

PRODUCT DATASHEET

Communication Drivers

Providing the Next Generation of Connectivity

Communication Drivers are a part of our Industrial Internet of Things (IIoT) connectivity strategy. The inherent architecture of Communication Drivers allows for seamless integration of a growing number of devices. Communication Drivers thrive in Smart Cities and geographically distributed industries by integrating disparate systems on a global scale. The broader connectivity offering provides greater value to customers by enabling a more connected enterprise.

Product at a Glance

Expanding connectivity and increasing data value have become vitally important as companies strive to leverage real benefits from the IoT/IIoT, big data and cloud technologies. Yet connecting and integrating disparate devices to the Supervisory HMI, SCADA systems and the Historian databases remains a challenge for many organizations, particularly in the manufacturing domain.

Our Communication Drivers provide a single, hardware-independent platform that helps you improve standards, simplify configuration, promote consistency and maximize communication uptime.

Key Benefits:

- Broader connectivity spectrum with web-based and cloud applications
- Seamless integration between InTouch, System Platform, Historian and PLCs
- Increased throughput
- Improved scalability and reduced application costs
- Support for multiple Device Integration Server versions on a single node
- Elimination of single points of failure
- High availability for greater communication uptime, reduced downtime
- Single node side-by-side compatibility
- Support for OPC-UA and MQTT communication protocols
- Auto-Build support for Allen Bradley, Siemens PLCs
- Secure encrypted communications

What's NEW

Telemetry Server - Protocols Supported

- DNP3
 - Master and Slave Support
 - Level 2 & 3 Support
 - DNP3 is the IEEE Standard 1815-2012 standard
- Modbus (TCP, RTU, ASCII)



Telemetry Server - Communications Media Support

- TCP/IP
- UDP/IP
- Ethernet via Radio
- Ethernet to Serial
- Serial (RS 232 / RS 485)
- Dial-Up (Modem)



Key Features and Benefits

Increase scalability and reduce application costs

It is no longer necessary to restrict a single driver to a single node. With Communication Drivers you can run multiple, completely independent instances of the same driver in a single node. Single-node license now covers as many servers as you want in a single node. This allows users to consolidate scattered architectures into fewer nodes.

Improve robustness and eliminate single point of failure

By running multiple instances of the same Communication Drivers on the same node, any potential problem that may affect one driver instance is isolated to just that instance.

Maximize communication uptime

Communication driver restarts that require configuration changes can be restricted to a single instance, allowing other drivers to work unaffected. This helps improve communication uptime while reducing the risks of downtime.

Increase throughput

Communication Drivers enable parallel independent processing of I/O by each individual driver instance, which results in higher overall throughput or improved performance per driver and per node.

Support multiple driver versions

Communication Drivers provide single node side-by-side upgrade capability, which allows users to continue running the previous driver version while adding a new version of the same driver protocol. This unique capability allows continued growth without disruptions and enables coexistence with legacy DAServers or DI.

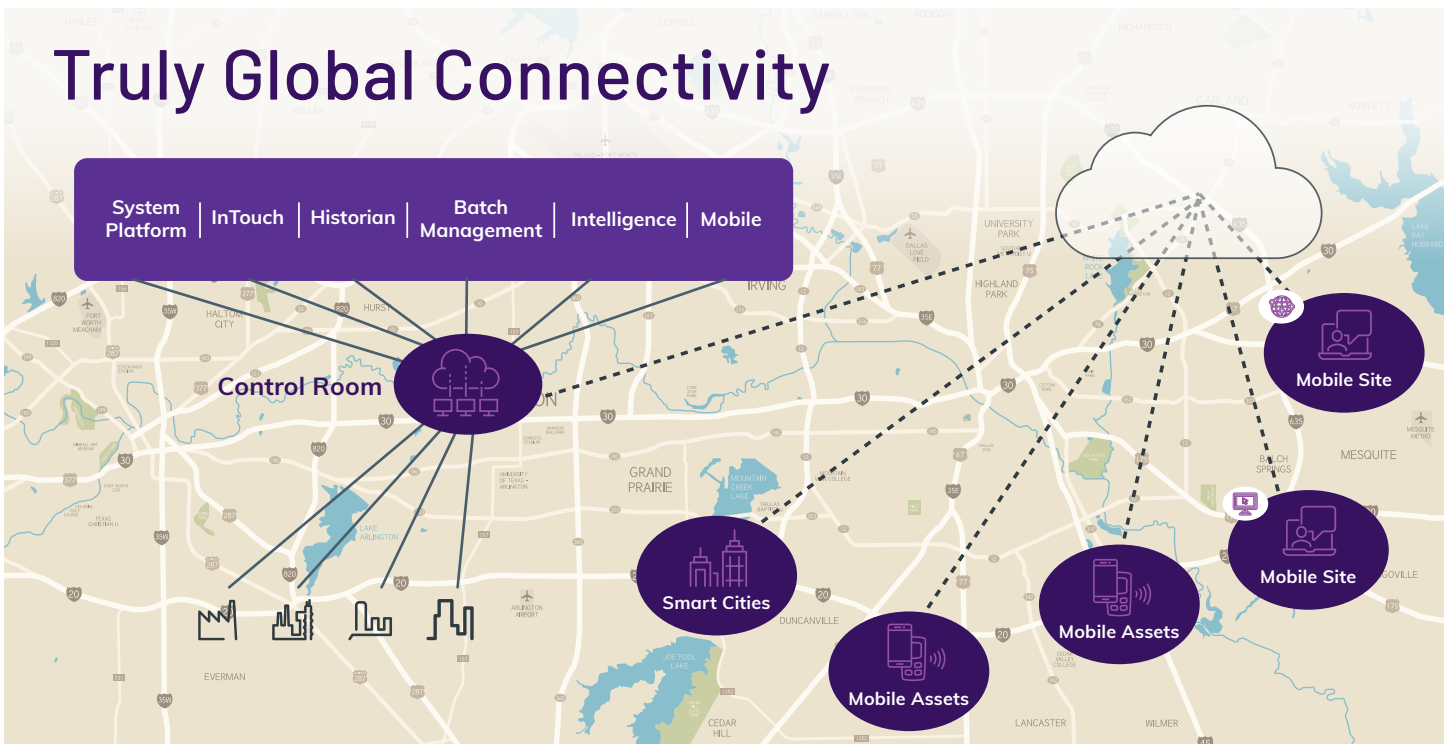
IIoT connectivity applications

To facilitate greater adoption and integration of IoT applications for edge devices, we've introduced free 32-tag tiny application support. This enables integration with small applications (32 tags) in edge sites and the ability to connect to InSight or System Platform without requiring license.

Auto-Build for Greater Engineering Efficiency

Communication Drivers now have Auto-Build capability. This new feature helps improve engineering efficiency by reading the structure of a PLC program and automatically building the Application Server templates and instances based on the PLC schema. This can result in faster time-to-runtime and better integration between System Platform and PLCs.

Truly Global Connectivity



Site-based licensing

Supports activation-based licensing as well as the traditional ArchestrA.lic licensing. Site-based licensing allows you to manage products at a centralized location rather than managing each product individually.

Connectivity Expands

Our Communication Drivers continue support for major PLC brands, such as Schneider, Allen-Bradley, GE and Siemens, and have expanded to support Automation Direct, Bosch, Eaton, WAGO, Beckhoff, BACnet, Texas Instruments, Mitsubishi, Omron and Opto 22.

Communication Gateway

Formerly known as FSGateway, the Communication Gateway – now referred to as Communication Gateway – acts as a communications protocol converter. The Gateway can be used to link clients and data sources that communicate using different protocols.

The Gateway has been enhanced to act as an OPC UA Client; this enables stand-alone support for InTouch, Historian, InBatch or any OPC/DDE/SuiteLink compliant software that requires connectivity to OPC-UA Servers. Communication Gateway now also supports MQTT protocol, making device configuration and integration and interoperability easier than ever.

Summary

Our Communication Drivers are hardware independent, so you have the flexibility to connect to any device or PLC with a uniform, intuitive interface efficiently and hassle-free.

Our Communication Drivers can help increase the availability of built-in system diagnostics for prompt troubleshooting and optimization. Designed to support multi-instance capability, our device integration solution can help you reduce PLC connectivity configuration effort by almost 50 percent. Communication Drivers are offered stand-alone and bundled with other offerings.