.

Update PLC References
When the UniOP supports referencing the Min/max settings to a memory location in the controller (PLC Reference), this field determine the field update rules. If this field is checked the PLC Reference will be updated continuously, otherwise they will be updated only when the page is activated. (See the Variable References for MIN/MAX and Scaling section for more details).

Firmware Download
New panels that contain the T2000 board have the ability to manage firmware downloads from within Designer (without using the UNIDL utility). This flag will be checked for panels that support this firmware download feature.
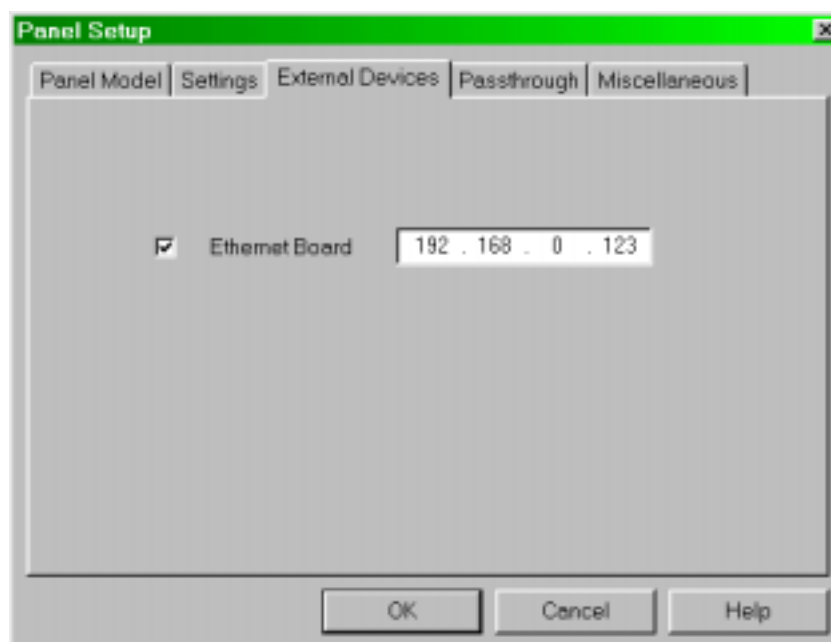

Figure 50

Ethernet Board
Using the (optional) external TCM10, the UniOP can be connected to an Ethernet UDP/IP network. This checkbox enables the network support.

IP Address

The panel own IP Address. This control will be disabled when the Network configuration is used. In this case the panel node IP Address and the protocol has to be selected from the Network dialog box.
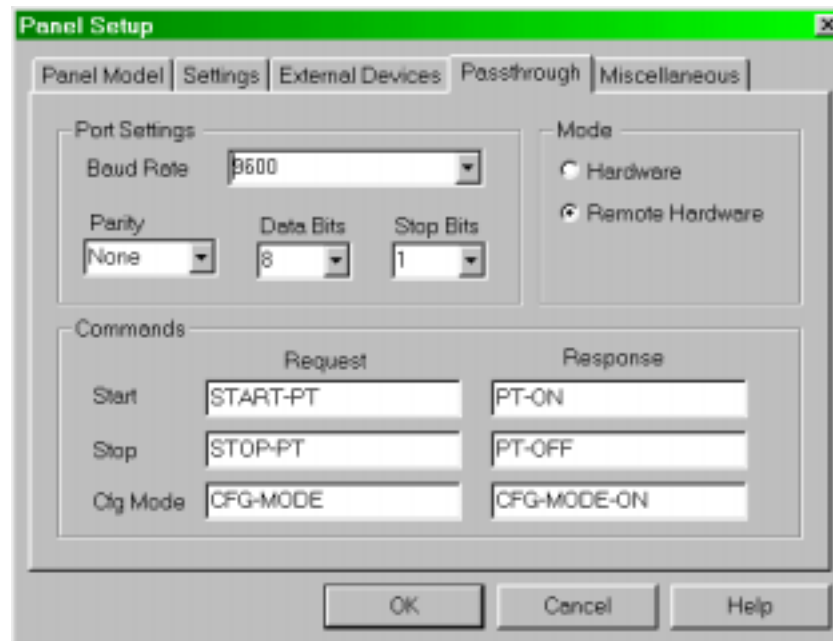
Figure 51

The Passthrough dialog box allows the user to configure the panel pass through feature parameters. Please note that the PC/Printer port cannot be used for printing when passthrough is configured.

Port Settings

Configure the passthrough serial line parameters: *Baud Rate*, *Party bit*, *Data bits* and *Stop bits*.

Mode

Define the pass through activation mode.

Hardware

Panel passthrough mode can be activated locally by panel (Using a macro or a mailbox command)

Remote Hardware

Panel passthrough mode can be activated remotely by sending a string command through the serial line.

Commands

Inside this section, the user can define the command strings to manage the passthrough feature.

Start

Command and response string to activate the panel passthrough mode

Stop

Command and response string to deactivate the panel passthrough mode

Cfg Mode

Command and response string to put panel in configuration mode.

<div align="center">Figure 52</div>
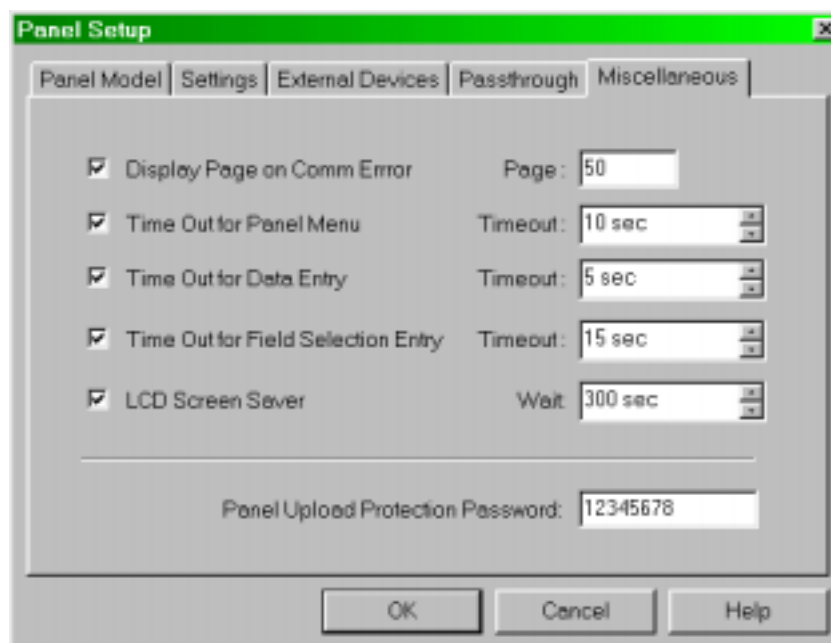
Display Page on Comm Error
This allows the user to specify a page for the panel to go to whenever communications between the panel and PLC are lost.

Time Out for Panel Menu
This allows the user to return to Operation Mode from the Panel Command Menu if there are no keys pressed for a specified amount of time.

Time Out for Data Entry
This allows the user to return to Operation Mode from the Data Entry screen if there are no keys pressed for a specified amount of time.

Time Out for Field Selection Entry
This allows the user to return to Operation Mode from Data Entry if there are no fields selected within a specified amount of time.

LCD Screen Saver
This allows the user to turn off the backlighting on an LCD panel after a specified amount of time.

Panel Upload Protection Password
Protect panel project from unauthorized uploads. When this field contains a value, the defined password will be requested in order to upload the project file from the panel.
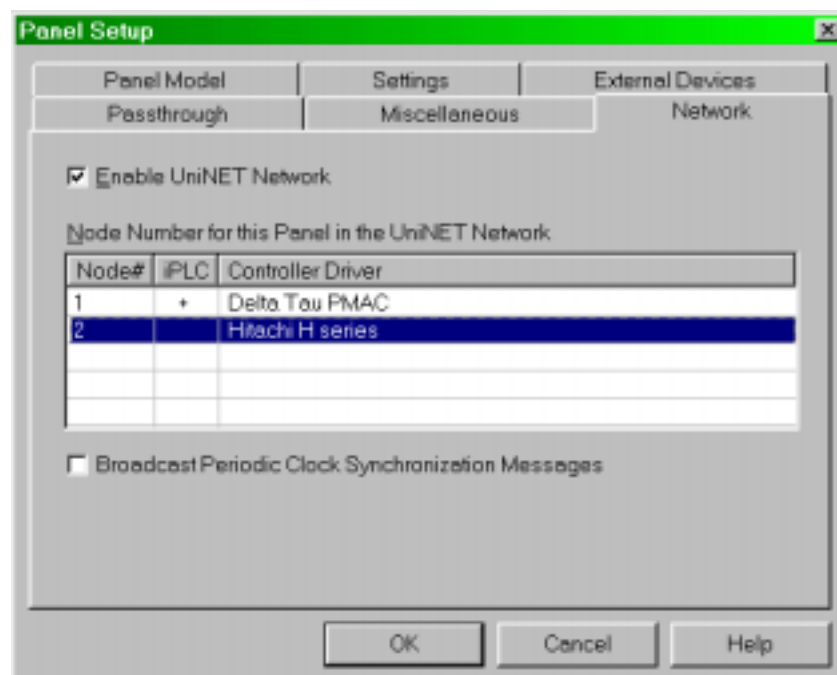
13.1 Network Setup

Figure 53

Enable UniNET Network
The Enable UniNET Network checkbox gives the user the ability to activate (enable) the configured network configuration.

Node Number for this Panel in the UniNET Network
When a UniNET Network is enabled, the node number associated to the panel must be selected from the proposed list of nodes that are defined within the network. The IP Address that is shown in the External Device index tab will be disabled when the UniNET Network is enabled.

Broadcast Periodic Clock Synchronization Messages
If the UniNET network is enabled, the user can specify whether the panel is to broadcast periodic real time clock synchronization messages across the network. The purpose of these messages is to synchronize the clocks in the different panels attached to the UniNET network. If the checkbox Broadcast Periodic Clock Synchronization Messages is checked, the panel will broadcast a clock synchronization message across the network every 60 minutes. If the checkbox is not checked, the panel will not broadcast the periodic clock synchronization messages.

Tips:
- The best way of ensuring clock synchronization across the UniNET network is to configure only one panel as the broadcaster of the periodic clock synchronization messages. The checkbox Broadcast Periodic Clock Synchronization Messages only controls the periodic clock synchronization broadcasts. However every panel in the UniNET network, regardless of the setting of this checkbox, will always broadcast a one off clock synchronization message to the network whenever the time and date menu is exited on the panel and whenever the panel receives a mailbox command instructing it to perform a clock synchronization.

13.2 Recognition of Old Panel Models

Designer 5.08 recognizes a model code that is inside the panel or inside the project file. When using an older panel or an older project file, the model code may not be found.

In this case, Designer tries to "guess" the panel model that was initially used by comparing the panel capability information stored inside the panel device or inside the project file with the panel capabilities that are defined inside the panel database within Designer. It is possible that Designer will find more than one panel that fits the available capability description. In this case, Designer will show a warning message to advise the user to manually enter the model in the Panel Setup dialog box.
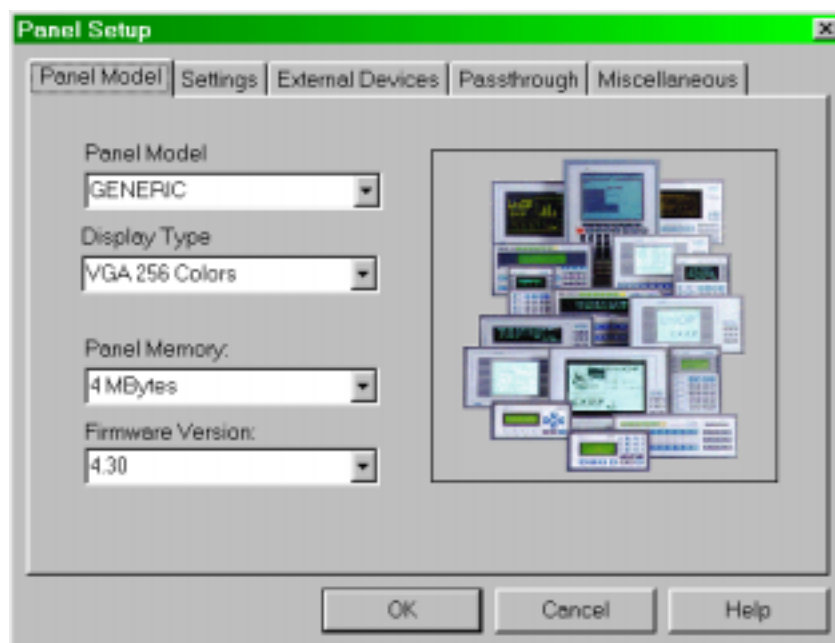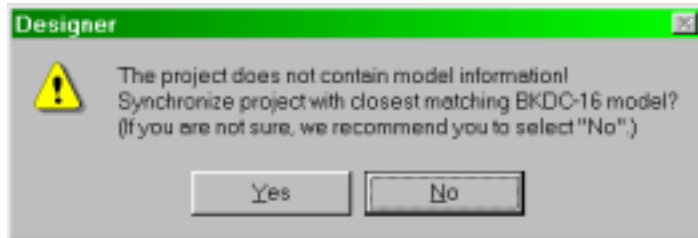

Figure 54

When Designer cannot determine the UniOP model associated with a project file, the GENERIC panel model will be selected. In this mode, all of the available panel capabilities will be enabled.

It is also possible to manually select the GENERIC panel model. This could be useful if the user has a new UniOP that has not been defined within the Designer panel database.

14.   Transferring Projects with the UniLOAD Device

UniLOAD is an optional device that can be used to write SSFDC memory cards much faster than downloading by using the PC serial port. When UniLOAD is correctly installed on the PC, the Update Firmware and Transfer to SSFDC controls will appear in the *Transfer Options* dialog box. (These controls are hidden when the UniLOAD software is not installed).
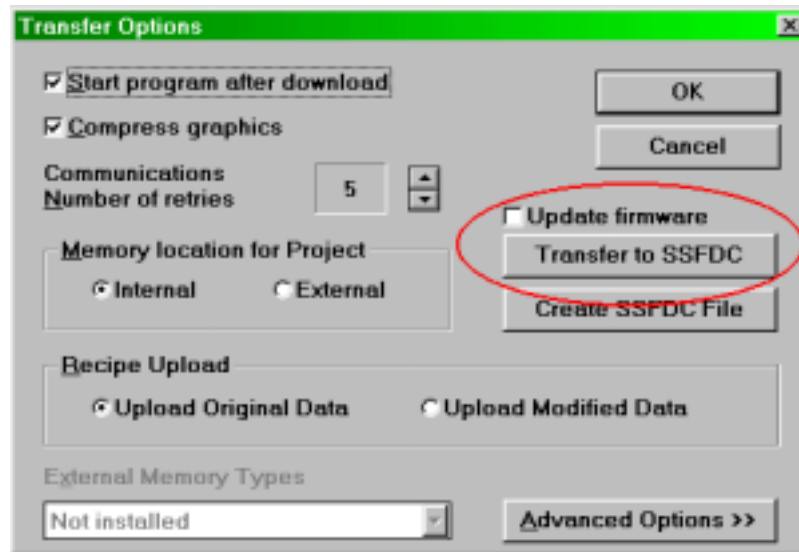
Figure 55

Update firmware
Use this checkbox when the user wants to check the panel firmware files on the SSFDC memory card. See the section "Automatic Firmware Upgrade Procedure" for more details.

Transfer to SSFDC
Select this button to start writing the current project file to an SSFDC card using the UniSSFDC Loader device connected to the PC parallel port. Please note that the user has to manually select the correct panel model to ensure the project file will run on the target UniOP. If the user has the UniOP connected to the PC through the serial line, executing a Get Panel Resources command before transferring the project file to the SSFDC card will ensure this.

During the file transfer, the dialog box shown below will be displayed.
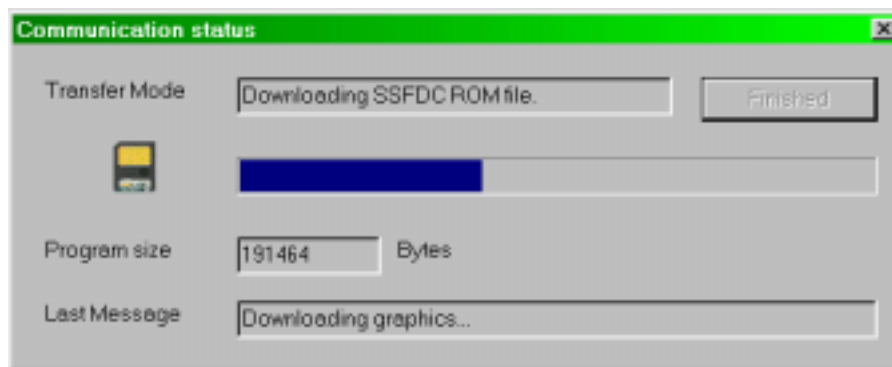
Figure 56

Format SSFDC

The SSFDC card will be formatted for use inside of a UniOP panel. If it becomes necessary to format the SSFDC card, the user can use the *Format SSFDC* command that is found inside the Advanced section of the Transfer Options dialog box.

14.1 Installing the Software to Manage the UniLOAD Device

The software necessary to use the UniLOAD device can be installed from the Designer installation package. The custom mode must be chosen and the UniLOAD option must be selected.

Figure 57

14.2 Manual Installation

If the user wants to manually install the UniLOAD software, they will have to copy the UniLOAD files inside a directory on their computer (for example inside a Designer subdirectory as: C:\Designer\UniSSFDC) and then enable the software by adding the following line (in bold) inside the DESIGNER.INI file.

```
[Designer]
Toolbelt=1
Statusbar=1
ZoomSize=1
...
UniSSFDC=C:\DESIGNER\UniSSFDC\UniSSFDC.exe /pathcode C:\DESIGNER\Firmware /rom %s
...
```

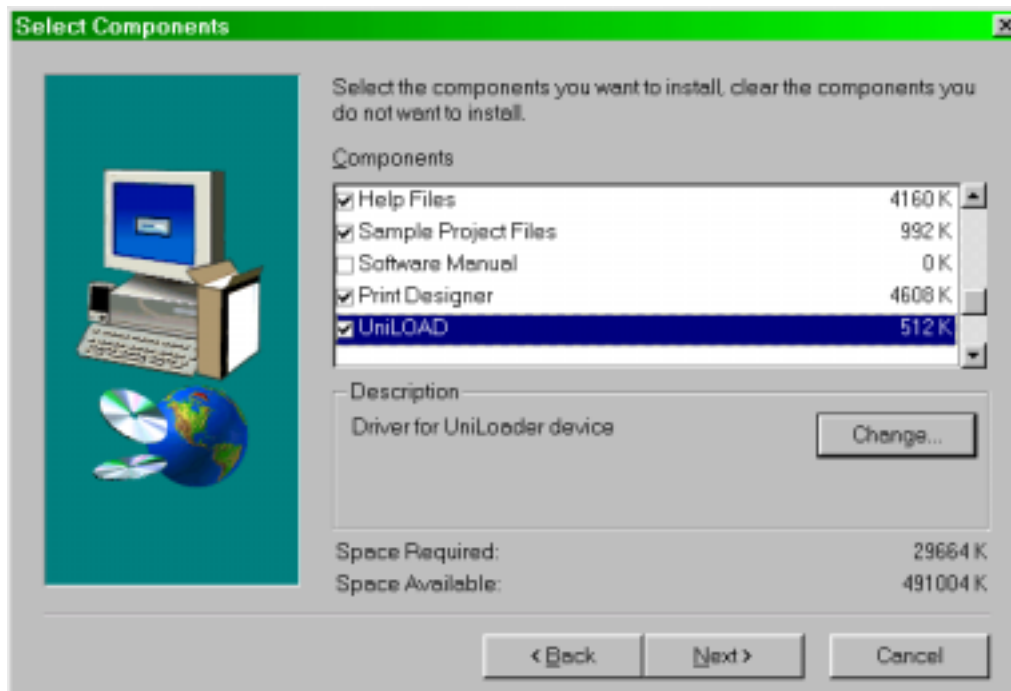The "/pathcode C:\DESIGNER\Firmware" is the parameter that specifies where the panel firmware files are stored on the computer.

14.3 Windows NT/2000 support

Follow the steps below to manually install the UniLOAD device on a computer with either Windows NT or Windows 2000 operating system.

1. Copy the **ssfdcpp.sys** file to the following directory: \winnt\system32\drivers
2. Double click the **SsfdcPp.reg** file to add the necessary keys to the Windows registry
3. Reboot the machine

14.4 Troubleshooting

If communications problems arise, please check the following:

- Ensure that the cable used to connect the UniLOAD device is not longer than 50 cm.
- Check to see that the parallel port setting on the computer is set for EPP or ECP.
- If the SSFDC card is not recognized, format the SSFDC card before trying to load the project file.

15. Overlapping Graphic Objects

The Dynamic Graphics tool within Designer allows the user to configure a dynamic sequence of images that UniOP will show according to the numeric value of an attached controller variable. Versions of Designer older than 5.08 allow placement of Dynamic Graphic fields only over an empty area of the screen. Starting from Designer 5.08 it will be possible to position Dynamic Graphic fields over static background bitmaps. Creating animated images will be easier and effective.

Overlapped Dynamic Graphics and static bitmaps work with any firmware version that supports graphics.

15.1 Placing Dynamic Graphics on Top of Static Bitmaps

The following procedure explains how to create a dynamic graphic field that overlaps a static bitmap.
- Import a static bitmap that already shows the elements you want to animate;
- Make the dynamic graphic elements that will represent the animation. These are the bitmaps that will be used later on within the Dynamic Graphic object;
- Create the Dynamic Graphic fields over the static bitmap that was imported.

15.2 Application Example

As an example, Figure 584 shows a Designer project page that contains a large static bitmap. The goal is to display the tanks using different colors according to the value of the process variables in the PLC. Once the bitmap has been imported, the Transparent Graphic tool should be used to make the imported graphic transparent so that the Dynamic Graphic fields can be created.
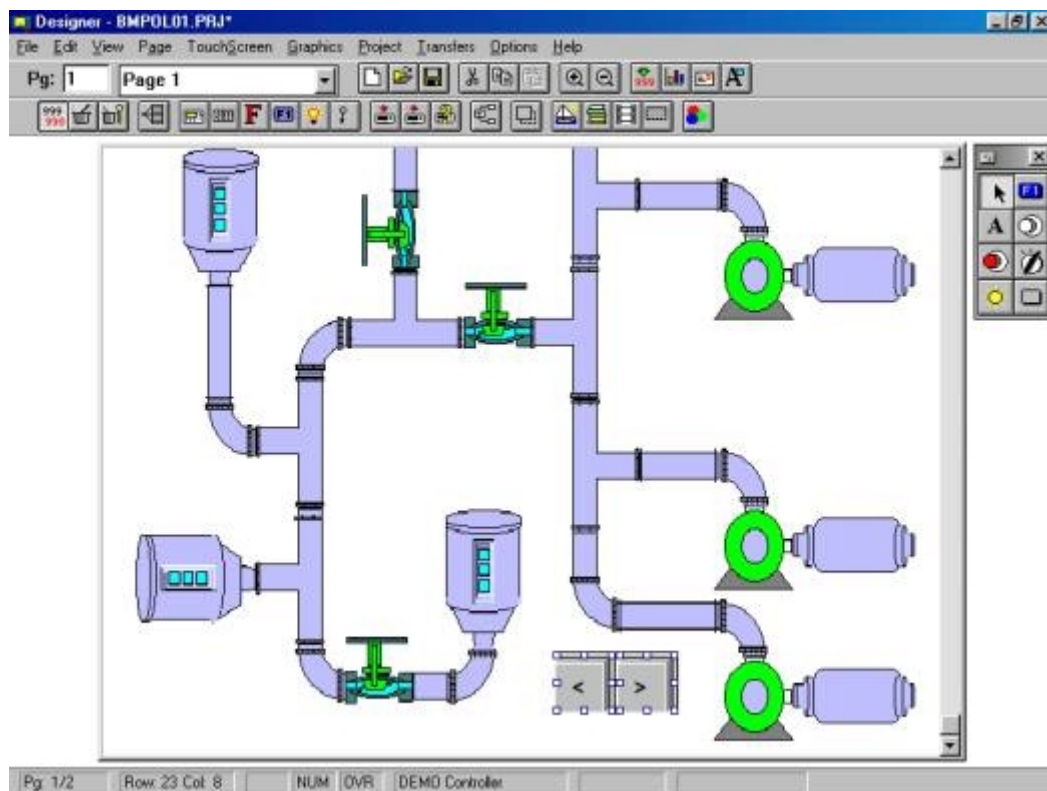
Figure 58

Figure 59 shows the same Designer screen after adding some static text and some numeric fields. Note that the Transparent Graphics button is pressed.
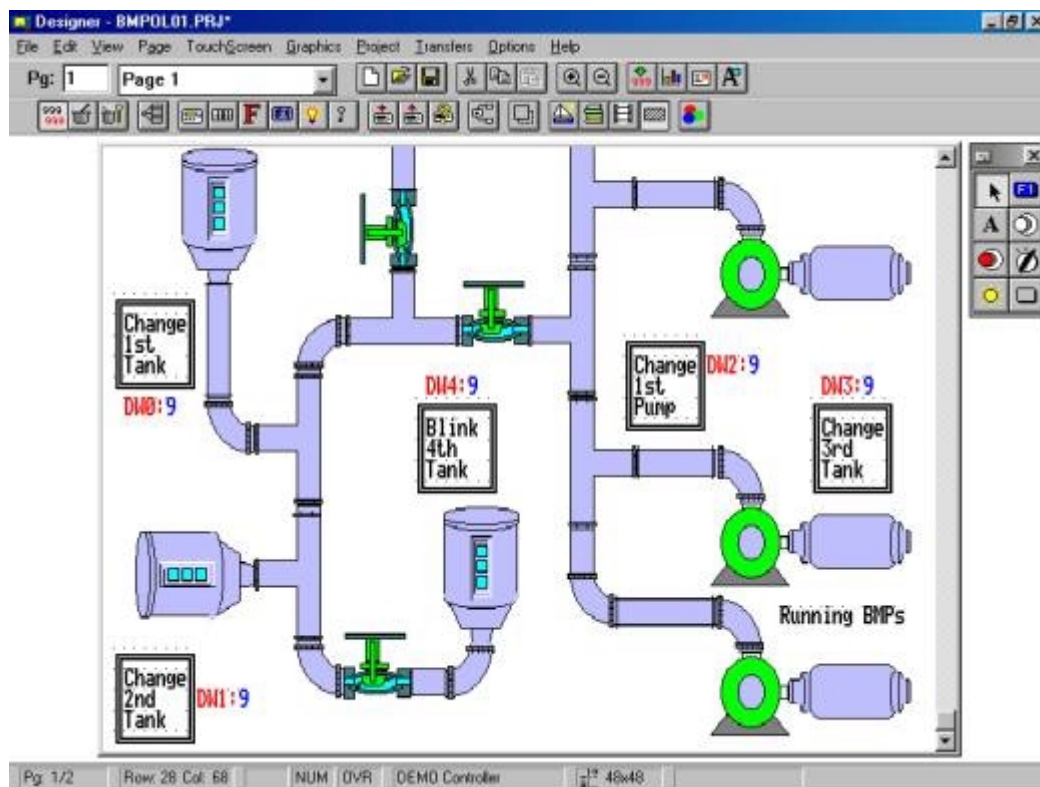
Figure 59

The next step is to define the areas where the Dynamic Graphic fields are to be displayed. **Error! Reference source not found.**6 shows the project page after the creation of the Dynamic Graphic fields.
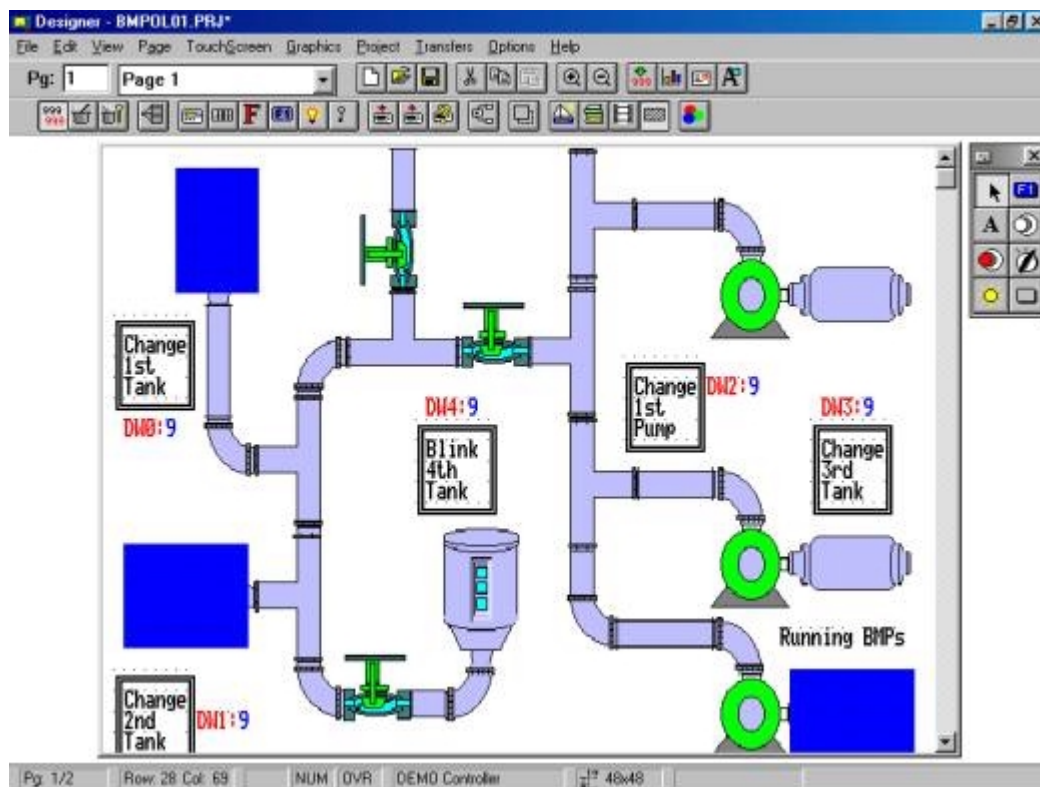
Figure 60

The bitmap images to be used in the Dynamic Graphic fields should be carefully created in order to match exactly the details of the static bitmap. Figure 617 shows the bitmaps included in the dynamic field that has been added in the upper left corner of the project page.
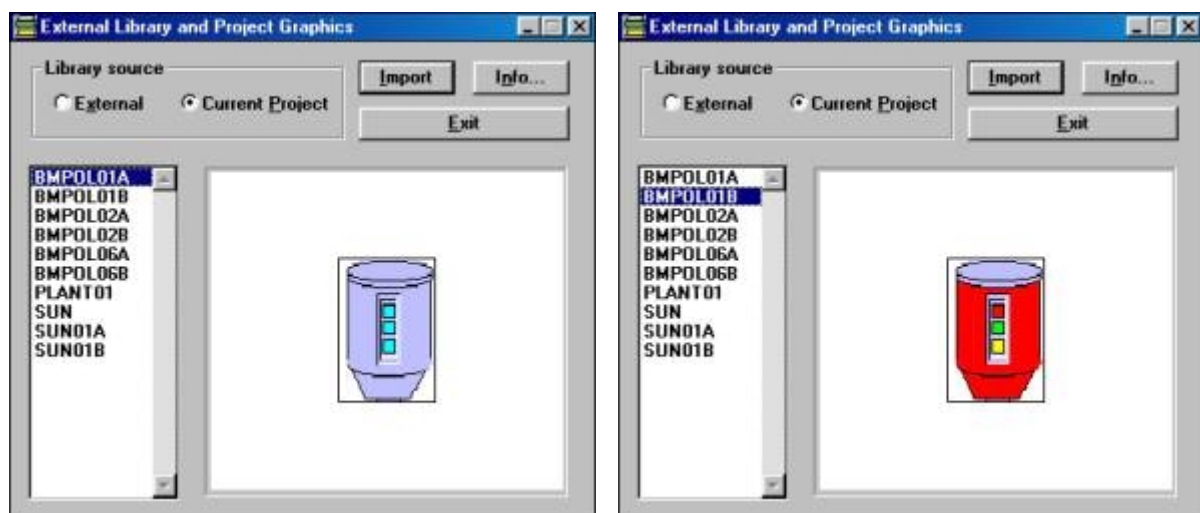
Figure 61

Note that the Dynamic Graphic fields and the bitmaps they use will have to snap to the character-based grid of the page.

![EXOR logo] *Tech-note*

15.3   Touch Cells over Static Bitmaps

Transparent and three-dimensional touch cells can be defined over static bitmap images as shown in Figure 628.
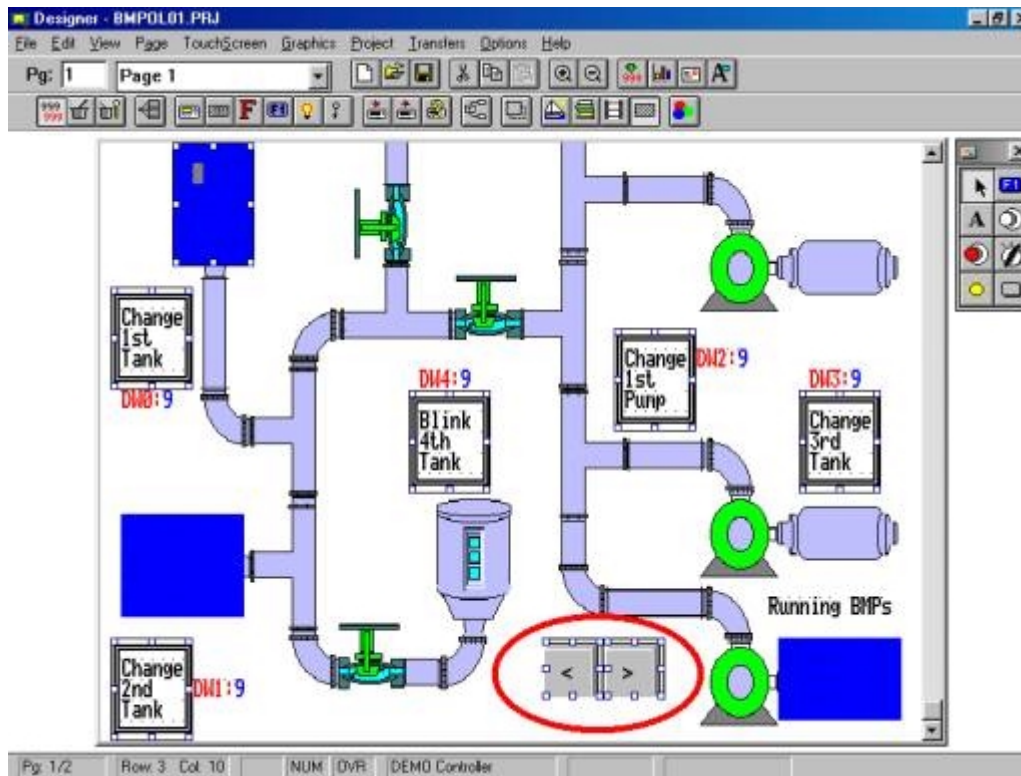
Figure 62

Note: *It is not possible to overlap two dynamic objects. For example, a numeric field cannot be placed over a dynamic graphic field (both items are dynamically changed by the controller).*

---

16. Automatic Firmware Upgrade Procedure

New UniOPs that contain the T2000 board are able to accept new firmware files through the serial line or through the SSFDC memory card. For these panel models, the firmware files can be stored in the SSFDC memory card. There are four kinds of firmware files that can be stored in the SSFDC memory card. They are called "*Boot*", "*Firmware*", "*MIPS Code*" and "*MIPS service*" files.

A copy of the *Boot* and the *Firmware* files is also stored inside the internal panel FLASH memory. Storing a copy of these files inside the SSFDC card is not mandatory, but it is necessary when the internal FLASH memory must be updated.

A copy of the *MIPS Code* file must always be stored in the SSFDC memory card. In fact, this code is always loaded from the SSFDC memory card when the UniOP switches from the Configuration Mode" state to the Operating Mode state.

MIPS Service is not necessary for normal panel operation. It is necessary only for running in Service Mode.

16.1 Procedure to Upgrade the Internal FLASH Memory

To check the firmware versions that are stored inside the panel memory, it is necessary to put the panel in *Configuration Mode* and hold the Up-Arrow key for 2 seconds. A table similar to the one shown below will appear:

```
RELEASE.VERSION UPGRADE


        FLASH       SSFDC
Boot    04.30W      04.35D.0001
Fw      04.35D      04.35D

Press Enter to continue...
```

The *FLASH* column shows the active firmware version. The column *SSFDC* shows the version stored inside the SSFDC card. After pressing the ENTER key, the message shown below will appear.

```
Press Up Arrow to Update...
...or wait to leave unchanged
```

Pressing the Up Arrow key will cause the firmware upgrade procedure to start. Waiting for 2 seconds without pressing any keys will cause the procedure to abort without substituting the active firmware files.

16.2 Check Firmware Versions

Designer will enable the download features, accessible from the Transfers menu, when a panel model with the T2000 board is detected. Note that this menu item is not visible when the selected panel does not support the download features.

Download features can be enabled manually from the *Settings* index tab within the *Panel Setup* dialog box. Manual settings are necessary when a real panel is not physically connected to the PC and a Get Panel Resources command cannot be executed.
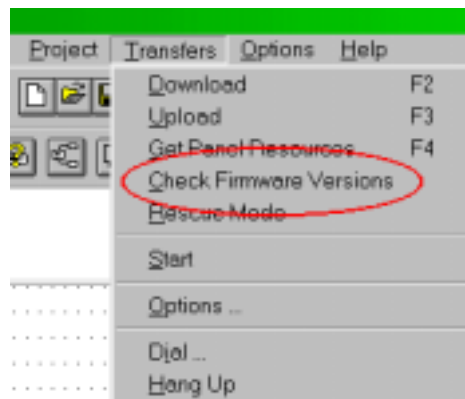
Correct setting of the **Firmware Download** flag is necessary to give Designer the necessary information required to correctly calculate the SSFDC memory used, taking into account the size of the firmware files.
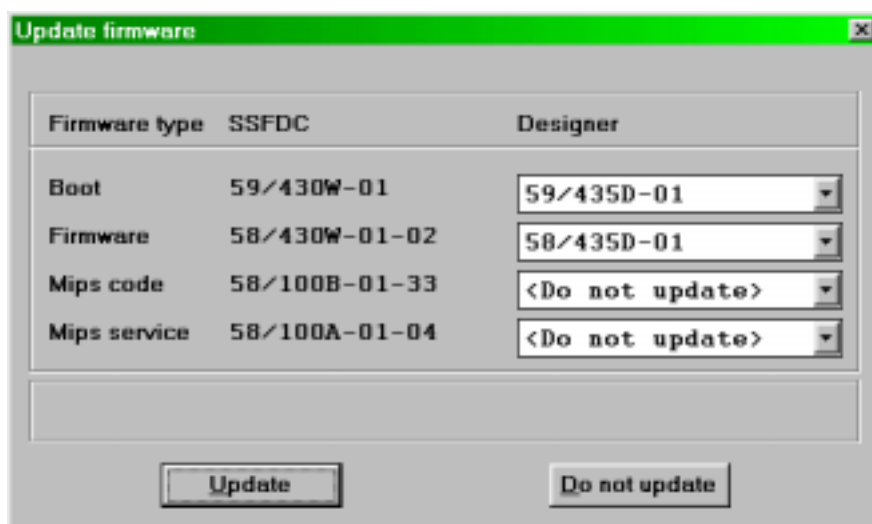
Figure 63

After exchanging information with the panel to detect the version of the firmware files that are inside the SSFDC memory card, the above dialog box is displayed. The left column displays the versions of the firmware files that are located in the SSFDC memory card. The right column displays versions of firmware files ONLY if the user's computer contains a newer version. If a newer version is not detected, <Do not update> will be displayed.

Update
This will start the download procedure. It does nothing when all of the Designer fields contains the <Do not update> strings. Please note that after updating the firmware files inside the panel SSFDC memory, it will be necessary to upgrade the panel's FLASH memory as previously described.

Do not update
Use this button to exit from this dialog box without updating the firmware files.

Note: *Designer checks the firmware version before beginning any download operation. When an old firmware file version is detected inside the panel, the above dialog box is displayed to give the user a chance to upgrade the firmware file.*

16.3 Designer Firmware Files Directory

The setup procedure installs a Firmware subdirectory inside the Designer working directory. This directory will contain all the necessary firmware files used by Designer to check and update the panel SSFDC memory card.

New firmware files have to be copied inside this directory to be accessible from Designer.

16.4 Rescue Mode

UniOP uses the Boot file that resides inside the internal FLASH memory to load firmware code. When the internal boot file is corrupted or missing, the firmware file cannot be loaded and the UniOP display will remain off.

In this condition, it will be necessary to use the Rescue Mode command to download a new copy of the Boot file. To do this, the user needs to ensure that the Firmware Download flag in the Settings index tab within the Panel Setup dialog box is enabled. Otherwise the Rescue Mode command will be hidden.

After connecting the serial line of the UniOP to the computer, simply execute the Rescue Mode command and follow the instructions that will appear on the computer.
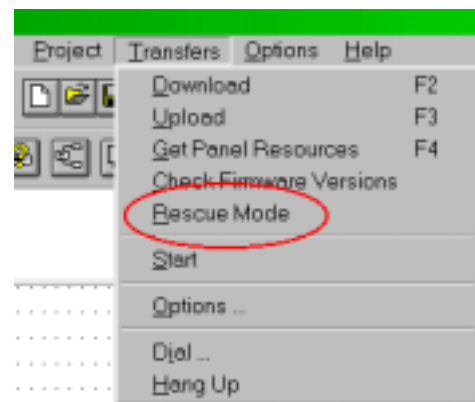
The rescue procedure will ask the user to turn off the UniOP.

Figure 64

The rescue procedure will ask the user to turn on the UniOP.

Figure 65

When communication is established, the rescue procedure will check the Boot files that are inside the firmware directory on the computer and prompt the user to begin downloading the most recent version.
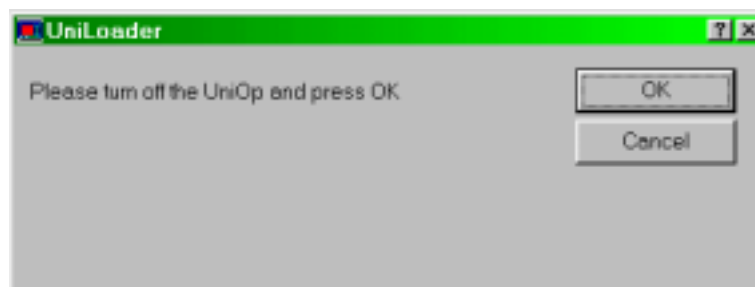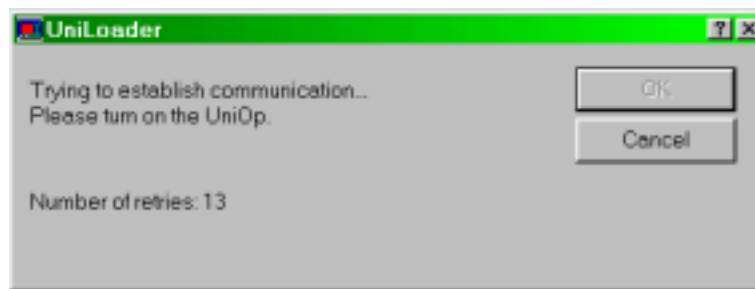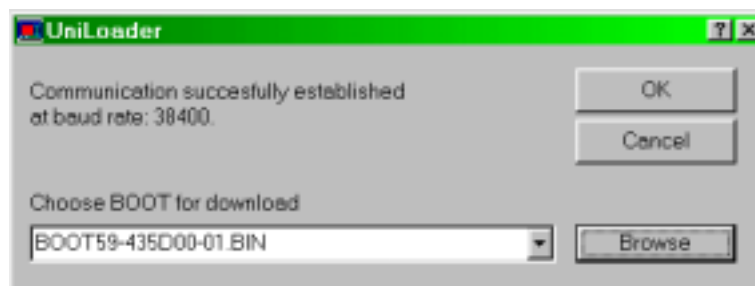

Figure 66

After completing these operations, the UniOP will restart.

Appendix A. New Features: a Reference Table

The table below describes the current status of the new features in all UniOP models with firmware version 4.40.

Model	FW Type	Trends and gauges	Pop-up keypads	Variable references for Min/Max	Panel I/O	Improved font support	Recipe back-up	Ethernet	Automatic firmware upgrade
MD00R-02	32			x			x	x	
MD00R-04	32			x			x	x	
MD00G-04	32			x			x	x	
MD03R-02	32			x	x		x	x	
MD03R-04	32			x	x		x	x	
MD02F-02	32			x			x	x	
MD02R-04	32			x	x		x	x	
CP01R-04	32			x			x	x	
CP02R-04	32			x			x	x	
CP01F-02	32			x			x	x	
CP02F-02	32			x			x	x	
CP04F-04	32			x			x	x	
CP10G-04	32			x	x		x	x	
CP11G-04	32			x	x		x	x	
CP12G-04	32			x	x		x	x	
CP13G-04	32			x	x		x	x	
EF-02	32			x			x	x	
EF-04	32			x			x	x	
ER-04	32			x			x	x	
MKDF-02	32			x			x	x	
MKDF-04	32			x			x	x	
MKDR-04	32			x			x	x	
MKDR-05	32			x			x	x	
MKDG-06	32			x	x		x	x	
MKDG-07	32			x	x		x	x	
ePALM10	32			x			x	x	
ER-16	33			x			x		
EL-16N	33			x			x		
ER-25	33			x			x		
ER-VGA	38	x		x		x	x	X	
EL-25	33			x			x		
EL-VGA	38	x		x		x		x	
BKDR-16	33			x			x		
BKDC-16	37			x			x		
BKDL-16	33			x			x		
BKDR-16T	33			x			x		
BKDC-16T	33			x			x		
BKDL-16T	33			x			x		
MKDR-16	33			x			x		
MKDL-16N	33			x			x		
MKDR-25	33			x			x		
MKDL-25	33			x			x		
MKDR-VGA	38	x		x		x		x	
MKDC-VGA	38	x		x		x		x	
MKDL-VGA	38	x		x		x		x	
MKDT-VGA	38	x		x		x		x	
ERT-16	33			x			x		
ECT-16	37			x			x		
ELT-16	33			x			x		
ER-25T	33			x			x		
EL-25T	33			x			x		
ERT-VGA	38	x		x		X		x	
ECT-VGA	38	x		x		X		x	

Model	FW Type	Trends and gauges	Pop-up keypads	Variable references for Min/Max	Panel I/O	Improved font support	Recipe back-up	Ethernet	Automatic firmware upgrade
ELT-VGA	38	x		x		X		x	
ETT-VGA	38	x		x		x		x	
MKDR-VGA-T	38	x		x		x		x	
MKDC-VGA-T	38	x		x		x		x	
MKDL-VGA-T	38	x		x		x		x	
MKDT-VGA-T	38	x		x		x		x	
eTOP10	58	x	x	x	x	x		x	x
eTOP11	58	x	x	x	x	x		x	x
eTOP12	58	x	x	x	x	x		x	x
eTOP30	58	x	x	x	x	x		x	x
eTOP31	58	x	x	x	x	x		x	x
eTOP32	58	x	x	x	x	x		x	x
eTOP40	58	x	x	x	x	x		x	x

Table 3