

Citect for Windows
Driver Specification
Beckhoff ADS

Driver version history

Version	Date	Modified By	Details
1.0.0.0.B1	2013-07-30	Tomas Rook	Main development
1.0.0.0.B2	2013-09-16	Tomas Rook	Debug/Trace implemented
1.0.0.0.B3	2013-09-16	Tomas Rook	VT_U1 added
1.0.0.0.B4	2014-04-30	Tomas Rook	iTotInclude 64->256
1.0.0.0.B5	2014-08-01	Tomas Rook	TCP request sequence update to increase speed
1.0.0.0	2014-10-01	Tomas Rook	Array stuff fixup - release
1.0.0.1	2015-03-09	Tomas Rook	LocalAMSAddress sanity check and Software-Protection implemented
1.0.0.2	2015-03-11	Tomas Rook	Failed symbol lookup trace file and parameter TraceFailedSymbols implemented
1.0.0.3	2015-03-27	Tomas Rook	Redundancy issues fixup (same unit name), changed OID lookup to also include project number to prevent variable mixup (needs new ADS.DBF and recompile). Parameter TraceOptions added.
1.0.0.4	2015-11-03	Tomas Rook	BYTE support, MAX/MIN fail for some datatypes caused zero value fixup (AssignValueToDcb function)
1.0.0.5	2015-11-10	Tomas Rook	StoreAdsSymbolTable added, Array of struct in program header also supported
1.0.0.6	2016-05-11	Tomas Rook	Failed connect attempt (TCP-mode) caused socket to not be deleted, increasing system resource allocation. Fixed answer compare issue for pOIDvsSymbol
1.0.0.7	2016-09-22	Tomas Rook	Write in invalid buffer could occur during GetAdsSymbolTableAndDataTypes when server was heavy loaded causing exception error
1.0.0.8	2016-10-11	Tomas Rook	FORCESYMBOLRELOAD added
1.0.0.9	2016-10-12	Tomas Rook	TraceOptions 0x0004 and 0x0008 added, TraceFileLimit parameter implemented, TraceLimit parameter changed to TraceByteLimit
1.0.0.10	2016-10-12	Tomas Rook	IOServerName fail check, more debug and trace
1.0.0.11	2016-10-18	Tomas Rook	LocalNetworkAddress parameter was added
1.0.0.12	2016-10-26	Tomas Rook	More trace options, minor changes of texts, changed back to DBA_MODE_SHARED, since databases could not be opened if ex the Tag form was visible
1.0.0.13	2016-11-07	Tomas Rook	UseSymbolTableFileIfExisting parameter was added
1.0.0.14	2016-11-13	Tomas Rook	StoreSymbolTableFile parameter was added, parameter IOServerName removed, datatype String implemented.
1.0.0.15	2016-11-15	Tomas Rook	Multiplre reads using ADS_SUMUP implemented
1.0.0.16	2016-12-16	Tomas Rook	IgnoreStartupErrors also ignores licenseproblems and also indicates status in logfile
1.0.0.17	2017-01-18	Tomas Rook	UseAMSAddressAsDefaultIP parameter added
1.0.0.18	2017-02-10	Tomas Rook	Uses C:\ as SystemId disk, shows SystemId and DongleId in ADS.LOG

1.0.0.19	2017.03.30	Tomas Rook	Nordomatic Lib testings, did not work with Di-analLib, compare problem in bsearch function Separate address text files for Symbols and DataTypes
1.0.0.20	2017-05-11	Tomas Rook	GPF caused by bad symbol table in CAdParseSymbols wrapped
1.0.0.21	2018-01-12	Tomas Rook	Citect Array support. Increased m_Data 256->1024 to fit arrays
1.0.0.22	2018-03-27	Tomas Rook	DataBase function and PROTDIR settings changed to prevent 'request size too big' error (array issue)
1.0.0.23	2018-04-23	Tomas Rook	ScanForDoubleTagNames and TraceServerAddress parameters added. Changed TraceOptionsparameter to TraceLevel. Dynamic load of Trace-parameters. Increased number of include projects from 256 to 512
1.0.0.24	2018-04-25	Tomas Rook	Constants are read directly from INI-file since struct was not filled from INI-file in the InitInstance call, which causes some parameters to have no effect
1.0.0.25	2018-06-05	Tomas Rook	Test branch for project load problem (database is locked at startup by simultaneously starting I/O servers)
1.0.0.26	2018-06-05	Tomas Rook	Updated DDK to VS2010
1.0.0.27	2018-10-16	Tomas Rook	Updated request algorithms to reduce CPU and memory usage, new statistic variables, new debug functions, timeout algorithm updated to be more functional when connections are slow. Database open wait function to prevent multiple I/O servers to lockout each other. May use both TCP and DLL simultaneously. Support for different AMS Net Id when running TCP and TwinCAT is installed. Per-port defined parameters added
1.0.0.28	2018-10-17	Tomas Rook	Updated trace stuff and updated to VC2010, released at Ryhov only
1.0.0.29	2018-10-17	Tomas Rook	Bug caused poll cycle to be slow, released at Ryhov and Björnekulla only
1.0.0.30	2018-10-18	Tomas Rook	Changed Delay 10 -> 20, MaxPending 50 -> 30, released at Ryhov, Malmö Stad and LF Gbg only
1.0.0.31	2018-11-04	Tomas Rook	Changed to %J%K in ADS.DBF for all other unit types (beside the array which had %J%K), because Citect 2016 seem to ignore OPT_DISABLE_GAP_BLOCKING Previously it was %J%R but %R did not seem to have any function (UnitType was always indexed as 0 anyway) Moved to new development platform. Not released yet.
1.0.0.32	2018-11-23	Tomas Rook	AllowIPAddressInCommentField parameter added. Missing LocalAMSAddress was not detected problem fixed.
1.0.0.33	2019-08-26	Tomas Rook	Protection project lifted to VS2010 and reinserted
1.0.0.34	2019-10-08	Tomas Rook	Timeout parameter is valid also for DriverType DLL, in previous version it only affected Driver-

			Type TCP

Driver documentation version history

Date	Modified By	Details
2013-08-13	Tomas Rook	Preliminary
2013-08-16	Tomas Rook	Minor updates
2013-08-19	Tomas Rook	Minor updates
2013-08-26	Tomas Rook	Minor updates
2013-09-16	Tomas Rook	Parameter updates
2014-10-01	Tomas Rook	Minor updates
2015-03-11	Tomas Rook	Minor updates
2015-03-27	Tomas Rook	Minor updates
2015-11-10	Tomas Rook	Parameter updates
2016-10-11	Tomas Rook	Minor updates
2016-10-12	Tomas Rook	Parameter updates, comm fail section
2016-10-18	Tomas Rook	Parameter updates
2016-11-01	Tomas Rook	TwinCAT3 info added
2016-11-02	Tomas Rook	Global addressing added
2016-11-08	Tomas Rook	Parameter updates
2016-11-13	Tomas Rook	Parameter updates
2016-11-15	Tomas Rook	Parameter updates
2017-01-18	Tomas Rook	UseAMSAddressAsDefaultIP parameter added
2017-03-30	Tomas Rook	Separate address text files for Symbols and DataTypes when using StoreAdsSymbolTable
2018-01-12	Tomas Rook	MaxArraySize parameter added, info about Citect arrays
2018-03-27	Tomas Rook	Changes in the ProtDir section
2018-04-23	Tomas Rook	Parameter updates
2018-10-16	Tomas Rook	Parameter updates, statistic updates
2019-05-04	Tomas Rook	Parameter updates

Contents

1. QA	7
1.1 Introduction	7
1.2 Procedure for generating a new driver	7
2. TARGET DEVICE(S) AND PROTOCOL	8
2.1 Introduction	8
2.2 Device Manufacturer	8
2.3 Device Definition	8
2.4 Communications Methods	8
2.5 Communications Configuration	8
2.6 Contacts	9
3. PROTOCOL REQUIREMENTS	10
3.1 Introduction	10
3.2 Symbol table information	10
3.3 OID based addressing	10
3.4 Blackbox projects	10
3.5 ADS.DBF	10
3.6 Supported variables/parameters	11
3.7 Address examples (Symbol name (OID) lookup) TwinCAT 2	11
3.8 Address examples (Symbol name (OID) lookup access arrays) TwinCAT 2	13
3.9 Address examples (Symbol name (OID) lookup) TwinCAT 3	15
3.10 Use Symbol Table text file to find TwinCAT 2 and TwinCAT 3 addresses	16
3.11 Global variable addressing difference TwinCAT 2 / TwinCAT 3	17
4. USER INTERFACE	18
4.1 Introduction	18
4.2 Driver Name	18
4.3 Boards Form	18
4.4 Ports Form	19
4.5 IO Devices Form	20
4.5.1 Address	20
4.5.2 Protocol	20
4.6 Pulldown lists Help	20
4.7 PROTDIR.DBF	21
4.8 Parameters and INI options	21
4.8.1 Standard Parameters	21

4.8.2	Driver Specific Parameters	21
4.9	Debug Messages	25
4.10	Stats Special Counters – DLL mode	26
4.11	Stats Special Counters – TCP mode	26
4.12	Other necessary setup – typical Citect.INI settings	26
4.13	Setup direct TCP/IP communication without TwinCAT software	26
4.14	Network Address Translation (NAT) using TCP/IP communication without TwinCAT software	27
5.	BASIC TESTING	28
5.1	Introduction	28
5.2	Procedure	28
6.	PERFORMANCE TESTING	30
6.1	Introduction	30
6.2	Calculating the Blocking Constant – Not applicable	30
7.	REFERENCES	31
7.1	References	31
8.	TCP COMMUNICATION FAIL DEBUGGING	32
8.1	Communication problems	32
8.2	Using ADSConfig to check communication and store local symbol file	32

1. QA

1.1 Introduction

This document follows the development of the new driver. It serves as a functional specification, design specification and test specification.

1.2 Procedure for generating a new driver

The following check list defines the QA steps for generating a new driver. This procedure must be followed for drivers to be integrated into Citect.

	Description	Person	Date
1	This specification document is written.	TR	2013-08-13
2	Specification reviewed and accepted by R&D department.		n/a
3	Driver coded.	TR	2013-08-07
4	Code and specification reviewed and accepted by R&D department.		n/a
5	Testing with connection project, and performance test.	TR	
6	Driver integrated into Citect source and built.		n/a
7	Documentation is written (HLP or MVB files)		n/a
	At this checkpoint coding is done and the driver is available as a beta.		
8a	Full testing is carried out.	TR	
8b	Performance testing is carried out.	TR	
8c	Specification and documentation updated from testing/performance tests	TR	
	At this checkpoint the testing is complete.		
9a	Review for completeness by developer, tester, documentor and R&D staff		n/a
9b	Add driver to install disks		n/a
9c	Add driver to protocols database		n/a
9d	Support notified of new driver for training purposes		n/a
10	Sales notified of new driver		n/a
	The driver is now finished.		

The hand over of a driver requires that all the above steps are completed and checked off.

2. Target Device(s) and Protocol

2.1 Introduction

This section defines the types of I/O Devices that are targeted by this driver.

2.2 Device Manufacturer

Beckhoff Automation Sverige AB
Stenåldersgatan 2A 15
SE - 213 76 Malmö
Sweden

2.3 Device Definition

All Beckhoff PLC equipment capable of routed ADS communication (TwinCat2 & TwinCAT3 SoftPLC devices)

2.4 Communications Methods

The driver support both direct TCP/IP using ADS and TwinCat ADS DLL.

The ADS protocol (*Automation Device Specification*) is a transport layer within the Beckhoff Twin-CAT system. It was developed for data exchange between the different software modules, for instance the communication between the NC and the PLC. The ADS protocol is used on top of TCP/IP. This means that in a networked system, all the data is accessible from any desired point.

2.5 Communications Configuration

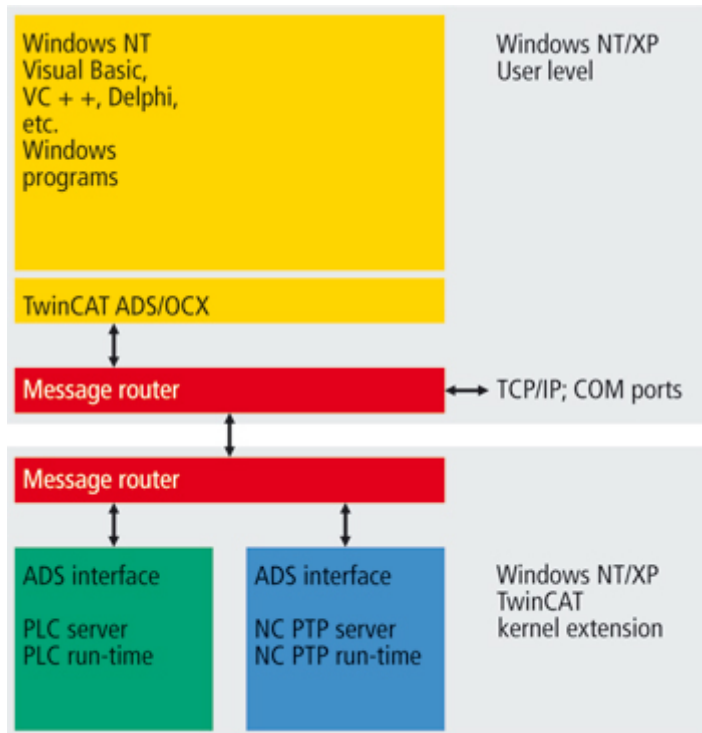
The driver support two different communication configurations. As from version 1.00.00.27

DLL: The driver use *TwinCAT ADS API* (function calls to *TcAdsDll.dll*). The ADS API takes care of all communication to the *Message Router(s)*.

When using ADS API the TwinCAT software has to be installed (just like the *TwinCAT Citect Driver*) and *TcAdsDll.dll* has to be accessible by the driver, either by placing it in the *System32* folder (if not already there) or point to the correct directory using the *System -> Environment -> Path variable*.

TCP: The driver connects directly to the *Message Router* using ADS packets wrapped in TCP/IP.

This method does not require any *TwinCAT* software whatsoever to be installed in the PC. The *Message Router* is built into the driver.



2.6 Contacts

Driver Development
Beckhoff Automation

TroSoft AB, Tomas Rook
Christer Wik

+46 (0)8 532 57262
+46 (0)40 680 81 76

3. Protocol Requirements

3.1 Introduction

The driver is a semi-cached request/response driver using OID for variable lookup.

The driver was developed using DDK 5.5 and VS2010 sp1, and has been tested with Citect up to version 7.50.

3.2 Symbol table information

When the driver DLL has loaded and communication begins it will first of all read the symbol table. During communication, the downloaded symbol table version will be cyclically read. If the version changes or the device is offline the communications is hold until the updated symbol table is retrieved from the device and *Groups/Offsets* are recalculated.

3.3 OID based addressing

The driver support Symbol name addressing only.

The Citect Driver Development Kit (DDK) only supports 2x32-bit addressing methods (*Unit-Type/UnitAddress*), which is very well suited for Beckhoff devices *Group/Offset* based addressing. From the engineer point of view this is however not very suitable, mainly because the *Group/Offset* values are changed if the symbol table and/or program is updated.

Citect compiler is not capable of handling text based addressing methods, hence the driver make use of direct variable database (*Variable.DBF*) address lookups. When the driver DLL is loaded it will scan through all variable tag databases in both the start project and all include projects. The unique OID key for all ADS variables will be stored in memory together with the address field (symbol name). When Citect wants to read some variable, it sends the OID to the driver which look in its variable lists and hopefully finds the variable address (symbol name). This name is used for lookup in the retrieved symbol table to find *Group/Offset*.

3.4 Blackbox projects

In some cases this is a method that will not function properly, ex if the variable tag databases does not exist locally (*BlackBox project*). To allow for these configurations the driver need access to the symbol name using some other method using an index. To enable index based addressing, the parameter *AllowBlackBox* should be set to 1. When enabled, the driver DLL will also create a text based cross-reference index (this function is not yet implemented – aug 2013)

3.5 ADS.DBF

<i>Template</i>	<i>Unit type</i>	<i>Raw type</i>	<i>Bit width</i>	<i>Read/Write</i>	<i>Comment</i>
DEVICEVERSION	0x10000000	7	1024	R	TwinCAT I/O version
DEVICENAME	0x11000000	7	1024	R	Device name
SYMBOLCOUNT	0x12000000	4	32	R	Number of symbols
SYMBOLSIZE	0x13000000	4	32	R	Symbol table size
DATATYPECOUNT	0x14000000	4	32	R	Number of datatypes
DATATYPESIZE	0x15000000	4	32	R	Datatype table size
FORCESYMBOLRELOAD	0x16000000	0	1	R	Force reload of symbols

%J%K%#:lArray	0x44000000	4	32	R/W	Long
%J%K%#:rArray	0x42000000	2	32	R/W	Real
%J%K%#:iArray	0x41000000	1	16	R/W	Integer
%J%K%#:bArray	0x48000000	8	8	R/W	Byte
%J%R%!	0x37000000	7	1024	R/W	String
%J%R%!	0x34000000	4	32	R/W	Long
%J%R%!	0x32000000	2	32	R/W	Real
%J%R%!	0x31000000	1	16	R/W	Integer
%J%R%!	0x38000000	8	8	R/W	Byte
%J%R%!	0x30000000	0	1	R/W	Digital

The *DEVICE.FORCESYMBOLRELOAD* template could be used to force the driver re-reading the pointlist. If set to 1 it will begin reading, when finished the driver will automatically reset it to 0.

Point description texts are not writable. If changed in device, a new pointlist must be retrieved for the texts to be updated.

3.6 Supported variables/parameters

All variables of type digital, integer (16-bit), real (IEEE 32-bit), long (32-bit), string and byte (8-bit) accessible using ADS (*BIT8 SINT*, *USINT*, *INT*, *UINT*, *DINT*, *UDINT*, *FLOAT*, *STRING*).

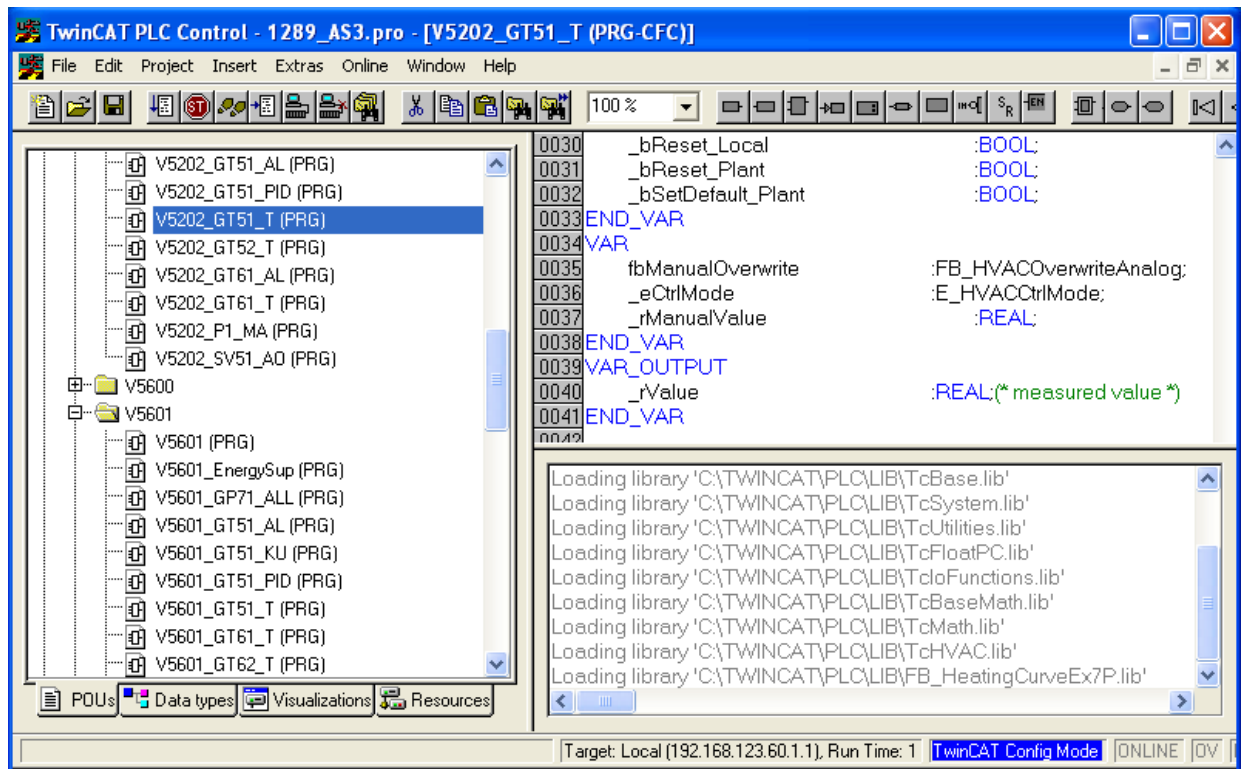
The driver will try to cast variables if possible, ex if *V5202_GT51_T_iRawValue* is defined as a *Digital* even though it is a *Long* in ADS it will return *FALSE* when the value is zero (0) and *TRUE* otherwise.

The driver will also limit variable values, ex if you define read an *UDINT* with the value 75123 from the PLC using a Citect variable defined as *INT* it will be read as 32767 (max for signed int's)

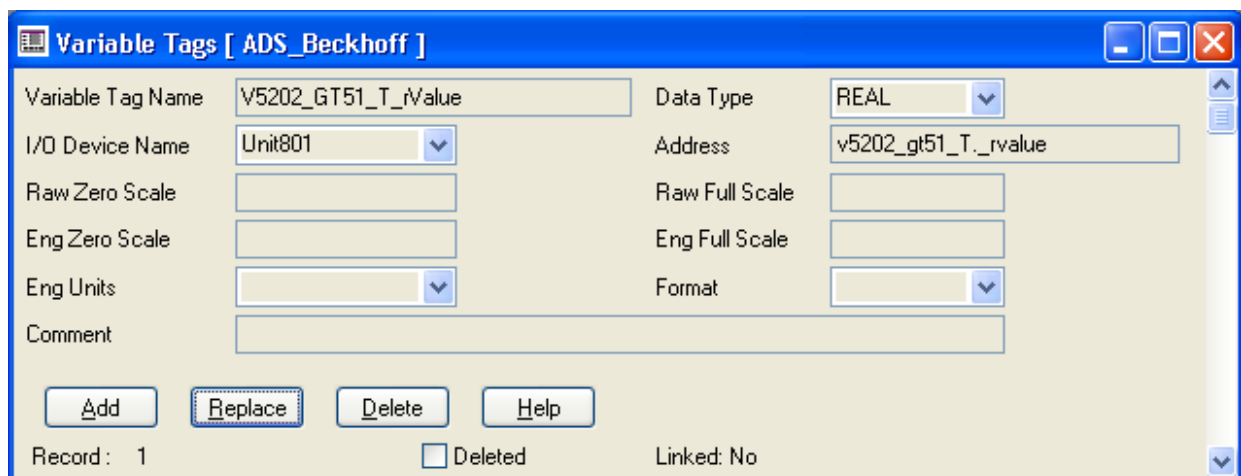
There is no support for other variable type, ex *TIME*.

3.7 Address examples (Symbol name (OID) lookup) TwinCAT 2

Example from TwinCat 2:



If *rValue* is to be accessed it would have the following Citect addressing:



Tag of data type *Real* and using OID lookup. The *Address* field contains the symbol address.

Variable Tags [ADS_Beckhoff]

Variable Tag Name: V5202_GT51_T_bEnable Data Type: DIGITAL

I/O Device Name: Unit801 Address: v5202_gt51_T_benable

Raw Zero Scale: Raw Full Scale: Eng Zero Scale: Eng Full Scale: Eng Units: Format: Comment:

Buttons: Add, Replace, Delete, Help

Record: 2 Deleted Linked: No

Tag of data type *Digital* using OID lookup. The *Address* field contains the symbol address.

Variable Tags [ADS_Beckhoff]

Variable Tag Name: V5202_GT51_T_iRawValue Data Type: LONG

I/O Device Name: Unit801 Address: v5202_gt51_T_irawvalue

Raw Zero Scale: Raw Full Scale: Eng Zero Scale: Eng Full Scale: Eng Units: Format: Comment:

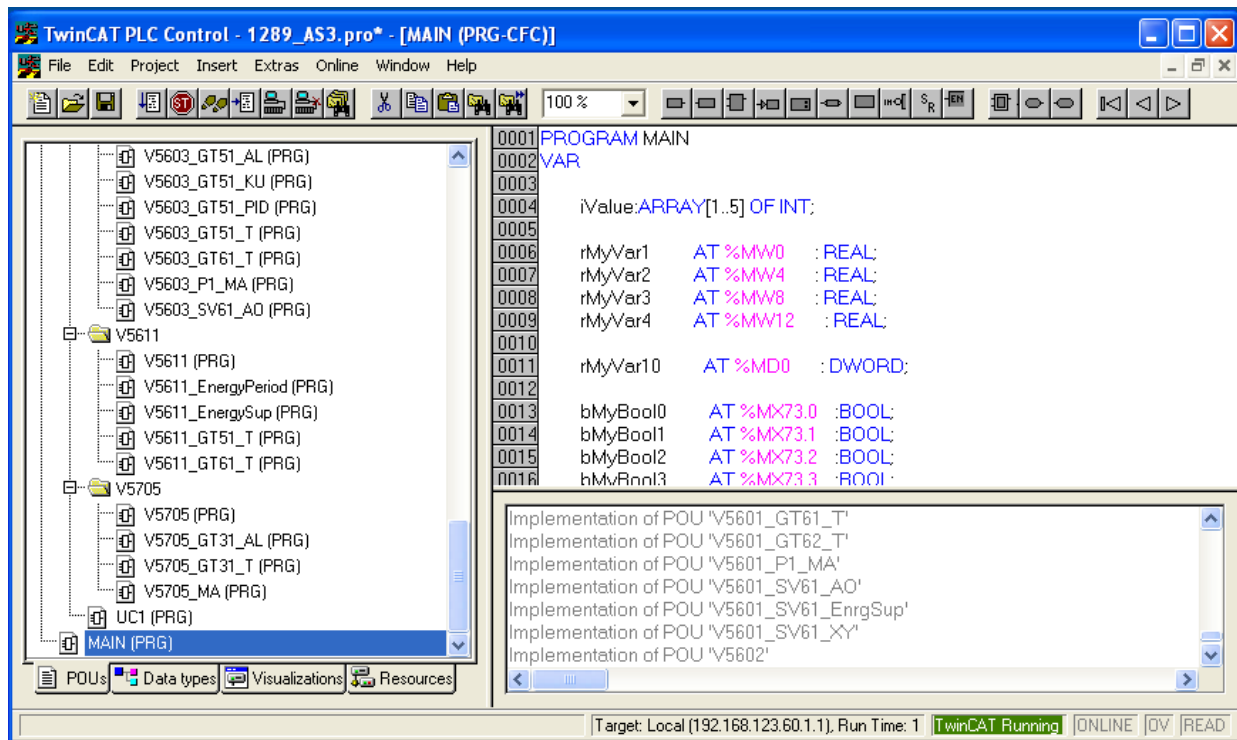
Buttons: Add, Replace, Delete, Help

Record: 3 Deleted Linked: No

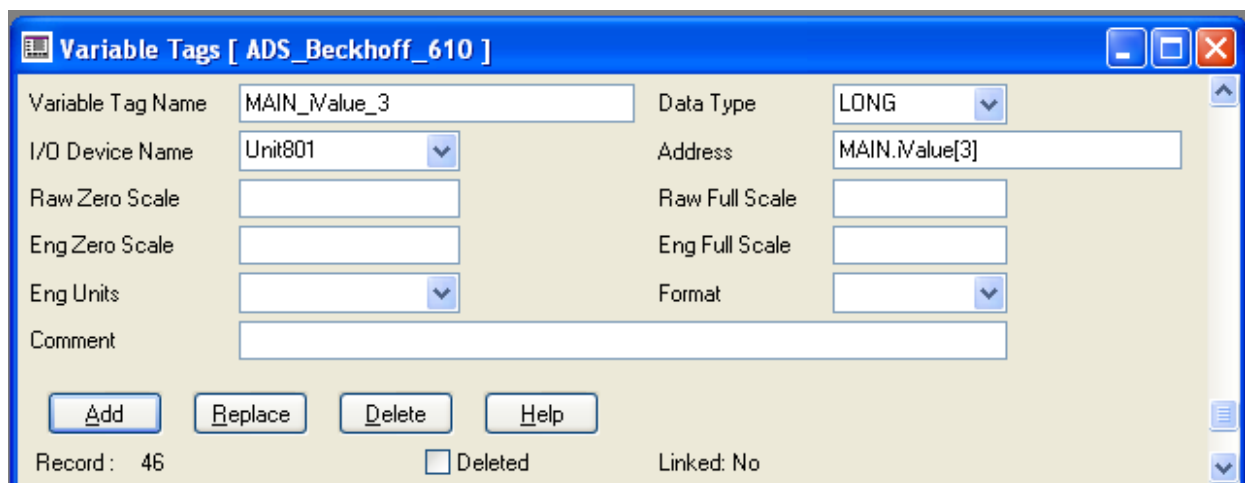
Tag of data type *Long* using OID lookup. The *Address* field contains the symbol address.

3.8 Address examples (Symbol name (OID) lookup access arrays) Twin-CAT 2

Example from TwinCat 2:



If *iValue[3]* is to be accessed it would have the following Citect addressing:



Tag of data type *Long* addressing a TwinCAT 2 int array element. The data type is casted from *Int* to *Long*.

Variable Tag Name: MAIN_iValue_Array

Data Type: INT

I/O Device Name: Unit801

Address: MAIN.iValue:iArray[5]

Raw Zero Scale:

Raw Full Scale:

Eng Zero Scale:

Eng Full Scale:

Eng Units:

Format:

Comment:

Add Replace Delete Help

Record: 49 Deleted Linked: No

A more efficient way to access multiple array values (ex time channels) are to define a Citect array tag as above example.

The *Address* field contains the symbol address to the TwinCAT array followed by the array type and size:

:iArray[5]

The Citect address to the value TwinCat variable *iValue[3]* would then be *MAIN_iValue_Array[2]*

The data type in Citect must follow the array definition suffix as follows:

LONG	:lArray[]
FLOAT	:rArray[]
INT	:iArray[]
BYTE	:bArray[]

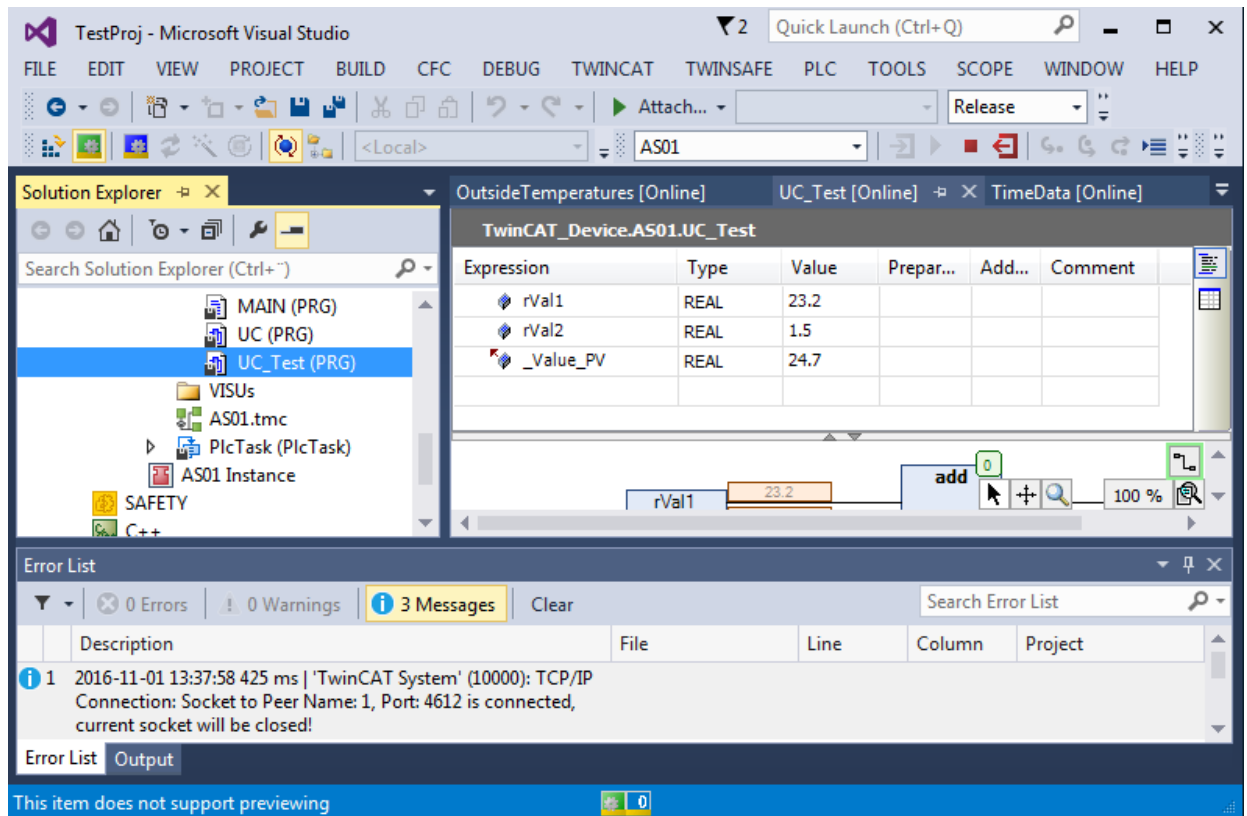
The array size in Citect could be set lower, but not higher, than the TwinCAT array size.

Be aware that Citect arrays always has 0 as lower boundary index even if the TwinCAT variable has 1 as lower boundary index (low limit).

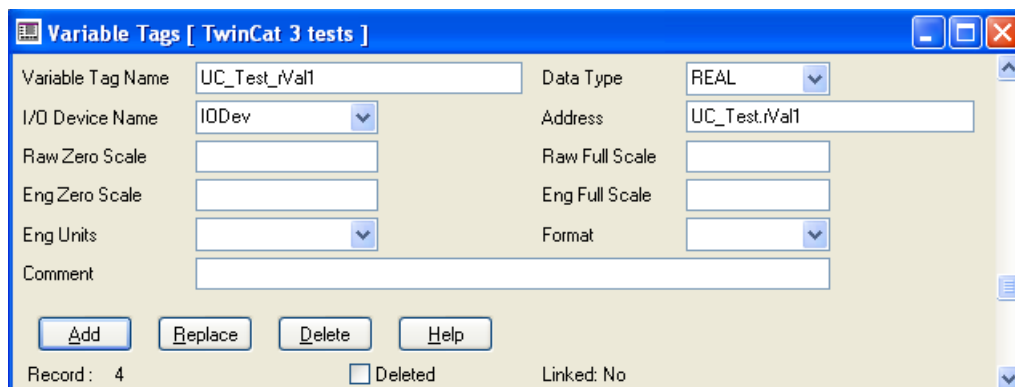
Only one dimensional arrays are supported and may be of data type BIT8 SINT, USINT, INT, UINT, DINT, UDINT, FLOAT. STRING and DIGITAL are not supported in arrays.

3.9 Address examples (Symbol name (OID) lookup) TwinCAT 3

Example from TwinCat 3:



If *rVal1* is to be accessed it would have the following Citect addressing



3.10 Use Symbol Table text file to find TwinCAT 2 and TwinCAT 3 addresses

If it is difficult to find addresses, use the Citect.ini parameter *[ADS]StoreAdsSymbolTable* (see *Parameters and INI-options*).

The driver will store the symbol table to a text file, ex above I/O device symbol table would be stored to *[Data]:\ADSVODEv.txt*.

The *[ADS]StoreAdsSymbolTable* should not be used in production, because it will create the file each time the symbol table is updated.

Example of contents of a symbol table text file

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
	Index	Name	Group	Offset	Size	DataType	Flags	Type
2	0	Constants.bFPUSupport	16448	512543	1	33	8	BOOL
3	1	Constants.bLittleEndian	16448	512525	1	33	8	BOOL
4	2	Constants.bSimulationMode	16448	512542	1	33	8	BOOL
5	3	Constants.CompilerVersion	16448	512534	8	65	8	VERSION
6	4	Constants.CompilerVersionNumeric	16448	512552	4	19	8	DWORD
7	5	Constants.nPackMode	16448	512546	2	18	8	UINT
8	6	Constants.nRegisterSize	16448	512544	2	18	8	WORD
9	7	Constants.RuntimeVersion	16448	512526	8	65	8	VERSION
10	8	Constants.RuntimeVersionNumeric	16448	512548	4	19	8	DWORD
11	9	OutsideTemperatures.rOutsideTemp	16448	512512	4	4	8	REAL
12	10	OutsideTemperatures.rOutsideTemp_Damped	16448	512516	4	4	8	REAL
13	11	TimeData.uiHour	16448	512520	2	18	8	UINT
14	12	TimeData.uiMin	16448	512522	2	18	8	UINT
15	13	TwinCAT_SystemInfoVarList._PlcTask	16448	512944	88	65	8	_Implicit_Task_Info
16	14	TwinCAT_SystemInfoVarList._ApplInfo	16448	512556	256	65	8	PLC.PlcAppSystemInfo
17	15	TwinCAT_SystemInfoVarList._TaskInfo	16448	512816	128	65	8	ARRAY [1..1] OF PLC.P
18	16	UC_Test_Value_PV	16448	537944	4	4	8	REAL
19	17	UC_Test.rVal1	16448	537936	4	4	8	REAL
20	18	UC_Test.rVal2	16448	537940	4	4	8	REAL
21								

Here the 'Name' field is the complete address to be used in the Citect tag form.

3.11 Global variable addressing difference TwinCAT 2 / TwinCAT 3

When setting up global addresses in TwinCAT 2, the symbol address should be preceded by a period sign '.', ex address for global memory variable *rOutside_T* in *OutsideTemperature*:

.rOutside_T

In TwinCAT 3 the global address must have the complete hierarchical name, ex address for global memory variable *rOutside_T* in *OutsideTemperature*:

OutsideTemperature.rOutside_T

4. User Interface

4.1 Introduction

This section defines how the user will see the driver. This relates directly to how the Citect forms need to be filled out and any special INI options. For the kernel, the debug trace messages and the *Stats.Special* counters are documented.

4.2 Driver Name

ADS

4.3 Boards Form

The screenshot shows a Windows-style dialog box titled "Boards [ADS_Beckhoff]". It contains the following fields and controls:

- Server Name: Text box containing "IO Server"
- Board Name: Text box containing "BOARD_ADS"
- Board Type: Dropdown menu showing "ADS"
- Address: Spin box showing "0"
- I/O Port: Spin box (empty)
- Interrupt: Spin box (empty)
- Special Opt: Text box (empty)
- Comment: Text box (empty)
- Buttons: "Add", "Replace", "Delete", and "Help"
- Status bar: "Record : 1" and a "Deleted" checkbox (unchecked)

The driver is a board driver, *Board Type* should be set to *ADS*

Enter *0* as address.

4.4 Ports Form

Whether to use direct driver with TCP/IP or the ADS API is determined by a *Citect.ini* parameter, see later on.

Here is where the AMS Net Id should be entered in the Special Opt field. The ID number has the following format,

x.x.x.x.y.z This number refers to the AMS Net Id specified in the TwinCAT System Properties. If the TwinCAT is on the local computer the *Local Computer AMS Net Id* should be used, for TwinCAT systems in a network the *AMS Net Id* specified in the *Remote Computers* should be used.

For easy to understand configuration in TwinCAT the first four digits x.x.x.x in the *AMS Net Id* should be the TCP/IP address of the local/remote computer, i.e. 192.168.123.230. The two last digits y.z is information used in the *AMS Net Id* by the TwinCAT system.

These two digits have to be the same as configured in the *AMS Net Id* of the local/remote computer. If the *AMS Net Id* for the local/remote computer is set to 192.168.123.230.1.1, the *Special Option* field has to be set according to the above example.

x, y, z should be a decimal value between 0 – 255

-s Optional. This forces the driver to send single requests (read/write) only.

TwinCAT versions before v2.11 (build 1550) does not support multiple requests using *ADSIGRP_SUMUP_READ* and/or *ADSIGRP_SUMUP_WRITE*.

This parameter affects this specific AMS Net Id device(s) only. See also parameters *MaxReadsPerRequest* and *MaxWritesPerRequest* later on.

The driver automatically determine the TwinCAT PLC I/O version so this parameter should normally not be used. It will degrade performance.

Example,

-ams192.168.123.230.1.1

-AMS could be lower or upper case.

If parameter *AllowIPAddressInCommentField* is set to 1, then the IP-address could be entered in the Comment field prefixed by IP. Example,

IP192.168.123.230

See both parameter *UseAMSAddressAsDefaultIP* and *AllowIPAddressInCommentField* later on in the *Parameters* section

4.5 IO Devices Form

4.5.1 Address

In the each TwinCAT system you can have up to 4 PLC's, each PLC will get a consecutive *Port Number* as follows. *PLC1 -> 801, PLC2 -> 811, PLC3 -> 821 and PLC4 -> 831*, these unique *Port Numbers* will automatically be assigned to each PLC in the TwinCAT system. The address specified in the address field has to be one of these numbers as the driver uses the address when communicating to the TwinCAT system. This means that every local/remote TwinCAT system will have 1 to 4 PLC's which Citect can read.

Which PLC is read on the local/remote TwinCAT system by Citect is decided by the *IO Device Address*. Which computer the PLC is located on is decided by the *AMS Net Id (Special Opt in the Ports form)*.

The *Address* field could be any TwinCAT2 or TwinCAT3 address, ex *801, 821, 851* etc.

Example,

801

4.5.2 Protocol

ADS

4.6 Pulldown lists Help

The following entries should be included in the Citect Help.DBF spec file.

TYPE	DATA	FILTER
------	------	--------

PROTOCOL	ADS	
----------	-----	--

4.7 PROTDIR.DBF

The following entries should be included in the Citect Protdir.DBF spec file.

TAG	FILE	BIT_BLOCK	MAX_LENGTH	OPTIONS
ADS	ADS	256	1920	0x2000cf

4.8 Parameters and INI options

4.8.1 Standard Parameters

Block	256		(Citect blocking is prohibited)
Delay	20	ms	
MaxPending	30		
Polltime	0	ms	
Timeout	10000	ms	
Retry	0		(Sets the complete packet retries, should be 0)
WatchTime	45	s	

4.8.2 Driver Specific Parameters

All ADS specific parameters are located in the section *[ADS]*

Most parameters may also be defined per port specific (which usually means per PLC). The driver will default to the *Default* value below. Port specific values are set in section(s) named *[ADS.<PortName>]* and always override any settings in the *[ADS]* section.

Ex we like to have a transmit delay of 50 msec for port *P101_C52026_01P*

```
[ADS. P101_C52026_01P]
Delay=50
```

This means port *P101_C52026_01P* will have a transmit delay of 50 msec and the other ports will have a transmit delay of 50 msec (as default).

Parameters that could be set port specific are marked in the PP-column below.

*OBS! In a redundant system the port names usually differs between the primary and standby server, ex for a standby server in the above example the section would be named ex *[ADS. P101_C52026_01S]**

PARAMETER	DEFAULT	UNIT	PP	DESCRIPTION
Delay	20	msec	✓	Each request cycle, the driver will scan through internal queues for work to do (create packets, update statistics, cleanup memory, return new values from buffers etc). Performance is linear to this time, but also CPU load. Basically this is the time the driver will pause between each packet to the PLC.
TimeOut	10000	msec	✓	Response timeout for the device.

				<p><i>DriverType TCP:</i> The timeout counter is reset each time a packet fragment is received, hence it will take a lot longer for the driver to timeout if the connection is very slow.</p> <p><i>DriverType DLL:</i> This parameter had no effect until version 1.0.0.34. Previously the default ADS timeout of 5000 msec could not be changed.</p>
MaxPending	30			Number of DCBs the driver may handle simultaneously. Actually the default is quite low for this driver, but Citect is not capable of handling an unlimited number of outstanding DCBs. This number must be multiplied by number of channels to get the total DCBs for Citect.
WatchTime	45	sec		When Citect send DCB requests to the driver, it have to respond within this time. This is also the cycle time for init and status requests for offline devices. The driver will try to reply Citect DCB's within 3/4 of this time.
DriverType	DLL		✓	<p>Determines if the ADS driver should use <i>TwinCat ADS DLL</i> calls or direct TCP connection to the router/devices. Allowable values <i>DLL</i> or <i>TCP</i>. Defaults to <i>DLL</i>.</p> <p>Warning! If <i>TwinCAT</i> is installed on the Citect server, the <i>DLL</i> mode should be used, because PLC's won't allow two connections simultaneous from the same <i>AMS Net Id</i>. The driver is capable of using another <i>AMS Net Id</i>, but at own risk.</p>
SymbolVersionCheckIdleInterval	10000	msec	✓	Determines how often the driver should check for updates in the symbol table when no values are requested.
SymbolVersionCheckBusyInterval	1000	msec	✓	Determines how often the driver should check for updates in the symbol table when values are requested.
MaxReadsPerRequest	30		✓	<p>Number of read requests handled in one packet. Packets are bundled in a per-SoftPLC fashion, ex if address 801 and 802 exist on the same <i>AMS Net Id</i>, and Citect simultaneously request 5 values from each SoftPLC it will result in two requests with 5 variables in each.</p> <p>TwinCAT versions before v2.10 (build 1324) does not support multiple read requests. The driver automatically determine if multiple requests could be used. To force single reads either use the optional <i>-s</i> parameter in the <i>Ports form</i> of the affected SoftPLC's or set both <i>MaxReadsPerRequest</i> and <i>MaxWritesPerRequest</i> to 1 to affect all SoftPLCs.</p>
MaxWritesPerRequest	30		✓	<p>Number of write requests handled in one packet. Packets are bundled in a per-SoftPLC fashion, ex if address 801 and 802 exist on the same <i>AMS Net Id</i>, and Citect simultaneously request 5 values from each SoftPLC it will result in two requests with 5 variables in each.</p> <p>TwinCAT versions before v2.11 (build 1550) does not support multiple write requests. The driver automatically determine if multiple requests could be used. To force single reads either use the optional <i>-s</i> parameter in the <i>Ports form</i> of the affected SoftPLC's or set both <i>MaxReadsPerRequest</i> and <i>MaxWritesPerRequest</i> to 1 to affect all SoftPLCs.</p> <p><i>OBS! Not yet implemented. This parameter has no effect since the driver always issues single writes.</i></p>

IgnoreStartupErrors	0			<p>If set to 1 no error message will be displayed if the driver detects some problem in the variable databases during startup.</p> <p>If Citect is running as service it will just hang the IOserver process if an error message is presented during startup. The error box is not visible to the user, hence the <i>Ok</i> button could not be pressed.</p>
TraceToLogFile	0		✓	<p>If set to 1 all debug data that would appear in Kernel using the <i>debug <portname> all</i> command will be logged to file <i>ADS.log</i> in the ADS subfolder of Citect's data folder. The file could grow very big, but its size will be limited by <i>TraceFileLimit</i>.</p>
TraceFileLimit	100	MB's		<p>The file size limit of the <i>ADS.log</i> file. This is the maximum file size in megabytes. If the file exceed this size, the logging will be stopped, however to continue logging just change the file name or delete it and logging will automatically resume (no restart is required)</p>
TraceByteLimit	64	bytes		<p>Limit the number of data bytes presented in logfile and Kernel debug (per packet presented hex data)</p>
TraceFailedSymbols	0		✓	<p>If the driver is not capable of finding symbol addresses in the downloaded symbol table they may be written to a text file to ease up database fixing. The file is named <i>ADS_FailedSymbols.log</i> and is placed in the ADS subfolder of Citect's data folder.</p> <p>0 – No logging 1 – Trace only missing symbols 2 – Trace all symbol lookups</p>
TraceServerAddress	0			<p>The driver may connect to a trace socket server and deliver dynamic trace data. This parameter should only be used if so requested specific by TroSoft.</p>
TraceLevel	15		✓	<p><i>TraceLevel</i> sets the tracing to <i>Kernel</i> and <i>ADS.log</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Trace errors 2 Trace Reads 4 Trace Writes 8 Trace Generic Info 16 Trace ADS Symbol Table reads 32 Trace Connection stuff 64 Trace Variable name lookups 128 Trace Communications¹ 256 Trace Citect requests (DCB's)¹ 512 Trace Variable OID scan³ 1024 Trace found I/O devices in DBF's³ 2048 Trace variables found in DBF's³ 4096 Trace internal function calls² <p>¹ will cause much data ² will cause VERY much data ³ will generate data only at startup</p> <p>Values may be bit-weighted together, ex if <i>TraceLevel</i>=6 will enable both <i>Read</i> and <i>Write</i> Traces</p> <p><i>TraceLevel</i>=-1 will enable all traces</p> <p>The tracelevel may also be set using + to set multiple traces in</p>

				<p>a more convenient way, ex:</p> <p><i>TraceLevel=1+2+4+8</i></p>
StoreAdsSymbolTable	0		✓	<p>If set to 1 it will store all symbol tables and datatypes as text files named using the I/O device name with a suffix of <i>_Symbols</i> and <i>_DataTypes</i>. The files are placed in the ADS subfolder of Citect's data folder.</p>
AltRunPath	[CTEDIT] RUN			<p>Alternative Run path, is used to find the top project.</p>
AltUserPath	[CTEDIT] USER			<p>Alternative User path. Is used by OID lookup mechanisms to find the <i>Master.DBF</i> file.</p>
IOServerName				<p>For later Citect versions (when clusters was implemented) it is not possible to find the current <i>IOServer name</i>, hence it must be entered here.</p> <p><i>Parameter has been removed from driver version 1.0.0.14, driver will use the I/O device number instead.</i></p>
LocalAmsAddress			✓	<p>The local <i>AMS Net Id</i> (and its port). Needed when using TCP. Ex: <i>192.168.123.80.1.1</i></p> <p>If using ADS API DLL the <i>Local AMS Address</i> is automatically retrieved from the TwinCAT system, but could be overridden using this parameter.</p>
AMS...=IP			✓	<p>Router table. Remote <i>AMS Net Id's</i> (as specified in the <i>Ports form Special Opt field</i>) and their physical IP.</p> <p>See section <i>Setup direct TCP/IP communication without Twin-CAT software</i>.</p> <p>Ex: <i>ams 192.168.123.230.1.1=192.168.123.230</i> <i>ams 192.168.123.231.1.1=192.168.123.231</i> <i>ams 192.168.123.232.1.1=192.168.123.232</i></p>
UseAMSAddressAsDefaultIP	0		✓	<p>If set to 1 the driver will automatically use the left part of the <i>Ports form Special Opt field</i> AMS-netid as physical IP if a corresponding router table translation is missing in <i>Citect.ini</i>, ex in <i>Ports form Special Opt field</i> AMS netid is - <i>ams 192.168.123.230.1.1</i> and it is missing in <i>Citect.ini</i> then the driver will use <i>192.168.123.230</i> as physical IP instead of indicating an error (<i>Missing remote Message Router IP in Citect.INI</i>).</p>
LocalNetworkAddress			✓	<p>Network address (network card) to be used (bind) if the server have more than one network card or IP-address. Generally the OS selects the most appropriate card for the local endpoint. Ex <i>192.168.123.80</i></p>
UseSymbolTable-FileIfExisting	0		✓	<p>If communication to slow devices cause the driver to timeout when trying to read symboltable and datatypes the ADSConfig tool could be used to create a binary address file the driver will use instead of trying to read it from the device. The file should be stored in the ADS subfolder of Citect's data folder. The file is automatically named by ADSConfig to the AMS id and port of the device, ex <i>ams 192.168.123.235.1.1_801.adr</i>.</p> <p>If the file is missing or corrupt the driver will try to read symboltable and datatypes from the device as it normally would.</p>

				<p>The binary address file contains also the version number of the downloaded program. If a new program is downloaded to the controller and the versions differ, the driver will try to read symboltable and datatypes from the device. If that is the case it is important to use ADSSConfig to update the binary address file. See also <i>StoreSymbolTableFile</i> for automatic updates of the file.</p>
StoreSymbolTableFile	0		✓	<p>When the driver has read the symboltable and datatypes it could store it also in a binary format. Used together with <i>UseSymbolTableFileIfExisting</i> the driver will only read symboltable and datatypes if the version in the PLC changes (new program downloaded).</p> <p>The file is stored in the ADS subfolder of Citect's data folder. The file is automatically named to the AMS id and port of the device, ex <i>ams192.168.123.235.1.1_801.adr</i>.</p>
MaxArraySize	128		✓	<p>Max Citect array size when defining addresses as arrays.</p> <p>Max data block length is however 1024 bytes, which limits 32-bit long to 256 elements and 16-bit ints to 512 elements</p>
ScanForDoubleTagNames	0			<p>If set to 1, the driver will scan through all tags it has found in all include projects' variable databases during startup and generate and error if there are two having the same name.</p> <p>Citect may allow two tags using the same name if one of them is an array and they are located in different include projects.</p>
DatabaseOpenRetries	9			<p>Number of retries if failing when opening the databases and scanning for variables etc. Is only in effect during I/O server startup. One attempt is always done - ex the default 9 equals to 10 attempts to open database before the driver consider it a permanent failure.</p>
DatabaseOpenDelay	100	msec		<p>Database open retry delay</p>
DumpKernel	0			<p>If running Citect as service, the Kernel driver window is unavailable, but the driver specific statistics may be dumped to the <i>ADS.LOG</i> file. Set <i>DumpKernel=1</i> and the driver will dump all port's statistics to the file and automatically reset the parameter to 0 again.</p> <p>For this parameter to work, <i>TraceToLogFile</i> must be set to 1 and <i>TraceLevel</i> must include 8 (<i>Trace Generic Info</i>)</p>
AllowIPAddressInCommentField	0		✓	<p>If set to 1, the driver will allow the IP to be set in the Ports-form Comment field, as the Special Opt field is too small to contain both the AMS-address and the IP.</p> <p>Prefix the IP-address with <i>IP</i>, ex:</p> <p><i>IP192.168.123.235</i></p>

4.9 Debug Messages

Shows the outgoing/incoming data packets. Header in verbose format and data/value in hex.

4.10 Stats Special Counters – DLL mode

Number	Label	Purpose/Meaning of this counter
0	DCB Requests	Total number of driver requests
1	Symbol reloads	Number of symbol table read attempts (both from file and PLC)
2	Phys read time	Physical read time in millisecs

4.11 Stats Special Counters – TCP mode

Number	Label	Purpose/Meaning of this counter
0	DCB Requests	Total number of driver requests
1	Symbol reloads	Number of symbol table read attempts (both from file and PLC)
2	Phys read time	Physical read time in millisecs
3	Values per sec (R/W)	Number of read and written values per sec (based on a ten second sample period)
4	Requests per sec	Packet requests per sec (based on a ten second sample period)
5	Tx bytes	Transmitted bytes
6	Rx bytes	Received bytes
7	Tx packets	Transmitted packets
8	Rx packets	Received packets
9	Failed conn attempts	Succeeded TCP connection attempts
10	Failed conn attempts	Succeeded TCP connection attempts
11	Request timeouts	Timed out requests (will cause the connection to be reestablished)

4.12 Other necessary setup – typical Citect.INI settings

The driver default is to communicate using *TwinCAT ADS API*, it could be changed by the *Citect.ini [ADS]* parameter *DriverType*.

Typical *Citect.INI [ADS]* section when using the TwinCAT software and the ADS API:

```
[ads]  
drivertype=dll
```

4.13 Setup direct TCP/IP communication without TwinCAT software

Set *Citect.ini [ADS]* *DriverType=TCP*

The *ADS Message Router* is built into the driver and need to be configured in the *Citect.ini [ADS]* section as:

```
[ads]
drivertype=tcp
localamsaddress=192.168.0.132.1.1

; May use DNS name(s) instead of IP
ams192.168.123.230.1.1=192.168.123.230
ams192.168.123.235.1.1=192.168.123.235
```

The driver have an own local *AMS Net Id* defined by parameter *LocalAMSAddress*. Use the Citect server's IP address followed by *1.1* as above to avoid confusion. The port defaults to 65534 (same as TwinCAT uses) but can be changed, ex:

```
LocalAMSAddress=192.168.0.132.1.1:65530
```

In the remote device's *TwinCAT Message Router* table you must also define the Citect driver's *LocalAMSAddress* (and its IP-address), even if communication takes place in same TCP connection the driver established. If you fail to do this the device will not answer.

To define your own router table you enter the text 'AMS' followed by the *remote message router AMS Net Id's* and the IP-address. To avoid confusion try to use same *AMS Net Id* as the IP (as in the above examples). The IP-address can be exchanged to *DNS addresses*, ex

```
ams192.168.123.230.1.1=softplc1.trosoft.se
```

The port is by default 48898 but may be changed, ex:

```
ams192.168.123.230.1.1=softplc1.trosoft.se:10025
```

The *AMS Net Id's* must be used in the *Ports form* to associate the *IO Devices* with the correct IP-address. It would of course been more logical to place also the IP-address in the *Special Opt's* field in the *Ports form*, but it has not enough field length.

If the *AMS Net Id* usually has the device real IP-address as beginning you may set the *UseAMSAddressAsDefaultIP* parameter, then the driver will automatically parse the IP from the *AMS Net Id* if it is not found in the *[ADS]* section.

See also the *AllowIPAddressInCommentField* parameter.

4.14 Network Address Translation (NAT) using TCP/IP communication without TwinCAT software

Communication to NAT networks behind firewalls is possible because communication use a TCP/IP connection (not UDP). Obviously the remote devices public IP-address must be static or registered dynamically using ex *DynDNS*.

The public IP of the Citect installation must however always be static because the *Remote Message router* table only allows IP-addresses.

5. Basic Testing

5.1 Introduction

The programmer will perform a minimum level of testing which is outlined here.

A sample Project is available which can be used as a starting point for the programmers test Project. When the programmer has completed basic testing and debugging this Project should be backed up and supplied to the Citect Testing department.

5.2 Procedure

The following are points should be covered by basic testing.

- On startup the IO Device comes online without errors.
 - Ok
- The driver supports IO Devices of addresses as documented in the specification.
 - Ok
- The driver reports the IO Device offline when the IO Device is a) powered down, b) disconnected.
 - Ok
- The driver will re-establish communication with the IO Device after a) power cycle, b) disconnection/ reconnection.
 - Ok
- Confirm that retries (if supported) and error reporting operate correctly.
 - Ok (Statistics report)
- The driver reads all the device data types documented as readable in this specification.
 - Ok
- The driver writes to all the device data types documented as write-able in this specification.
 - Ok
- The driver reads and writes all data formats supported by the protocol, ie DIGITAL, INT, LONG, REAL, STRING.
 - Ok
- Test the limit of the IO Devices request size, this should be done for at least DIGITAL and an INT data formats.
 - Not applicable to this driver.

- Let the driver run over night and check that no retries or other errors have occurred.
 - Ok
- If a multidrop or network protocol and if the hardware is available then the protocol should be tested with more than one IO Device connected.
 - Ok

6. Performance Testing

6.1 Introduction

Tests which give some indication of the drivers performance. The programmer needs to perform these tests since the results feed back into the Constants structure and the PROTDIR.DBF.

6.2 Calculating the Blocking Constant – Not applicable

Because this driver is a hybrid of the 'Front-End-Back-End' type, and due to the nature of the ADS protocol, it does not support blocking of any kind

7. References

7.1 References

n/a.

8. TCP Communication fail debugging

8.1 Communication problems

If the unit will not come online, ensure following are ok (TCP mode):

- *LocalAMSAddress* is correct
- *TwinCAT System Manager* in the PLC is in Run mode
- *TwinCAT PLC Control* in the PLC is in Run mode
- The PLC has a program
- The device address (usually 801) is ok
- The AMS router entries in Citect.ini matches the Ports form
- The router table in the PLC contains a valid entry for the Citect server's IP and *LocalAMSAddress*
- The logged in user (or the user in the Citect service) has *Full control* in the Citect's *User* and *Data* folders
- Parameters are not misspelled

Use the *TraceToLogFile* and *TraceOptions* parameters to create an *ADS.log* file.

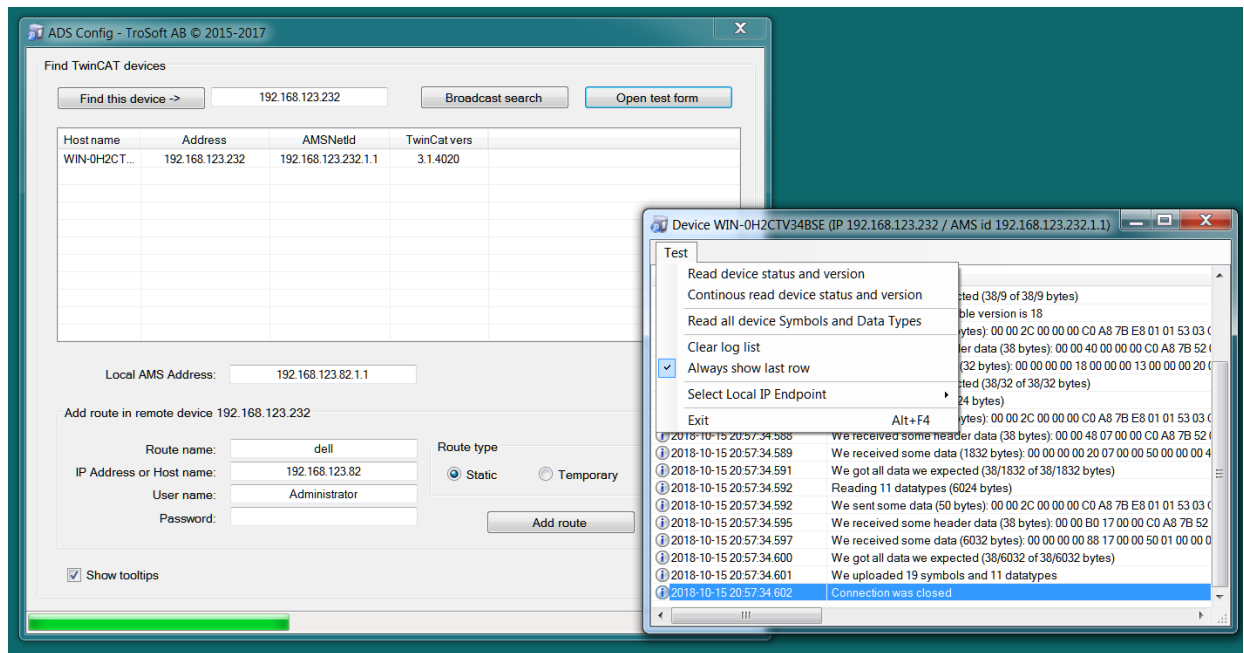
If the driver cannot connect there is usually some problem with the router entry in the PLC and Citect.ini.

If the driver can connect there usually are some addressing issues, or the PLC is not online.

If no values appear even if the PLC is connected and online there is usually some addressing issue. Use the parameters *TraceFailedSymbols* and *StoreADSSymbolTable* to lookup failed addresses

8.2 Using ADSConfig to check communication and store local symbol file

There is a simple tool that may be used to check communication and create router entries remote in the PLC. It does not require TwinCAT to be installed in the server.



Sample of how the tool can be used to scan for devices on the local subnet using broadcast search and to test communication. In the above example the router line to the is ok and we get a proper response from the device.

This indicates that the Citect driver probably will work fine on this server.

This tool may also be used to retrieve symbol table files for very slow connections (see parameters *StoreSymbolTableFile* and *UseSymbolTableFileIfExisting*). First find the PLC and try to *Read device status and version*. then select *Read all device Symbol and Data Types*. If successful, the tool will ask if the file should be stored on disk.

In the *ADSConfig.ini* file there are some setting to fine tune the behaviour, ex if using a TwinCAT 3 system the port should be changed to 851.