

Author : Wim Cranen
 Date : 25-11-2015
 Location :
 Date memo :
 Project : Rockwell Factory Talk Studio application for Factory Talk ME
 About : Alarm files on external system

Present :

Copy : Cofely - Fabricom - Genk

Introduction.

A customer's demand was to have access to the alarm history on a PV7+ from an external system. The PV7+ is connected through a network to the external system.

Start.

First of all, read and understand the Rockwell Knowledgebase article 33924. To have access to the knowledgebase, you need a login. This article is accessible for everyone.

https://rockwellautomation.custhelp.com/app/answers/detail/a_id/33924

Download the Factory Talk File Viewer (free utility) from:

<https://download.rockwellautomation.com/esd/ocx.aspx?sdrsid=S20555>

Unpack the zipped file on the external system in the folder of your choice and start the .exe file (FTViewFileViewer.exe).

Create a share over the network to the history.alm file on the PV7+. See the documentation for where to find this history.alm file.

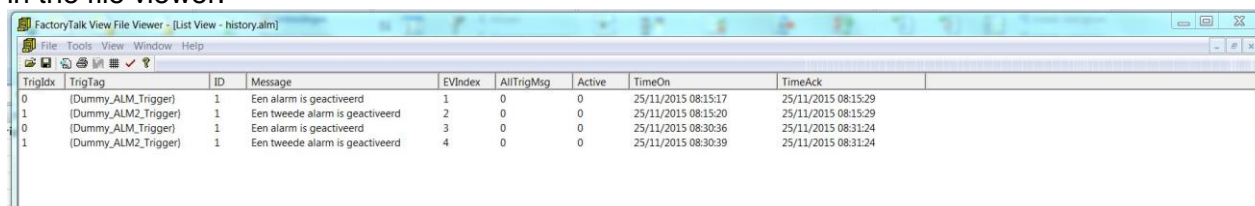
Copy the alarms definition file to your external system, e.g. in the same folder where you put the file viewer. See the doc. (kb 33924) on where to find this definition file (MachineAlarms.mal).

Now klik "File" → "Open" in the file viewer. On the right from File Name, there is a pull down menu to select the file type. Select the "ME Alarm Log File (*.ALM)" file type. Browse to the folder where the alarm file is shared on the network and select the history.alm file and klik "open".

Select the equipment on which the alarm file was created (leave it on the default PVPCE).

Then select the "RSView ME alarm setup file". This is the MachineAlarms.mal file. It contains the alarm messages and a reference. The File viewer puts the information in the history.alm file and the MachineAlarms.mal file together in to a usable format.

Klik "OK" and the content of the history.alm file, together with the alarm message will be shown in the file viewer.

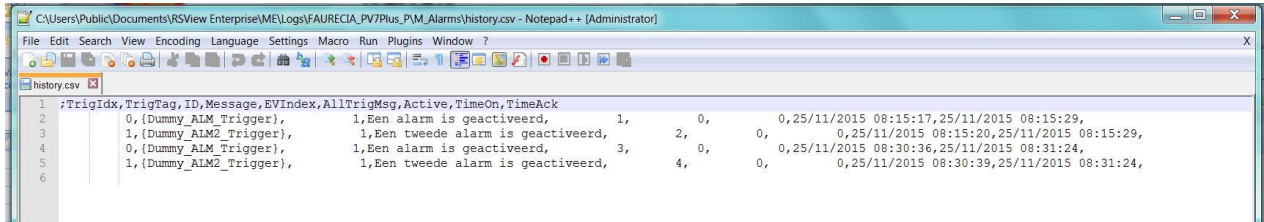


TrigIdx	TrigTag	ID	Message	EVIndex	AllTrigMsg	Active	TimeOn	TimeAck
0	(Dummy_ALM_Trigger)	1	Een alarm is geactiveerd	1	0	0	25/11/2015 08:15:17	25/11/2015 08:15:29
1	(Dummy_ALM2_Trigger)	1	Een tweede alarm is geactiveerd	2	0	0	25/11/2015 08:15:20	25/11/2015 08:15:29
0	(Dummy_ALM_Trigger)	1	Een alarm is geactiveerd	3	0	0	25/11/2015 08:30:36	25/11/2015 08:31:24
1	(Dummy_ALM2_Trigger)	1	Een tweede alarm is geactiveerd	4	0	0	25/11/2015 08:30:39	25/11/2015 08:31:24

Conversion to .csv file.

To convert this information to .csv format klik “File” → “Save as...” and change the “Save as type” at the bottom of the window to “CSV Files (*.csv)”, enter another filename if the default filename is not the desired one and klik “Save”.

Watch the content of the .csv file in a text editor:



Import .csv file in Excel.

To open the .csv file in Excel there are some very different way’s. I show just one way.

Open Excel without a file. Go to “Data” (Gegevens), select “From Text” (Van Text) and browse to the folder where the .csv file is saved and select it.

Then the “Import text wizard” step 1 starts. In the wizard, first select delimited, then select “Next”. In step 2, deselect everything but “Comma” and hit “Next”. In step 3, do not make changes and hit “Finish”. Then select the column and row where you wish to start the list, or leave the default, and select “OK”.



Automation.

Some parts of this sequence can be automated through batch files in combination with macro’s. For command line parameters, please read the documentation.

Remark.

The history.alm file is only in the PV7+ system if the application has run once. On Factory Talk Studio, first generate the .mer file and start it in FTS. If the application is running the history.alm file will be generated instantly and the generated information will stay there.

Attention.

Do not use commas in alarm messages though this will create a broken csv format.

Actions list.

Date	Action	Name	Ready
02-02-2004			02-02-2004

<EOT>