

What is New in OPC Toolbox Version 3.10

OPC C++ Toolkit

Support of the Current OPC Specification

Version 3.10 of the OPC Toolbox C++ supports the most recent versions of the OPC Specifications:

- OPC Data Access V2.05
- OPC Alarms and Events V1.02

Diagnostic Interface

A major innovation provided by Version 3.10 is a diagnostic interface for all OPC Servers created with the OPC Toolbox C++. The source code of a diagnostic client with which you can look at the current status of the OPC Server is now part of the OPC Toolbox C++.

In your server application, you can add further diagnostic attributes (e.g. status of communication with a device), as desired, to those created by the OPC Toolbox. For details on this topic, please refer to the programming instructions.

OPC Server Wizard

Version 3.10 contains a Microsoft Visual Studio 6 Application Wizard with which you can generate the basic framework of an OPC Server application.

The OPC Server Wizard provides you with a compilable, executable OPC Server within a minute and thus makes it significantly easier to become familiar with programming using the Softing OPC Toolbox C++.

Microsoft Windows CE 3.0 Support

The entire OPC Toolbox C++ can now also be used in Microsoft Windows CE 3.0 systems. An OPC Server or OPC Client that is created with the OPC Toolbox C++ uses the DCOM support supplied with Windows CE and does not require runtime components which need to be registered. You will find further information on the use of the OPC Toolbox C++ for Windows CE in the programming instructions.

Microsoft Visual Studio.NET Support

The OPC Toolbox C++ already supports the new Microsoft development environment Visual Studio.NET.

Microsoft Windows XP Support

The most recent Microsoft Windows operating system Windows XP is supported by the new OPC Toolbox C++ version.

Softing OPC Demo Applications

The source code of the Softing OPC Demo Client and Softing OPC Demo Server is now also part of the OPC Toolbox C++ demo version. You can now also create these applications in a "OPC DA only" or "OPC AE only" variant.

OPC XPress Server Tool

Support of the Current OPC Specification

Version 3.10 of the XPress OPC Server Tool supports the most recent versions of the OPC Specifications:

- OPC Data Access V2.05
- OPC Alarms and Events V1.02

Diagnostic Interface

The major innovation provided by Version 3.10 is a diagnostic interface for all OPC Servers created with the XPress Tool. The source code of a diagnostic client with which you can look at the current status of the OPC Server is now part of the XPress Tool.

In your XPress DLL, you can now, for example, create messages concerning the status of a device, which are then displayed in the diagnostic client.

OPC Server Wizard

The Microsoft Visual Studio 6 Application Wizard, which had already been included in Version 3.00, was revised and further advanced, making it even faster to become familiar with programming using the Softing XPress OPC Tool.

Microsoft Windows XP Support

The most recent Microsoft Windows operating system Windows XP is supported by the new XPress OPC Server Tool version.

Shutdown

The XPress OPC Server Tool now offers the possibility to initiate a shutdown of the OPC Server from the XPress DLL.

When the OPC Server executable is terminated, the XPress Tool now automatically sends a shutdown notification to all connected OPC Clients.

User Data with Tag and Property Objects

Already with Version 3.02, the functions for creating Tag and Property objects have been extended by the DWORD parameter userData. This parameter enables you to establish a connection between the XPress objects and your data by passing the value specified during creation along with each I/O request.

OPC Data Access Client Controls

Following is the list of the changes and new features in the version 2.1.

DATreeView Control

Remained unchanged.

OPCDataControl Control

The OPCDataItems::AddItem method returns the reference to the added OPCDataItem object.

The specific error codes returned by the controls are available as module's public constants now.