

WinControl

The Client OCX

Contents

- 1 General 3
 - 1.1 Functionality..... 3
 - 1.2 Licensing..... 3
- 2 Client Interface..... 3
 - 2.1 Properties 3
 - 2.2 Events..... 4
 - 2.3 Methods 5

1 General

The WinControl Client OCX is a tool to make access to WinControl data server easy for software developers. It is an ActiveX Control, which can be used in different programming environments. I.e.:

- Microsoft Visual BASIC
- Microsoft Visual C++
- Microsoft Office (Excel, Word, Access, ...)
- Microsoft Internet Explorer
- ...

1.1 Functionality

The WinControl Client OCX relieves the developer of the whole communication to the WinControl data server. Only the connection settings and the desired measurement channels must be selected. After that the OCX creates events with the received measuring data (see also: "Client Interface" on page 3).

1.2 Licensing

The WinControl Client OCX is only free for use in development environment (Developers licence). Products, using the OCX, can use it for free (Runtime licence).

2 Client Interface

2.1 Properties

Properties are values to give access to the current status of the WinControl Client OCX. The status can be monitored and controlled by these values.

Following properties are defined:

Active

Data type: BOOL

Standard value: TRUE

Function: If TRUE, the OCX tries to connect to the WinControl data server periodically, until the connection is established. In case of interrupt or failure, the OCX will try to connect again. If FALSE, the OCX closes a connection to a WinControl data server.

IPAddress

Data type: BSTR

Standard value: localhost

Function: The IP address or name of the computer, where the WinControl data server is running. It is recommended to use the IP address to avoid the DNS resolution of the computer name into IP address, while the OCX connects to the data server.

TCPPort

Data type:	Long
Standard value:	10013
Function:	The TCP port number to be used by the OCX to communicate with the server. Must be the same on the data server.

ReconnectTime

Data type:	Short
Standard value:	60
Function:	Time in seconds, the OCX will wait for a re-connect after a filed connection.

Channels

Data type:	BSTR
Standard value:	()
Function:	List of the measurement channels, which should be announced by events. The list starts and ends with brackets. Between the brackets is a comma separated list of 1 or more measurement channels. Each measurement channel has the format x.y, with x as the device number and y as the channel number. To get events for the channels 0.0 and 80.0, the entry is: (0.0,80.0)

2.2 Events

The WinControl Client OCX reports current procedures, changes and actions to the application by events.

The Client OCX can trigger following events:

Value

Parameter:	[in] short	nDevice	Device number
	[in] short	nChannel	Channel number
	[in] double	dValue	Measurement value
	[in] DATE	date	Time, the value was measured.
Meaning:	The WinControl data server got a new measurement value for the given measurement channel.		

NoValue

Parameter:	[in] short	nDevice	Device number
	[in] short	nChannel	Channel number
Meaning:	The WinControl data server did not get a new value for the given measurement channel. The channel is not available or measuring of a value failed (i.e. because of Channel Failure or invalid formula of a calculation channel).		

Connect

Parameter: none

Meaning: Successful connection to the WinControl data server.

ConnectFailed

Parameter: [in] long IErr 0 or error code

Meaning: The connection to the data server failed.

Disconnect

Parameter: [in] long IErr 0 or error code

Meaning: A established connection to the WinControl data server was closed.

ChannelDescription

Parameter:

[in] short	nDevice	Device number
[in] short	nChannel	Channel number
[in] BSTR	bstrComment	Current comment of the channel.
[in] BSTR	bstrUnit	Current unit of the channel.

Meaning: After the OCX connected to the data server, it queries all properties of the desired measurement channels. If the server returned the properties, the OCX triggers the ChannelDescription event to make the properties available to the user.
If the properties change at the server, it will send it to the OCX automatically and the OCX will trigger the event again.

2.3 Methods

Methods are Object functions, which are callable from your application.

Following methods are available:

AboutBox

Parameter: none

Function: Displays the Info-Dialog of the WinControl Client OCX.

ErrMsg

Data type: BSTR (return)

Parameter: [in] BSTR IErr

Function: Delivers a description of a error code IErr (Read Only Property).