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1 Introduction



OPCAdapter

system for connecting of a control and monitoring systems through network and language platforms, or through Internet.

What is it OPCAdapter?

OPCAdapter is application dedicated for **processing** and perhaps **even vizualization** process data obtained from equipments of various contractors. Programable logic controller (PLC), various intelligent sensors and actuating units, which have communication interfaces supported bz OPC technology, can be mention as examples of these equipments (equipments are implemented as OPC servers).

OPC technology presents very **expanded industry standard** what is great **advantage** of its use. Per contra, the **disadvantage** is the principle of this technology. It is based on the COM and DCOM principles, and therefore is delimited **almost for Microsoft platform**. **OPCAdapter removes the disadvantage of this method**. The data received from/sent to OPC servers are transfer between various applications with same communication interface, with communication protocol TCP/IP which doesn't use the COM and DCOM technology. This communication could be in progress between running application on the same computer, as well as two computers in different network domains or even through Internet.

As example of such application, we could mention the Java application (which doesn't use COM technology) running on the same computer as OPCAdapter, which have to handle the data obtain from OPC serevrns and store it to datadase. This application represents the client, and the OPCAdapter performs as a server for this application, while for connected OPC servers performs as OPC client. OPCAdapter and mentioned application communicate through sockets.

How can be OPCAdapter used?

- As **self-contained application** for collecting and visuallisation data from a technological process, there is possibility to select which data will be displayed graphical and which only using charakters
- As **OPC client** for testing yor OPC servers with possibility to browse on local and/or remote servers too. It allows storing this browsed configuration to the XML file
- As **gateway** between your application and OPC servers implemented according to the specification OPC Data Access 2.0x

Which components has the OPCAdapter software package?

- **OPCAdapter - NT service**^[37] is runtime ppplication without a user interface
- **The application with the user interface**^[20] is applicable to **create and tune configuration** of connected devices, or for simple monitoring of transferred data. It can provide the full OPCAdapter functionality, or it can be used only as **configuration tool** for OPCAdapter - NT service.
- **The application OPCAdapterSocketClient**^[47] is an example of the client of OPCAdater, which **simply presents data transferred from OPCAdapter through special communication interface TCP/IP layer**. It is implemented in development environment Microsoft Visual C++ 7.7. an it is supplied with full source files.
- **The help file** that includes detailed description of the communication protocol and manual for creating user client applications, which are able to communicate with OPCAdapter.

Which other useful properties has the OPCAdapter?

- It is able to connect/disconnect everz OPC server extra or together
- It happens often in control and monitoring of technological process that it is necessary to power down some equipment and consequentlz its OPC server is disconnected too. OPCAdapter has ability to set the [period for automatically trying to connect disconnected OPC server again](#).
- The configuration, which is stored in XML file, gives the possibility to use it in the user client application of OPC servers address space.

What can SAE - Automation, s.r.o. (company limited) Nová Dubnica offer in connection with the OPCAdapter?

1. Deliveries of OPCAdapter software package.
2. Implementing of complete control and monitoring systems using application OPCAdapter.
3. Development of the user client applications.
4. Extension of OPCAdapter with data collecting from different devices not using communication drivers implemented as OPC servers (as example connection of control modules of company AMIT s.r.o., limited).
5. Development communication drivers for the OPCAdapter server side by needs of zour application - it means, that we are implementing the communication between your application nad OPCAdapter.

Reference to topic:

[What is it OPCAdapter?](#)^[4]

1.1 What is it OPCAdapter?

OPCAdapter is pplikation which join funcionality of OPC client and TCP/IP server. It enables connection of different controll and monitoring systems through [network domains](#)^[4], [platforms](#)^[5], or through [Internet](#)^[6]. As example we could mentoion application in Java, which have to handle data from OPC server and have to store their to database.

Refernce to topics:

[Connection of control and monitoring systems between network domains](#)^[4]

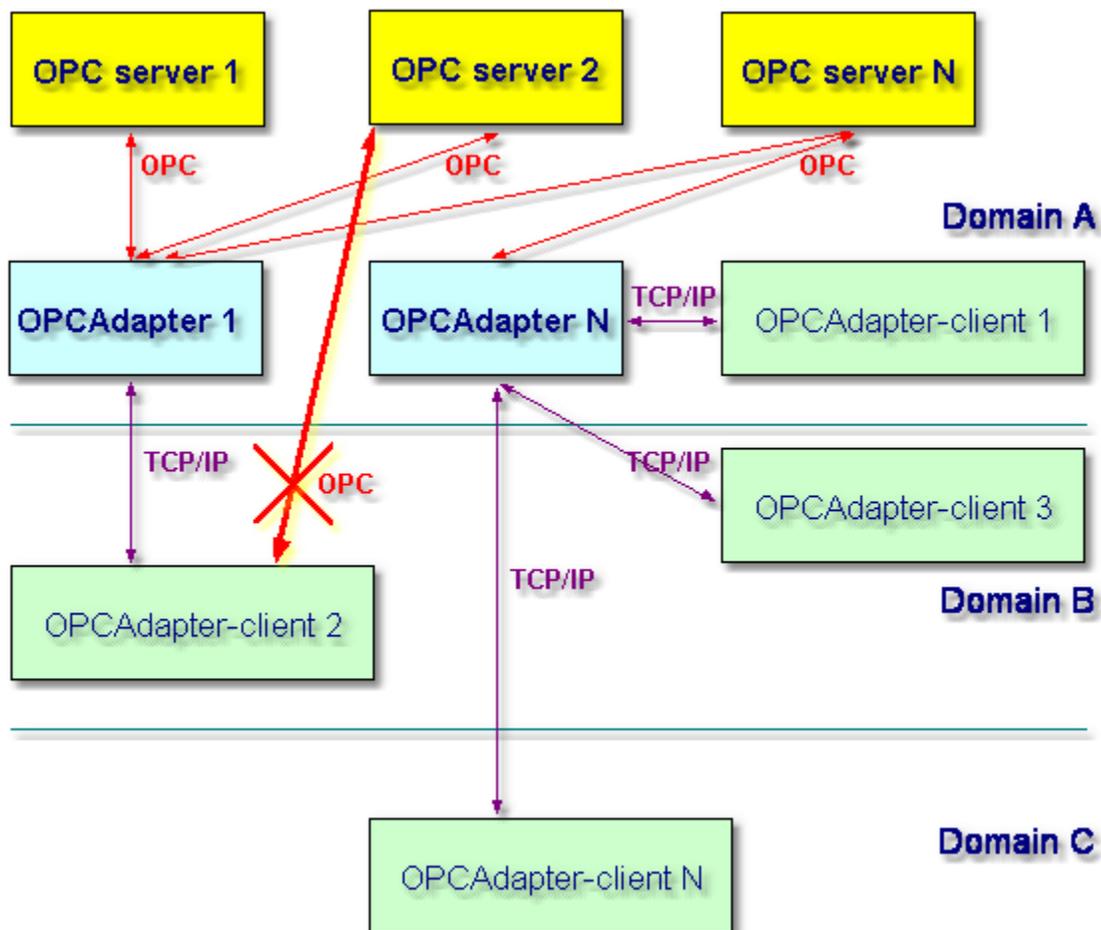
[Connection of control and monitoring systems between different language platforms](#)^[5]

[Connection of control and monitoring systems in Intenet](#)^[6]

[Connection of control and monitoring systems in network with more users](#)^[7]

1.1.1 Connection of control and monitoring systems between network domains

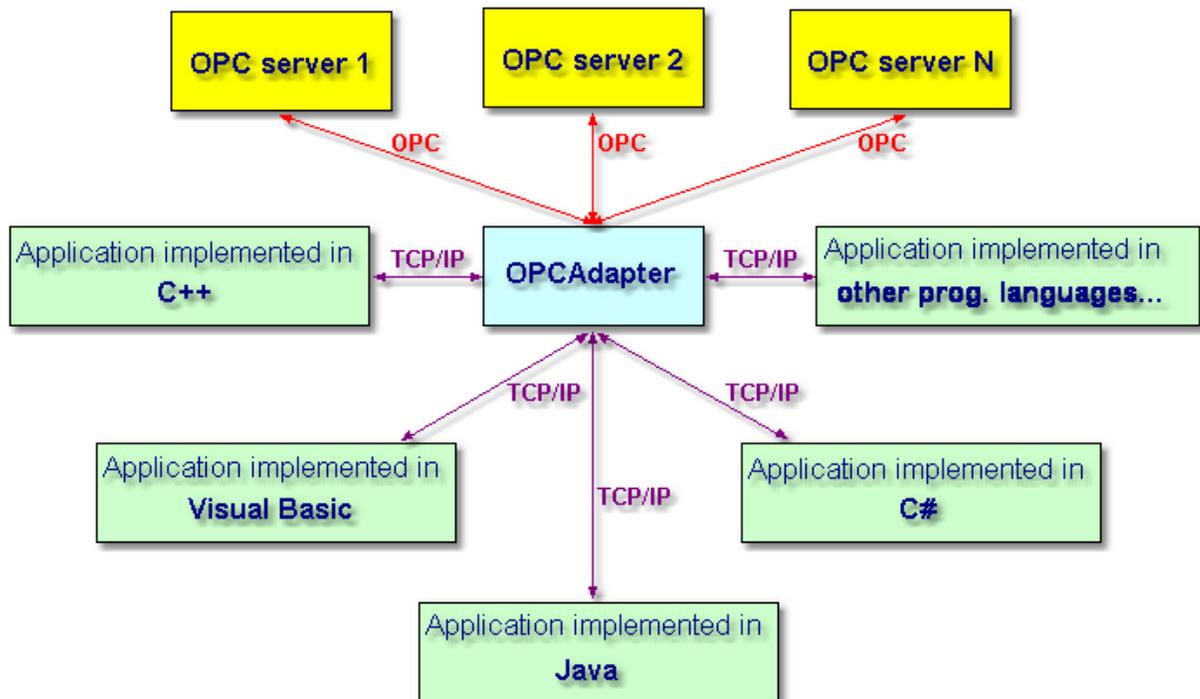
In the following picture shown communication model describes application layout in computer network. This is example of computer network with more domains (domains A, B a C). This picture shows tzpical example, when it is usefull to access from one domain to OPC server in the second domain. In this case we are faced with the serious problems connected with configuration of [DCOM](#)^[12]. With help of application **OPCAdapter**, we are spare from this problems, or we could minimalise them.



Obr. 1.: Connection of control and monitoring systems between network domains

1.1.2 Connection of control and monitoring systems between different language platforms

Access to **OPCAdapter** is language independent because it is realised through [TCP/IP](#)¹³.



Obr. 2.: Connection of control and monitoring systems between different language platforms

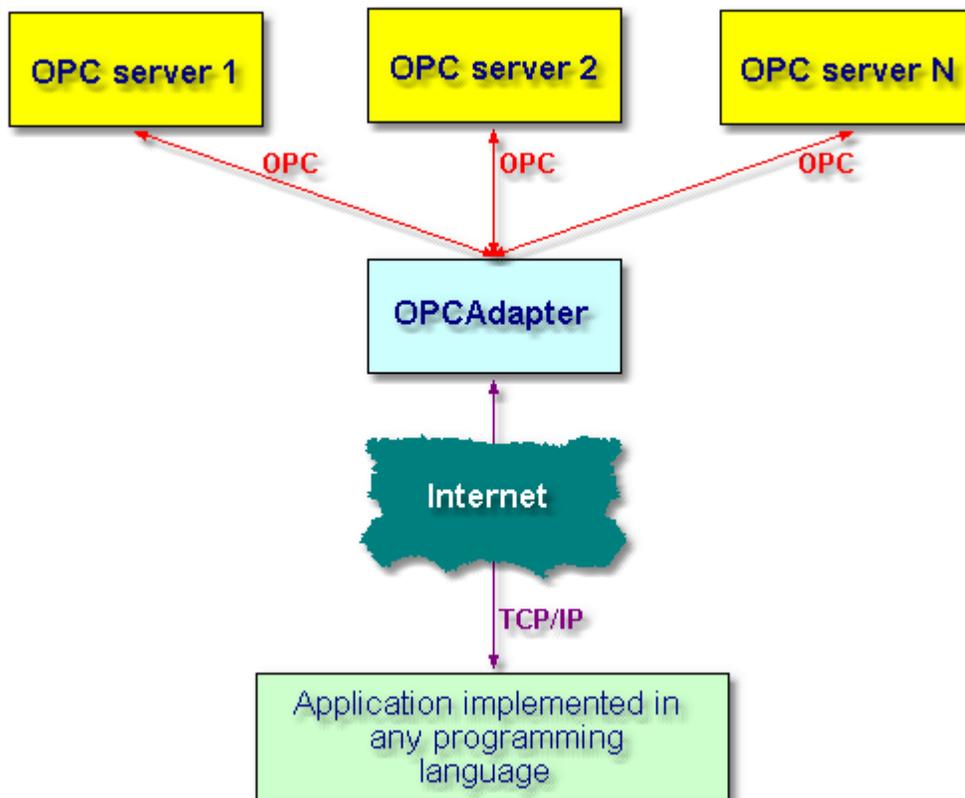
Reference to topics:

[TCP/IP socket server](#)^[11]

[Communication TCP/IP client-server without COM, DCOM technologies](#)^[13]

1.1.3 Connection of control and monitoring systems in Internet

Access to **OPCAdapter** is realised through [TCP/IP](#)^[13], what makes possible to access on client application from any computer network within the frame of Internet.



Obr. 3.: Connection of control and monitoring systems in Internet.

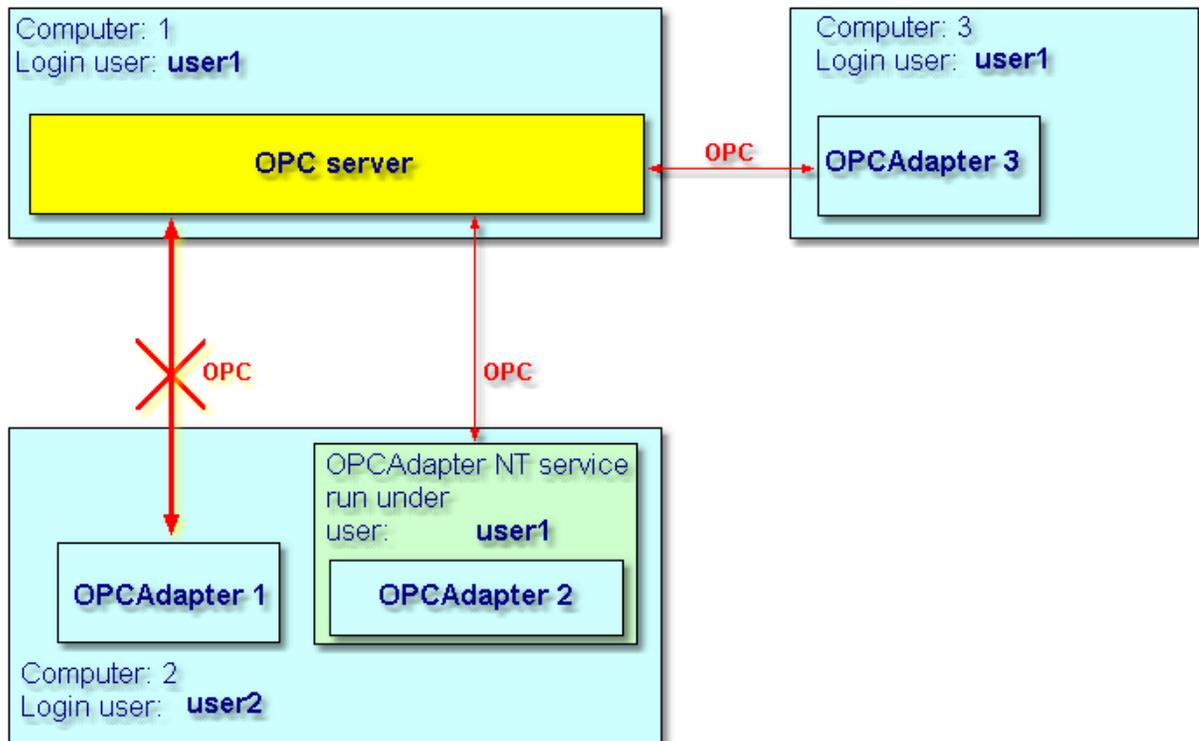
Reference to topics

[TCP/IP socket server](#)^[11]

[Communication TCP/IP client-server without COM, DCOM technologies](#)^[13]

1.1.4 Connection of control and monitoring systems in network with more users

OPCAdapter bring solution also for computer networks with more users. Access to OPC server running on different computer with different user is possible with [OPCAdapter NT service](#)^[37].



Obr. 4.: Connection of control and monitoring systems in network with more users.

Reference to topic:

[OPCAdapter NT service](#)^[37]

1.2 Good reason why use OPCAdapter



Quality concentration on important things

OPCAdapter is application, which join functionalitz of OPC client and TCP/IP server. It enables connection of different control and monitoring systems through [network domains](#)^[4], [platforms](#)^[5], or through [Internet](#)^[6].



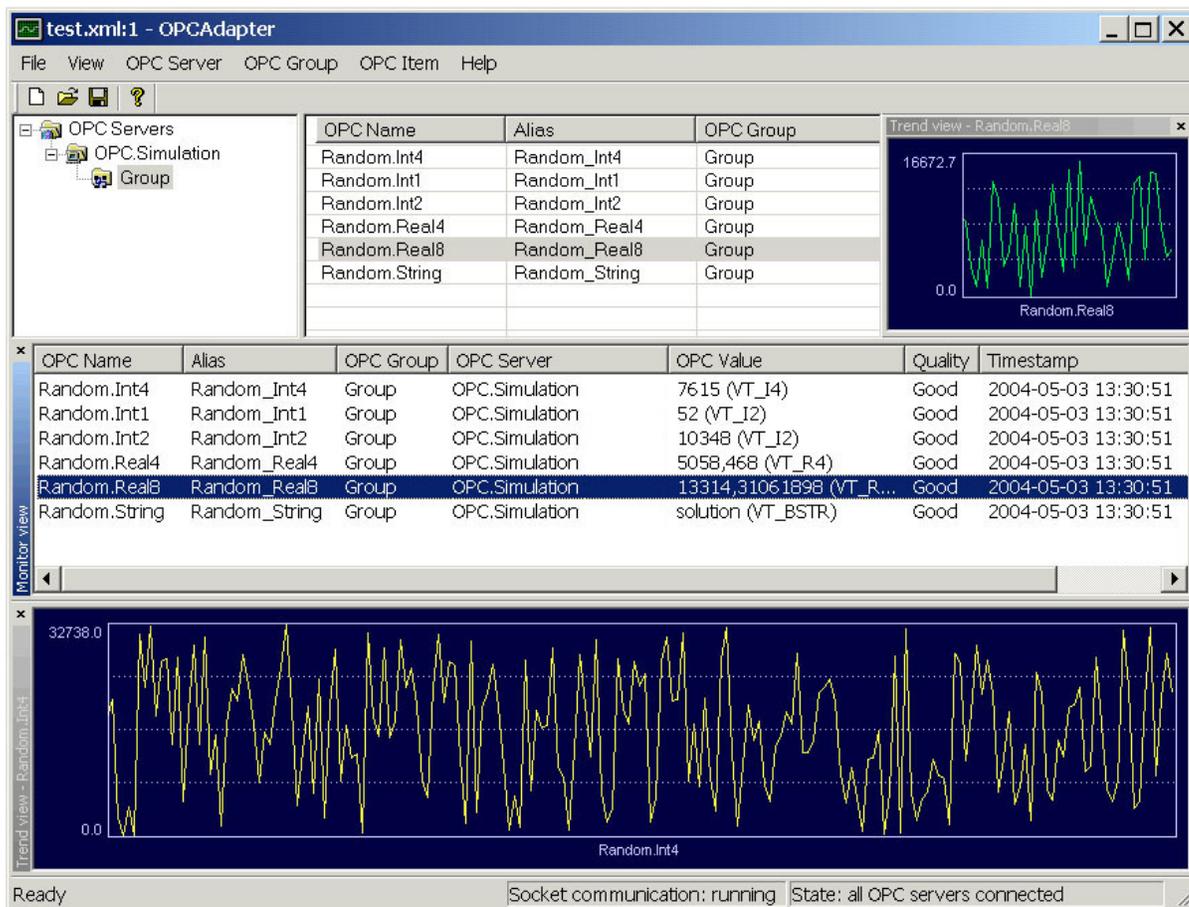
System configuration is very simple and more time applicable

System is configured with simple, but comfort configurator. It is possible to save alone configuration in file [Extensible Markup Language \(XML\)](#)^[18]. Therefore it is easy to modify or use again same configuration.

2 OPCAdapter

OPCAdapter is pplikation which join funcionality of OPC client and TCP/IP server. It enables

connection of different control and monitoring systems through [network domains](#)^[4], [platforms](#)^[5], or through [Internet](#)^[6]. As example we could mention application in Java, which have to handle data from OPC server and have to store their to database.



Obr. 5.: OPCAdapter with user interface, configurator for OPCAdapter NT service.

Reference to topics:

[Connection of control and monitoring systems between network domains](#)^[4]

[Connection of control and monitoring systems between different language platforms](#)^[5]

[Connection of control and monitoring systems in Internet](#)^[6]

[Connection of control and monitoring systems in network with more users](#)^[7]

[OPCAdapter with user interface](#)^[20]

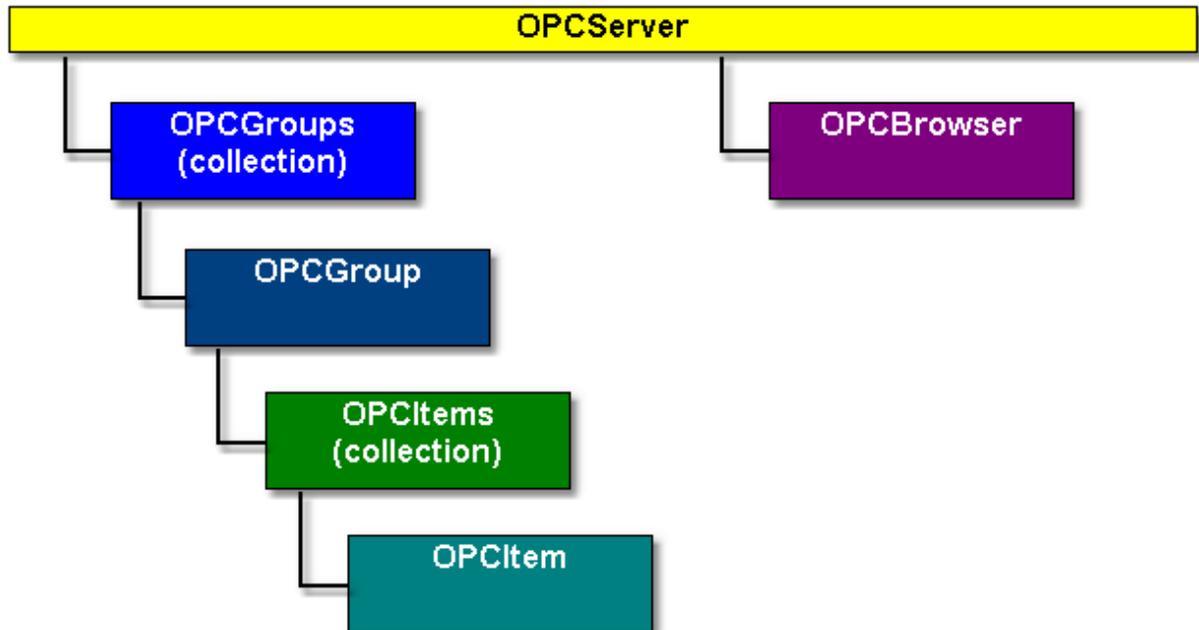
[OPCAdapter NT service](#)^[37]

2.1 OPC client compatible with OPC Data Access 2.0

OPCAdapter is program which could access as OPC DA client, to various [OPC Data Access Servers](#)^[11]. Interface of these servers are accessible to application **OPCAdapter** through **Automation Interface** (interface).

Automation Interface

OPCAdapter uses functionality of free accessible library DLL, for accessing OPC DA servers on **local** or **remote** computer. Automation DLL is free distributed by organization [OPC Foundation](#). Following picture shows object model, which is accesible through automation DLL.



Obr. 6.: Object model accesible through automation DLL.

Reference to topics:

[OPC specification](#) ^[10]

[OPC Data Access 2.0](#) ^[11]

2.1.1 OPC specification

OPC (OLE for Process Control) is standard mechanism for communication with several data sources. It is open and effective communication architecture based on data access.

Principle of OPC standard is based on technologies **OLE/COM (DCOM)**. These technologies are made for data exchange between Microsoft applications.

OPC standards are free available technical specifications, which define set of standard interfaces for different application in automatization technology. These interfaces increase power and effectivity of data exchange between software components from different producers.

The most used OPC specifications

OPC Data Access	Defines interface for read and write data in real time.
OPC Alarms and Events	Defines interface for monitoring events.
OPC Historical Data Access	Defines interface for access to historical data.
OPC Batch	Defines interface for access to data, which are used for batch handle.
OPC Security	Defines interface for setup and utilize securitz levels.
OPC and XML	Integration of OPC and XML for internwet applications.
OPC Data eXchange (DX)	Defines communication between server and client.

OPC as standard was established by organization [OPC Foundation](#).

2.1.2 OPC Data Access 2.0

OPC Data Access specification

It defines interface for access to process data between client and server application. **Data Access Server** (OPC DA server) provide to one, or to several **Data Access Client** (OPC DA client) full transparent access to any data source. Of course, it is possible, that one OPC DA client could in same time access to more OPC DA servers.

Required interfaces

Each OPC DA server, which meets specification of OPC Data Access 2.0 have to have implemented following required interfaces:

OPCServer

IUnknown	required
IOPCServer	required
IOPCCommon	required
IConnectionPointContainer	required
IOPCItemProperties	required
IOPCServerPublicGroups	optional
IOPCBrowseServerAddressSpace	optional

OPCGroup

IUnknown	required
IOPCItemMgt	required
IOPCGroupStateMgt	required
IOPCPublicGroupStateMgt	optional
IOPCSyncIO	required
IOPCAsyncIO2	required
IConnectionPointContainer	required

2.2 TCP/IP socket server

Its task is listen on specific **port** for client connections. When the client is join, server returns data and sends back to client and closes the connection.

Port

Port is defined by uniform location, to which application **OPCAdapter** can send data and receive messages form there.

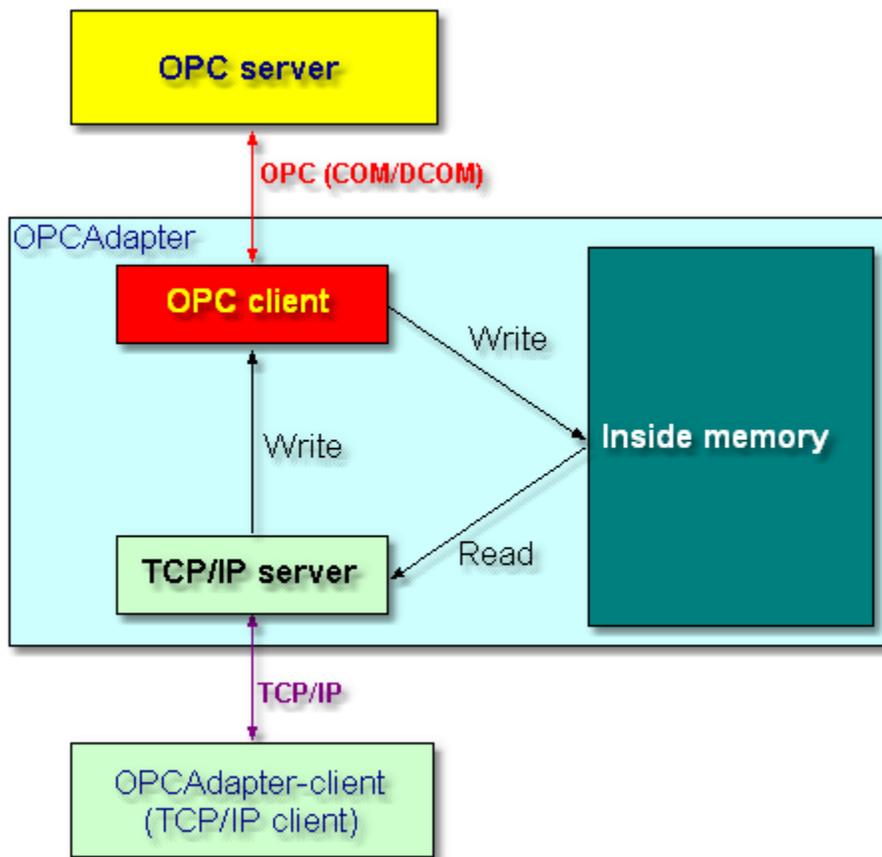
Reference to topic:

[Communication TCP/IP client-server without COM, DCOM technologies](#)^[13]

2.3 Communication through interfaces OPC, COM, DCOM, TCP/IP

Simple communication scheme

On the one hand, it specify applied communication standard between [OPC server and OPCAdapter](#)^[12] and on the other hand communication standard between [OPCAdapter and OPCAdapter-client](#)^[13].



Obr. 7.: Simple communication scheme.

Functionality in communication scheme

OPCServer

Any OPC DA server, which is full compatible with standard [OPC Data Access 2.0](#)^[11].

OPCAdapter

Its functionality we could spread on two basic modules:

- [OPC DA client](#)^[9],
- [TCP/IP server](#)^[11].

In its **inside memory** it stores actual values of all monitored OPC variables.

OPCAdapter-client

The application, which communicates through TCP/IP with program **OPCAdapter**.

Reference to topics:

[Communication OPC client-server with COM, DCOM technologies](#)^[12]

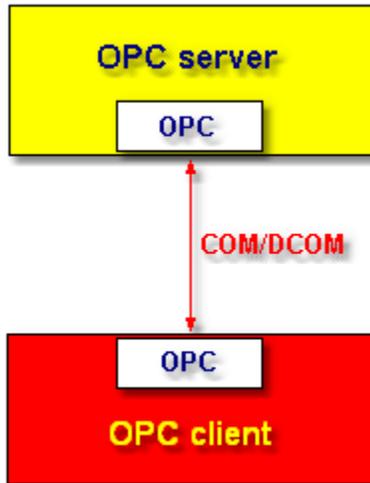
[Communication TCP/IP client-server without COM, DCOM technologies](#)^[13]

2.3.1 Communication OPC client-server with COM, DCOM technologies

In general now, **Ole for Process Control (OPC)** is accepting as one of the most popular

industry standard between users and developers too.

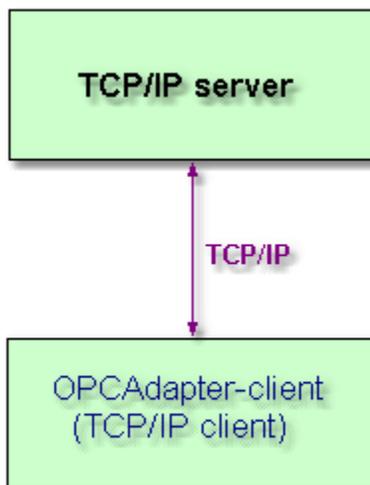
OPC is standard interface, for access to application from automation region on Windows platform. On the present is this standard based on the **Distributed Component Object Model (DCOM)**, what is technology by company Microsoft for implementing distributed systems.



Obr. 8.: Communication OPC client-server with COM, DCOM technologies.

2.3.2 Communication TCP/IP client-server without COM, DCOM technologies

Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP/IP) is standardized industry communication protocol, which defines methods for union data to packets for transfer between equipments in heterogenous network. It is standard for data exchange between several networks, including Internet.



Obr. 9.: Communication TCP/IP client-server without COM, DCOM technologies.

Reference to topic:

[TCP/IP socket server](#)^[11]

2.4 Special communication protocol

Bilateral communication between application **OPCAdapter** and other applications, which could be implemented in any programming language (example.: Java, C++, Delphi...), is realized by [protocol TCP/IP](#)^[13].

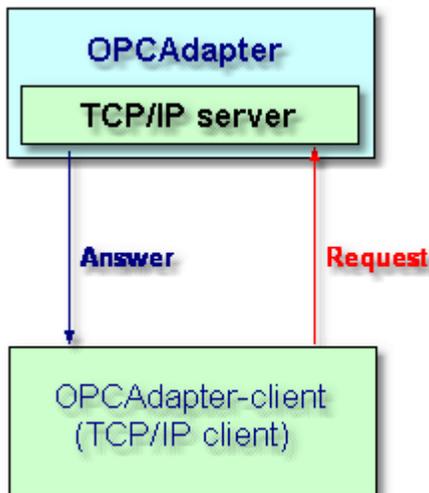
Special protocol, developed for application **OPCAdapter**, which in details shows implemented operations (methods) make application layer of protocol TCP/IP:

- [Operation read](#)^[14],
- [Operation write](#)^[16].

Implemented operations are always execute in two steps:

1. request for executing operation,
2. answer on request.

Following picture shows simple scheme of operation executing:



Obr. 10.: Simple scheme of operation executing.

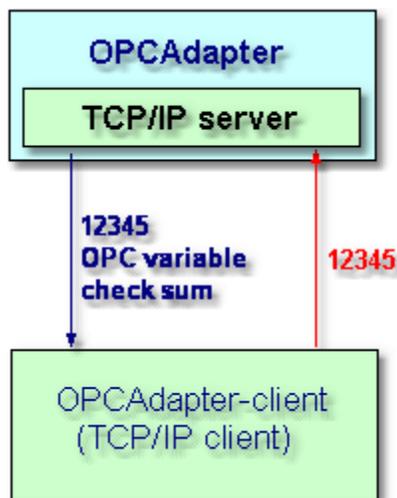
Reference topics:

- [Operation read](#)^[14]
- [Operation write](#)^[16]
- [Supported data types of OPC variables](#)^[17]

2.4.1 Operation read

OPCAdapter after receiving request for **operation read**, return to client application complete list of all OPC variables, which are stored in its [inside memory](#)^[14].

Following picture shows simple scheme of executing of **operation read**:



Obr. 11.: Simple scheme of operation read executing.

Protocol - operation READ

Request (any client application)

1,2,3,4,5 header of request (5 bytes)

Answer (OPCAdapter)

1,2,3,4,5	header of answer (5 bytes)
parita2	number of bytes including parita1 (4 bytes)
250	begin of variable frame (1 byte)
name of variable	ASCII characters of the variable name, or AliasName
251	end of variable name (1 byte)
timestamp	time stamp of last variable actualization, date+time (8 bytes)
252	end of time stamp (1 byte)
quality	quality of read variable (1 byte)
253	end of quality (1 byte)
code type	code type (1 byte):
	1 - integer 2 bytes
	2 - long 4 bytes
	3 - real 4 bytes
	4 - double 8 bytes
	5 - string
	6 - boolean (0 - false, FF - true)
	7 - date 8 bytes
	8 - unsigned integer - 2 bytes
	9 - unsigned integer - 1 byte
254	end of code type (1 byte)
value	value of variables - number of bytes according to code types (if code type is 5, then end of string have to be check on ASCII char 250 or 255)
250 or 255	begin of new variable, or parita1 (1 byte):
	250 - then will be another variable
	255 - then will be parita1
parita1	number of variables (2 bytes, lower byte is first - LH)

Reference to topics:

[Special communication protocol](#)^[14]

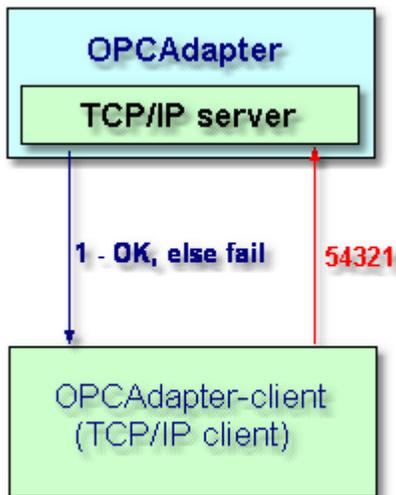
[Communication TCP/IP client-server without COM, DCOM technologies](#)^[13]

[Operation write](#)^[16]

2.4.2 Operation write

OPCAdapter after receiving request for **operation write** of new value for one defined OPC variable, returns to client application answer about error code of operation write.

Following picture shows simple scheme of **operation write** executing:



Obr. 12.: Simple scheme of operation write executing.

Protocol - operation WRITE

Request (any client application)

5,4,3,2,1	header of request (5 bytes)
250	begin of variable frame (1 byte)
variable name	ASCII characters of variable name, or also AliasName
251	end of variable name (1 byte)
code type	code type (1 byte):
	1 - integer 2 bytes
	2 - long 4 bytes
	3 - real 4 bytes
	4 - double 8 bytes
	5 - string
	6 - boolean (0 - false, FF - true)
	7 - date 8 bytes
	8 - unsigned integer - 2 bytes
	9 - unsigned integer - 1 bytes
252	end of code type (1 byte)
value	variable value - number of bytes as defined in code type (if code type is 5, the end of the string have to be check on ASCII char 255)
255	end of value (1 byte)
parita1	number of variables (2 bytes)
parita2	total count of transfered bytes (4 bytes)

Answer (OPCAdapter)

1	header of answer (1 byte). Answer have to be received else it means some transfer error.
---	--

Reference to topics:

[Special communication protocol](#)^[14]

[Communication TCP/IP client-server without COM, DCOM technologies](#)^[13]

[Operation read](#)^[14]

2.4.3 Supported data types of OPC variables

Supported data types of OPC variables

integer	2 bytes
long	4 bytes
real	4 bytes
double	8 bytes
string	undefined, results from protocol
boolean	1 byte: 00 - false, FF - true.
date	8 bytes
unsigned integer	2 bytes
signed integer	1 bytes

This list will be extended by another data types, as for example data type **array**, in the near future.

Reference to topics:

[Special communication protocol](#)^[14]

[Operation read](#)^[14]

[Operation write](#)^[16]

2.5 Composition of configuration file

The system is configuravle by simple, but very comfort [configurator](#)^[20]. it is possible to save the alone configuration in form of [Extensible Markup Language \(XML\)](#)^[18] file. We can use stored configuration again, or just modify it. Following picture shows example of configuration file.

```

- <OPCadapter_configuration>
  - <OPCServer>
    <NAME>Matrikon.OPC.Simulation</NAME>
    <ComputerName>SAE99</ComputerName>
  - <OPCGroup>
    <Name>Group</Name>
    <IsActive>True</IsActive>
    <IsSubscribed>True</IsSubscribed>
    <UpdateRate>1000</UpdateRate>
    <TimeBias>0</TimeBias>
    <DeadBand>0</DeadBand>
  - <Items>
    - <Item0>
      <ID>Random.Int1</ID>
      <AliasName>Random_Int1</AliasName>
    </Item0>
    - <Item1>
      <ID>Random.Real8</ID>
      <AliasName>Random_Real8</AliasName>
    </Item1>
    - <Item2>
      <ID>Random.String</ID>
      <AliasName>Random_String</AliasName>
    </Item2>
  </Items>
</OPCGroup>
</OPCServer>
</OPCadapter_configuration>

```

Obr. 13.: Composition of configuratin file (example).

Analyse of configuration file

OPCServer

OPC Server, on which will be join the application **OPCAdapter**, is exactly specified:

- name of OPC Server, Prog ID (**NAME=Matrikon.OPC.Simulation**),
- name of computer (**ComputerName=SAE99**).

OPCGroup

In hierarchy under OPC Server is defined one OPC group with following properties:

- name (**Name=Grupe**),
- sign if is OPC group active (**IsActive=TRUE**)
- information if OPC clien is subscribed by OPC serever (**IsSubscribed=TRUE**),
- update rate (**UpdateRate=1000**),
- ...

Under OPC Group is section OPC Items.

OPCItems

Section which defines OPC Items.

OPCItem

Definition of one OPC variable, which will be monitored. It has following properties:

- name of OPC variable (**ID=Random.Int1**),
- shoart name (alias) of OPC variable (**AliasName=Random_Int1**).

AliasName is short label of OPC variable name, which is used for identification OPC variable in [special communication protocol](#)^[14].

Reference to topics:

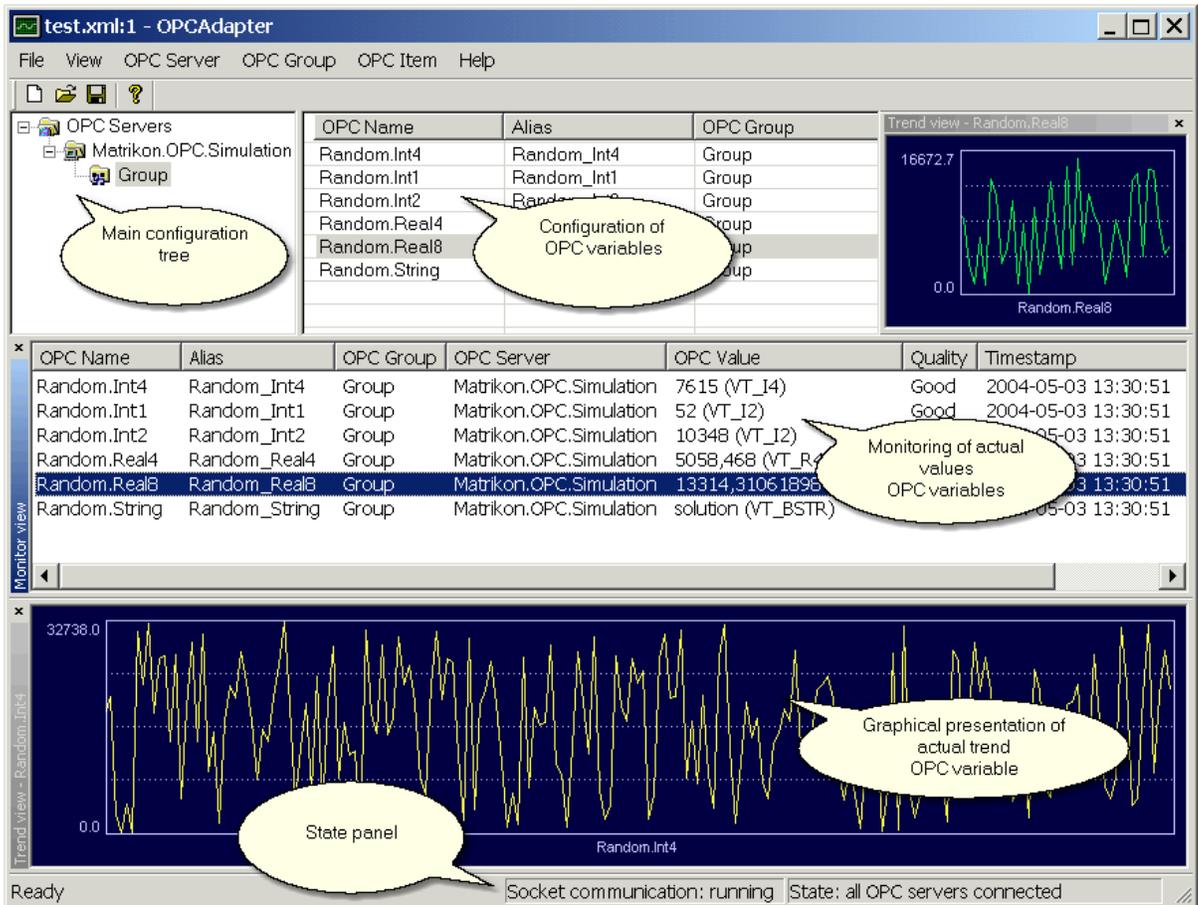
[OPC client compatible with OPC Data Access 2.0](#)^[9]

[Special communication protocol](#)^[14]

[Operation read](#)^[14]

[Operation write](#)^[16]

2.6 OPCAdapter with user interface



Obr. 14.: OPCAdapter with user interface, configurator for OPCAdapter NT service (detail).

User interface of application **OPCAdapter** is divided in following parts:

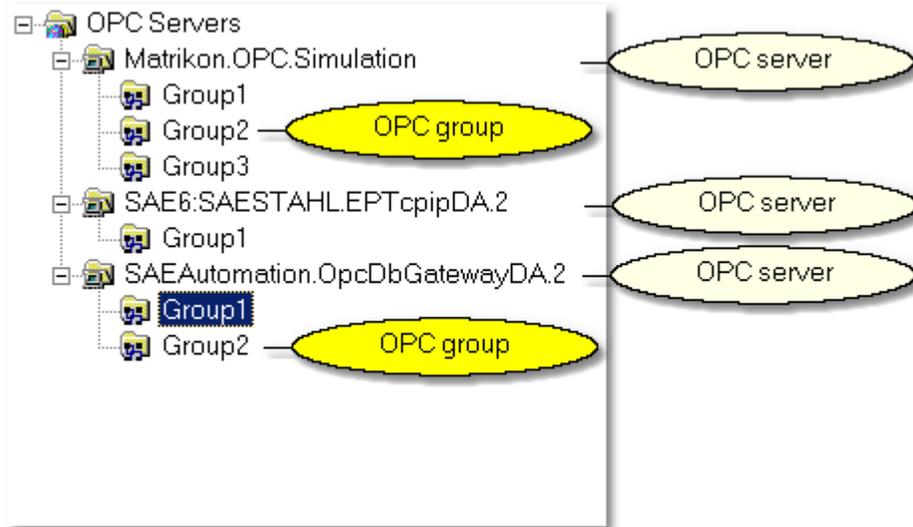
- [main configuration tree](#)^[21],
- [configuration of OPC variables](#)^[25],
- [monitoring of actual values of OPC variables](#)^[27],
- [graphical presentation of actual trend of OPC variable](#)^[28],
- [state panel](#)^[30].

Reference to topics:

- [OPCAdapter](#)^[8]
- [Main configuration tree](#)^[21]
- [Configuration of OPC variables](#)^[25]
- [Monitoring of actual values of OPC variables](#)^[27]
- [Graphical presentation of actual trend of OPC variable](#)^[28]
- [State panel](#)^[30]

2.6.1 Main configuration tree

It shows configured project in form of tree. On the highest level, in the root of the tree is set of **OPCServers**. All chosen OPC servers belong to this set (example.: SAEAutomation.OpcGatewayDA.2, SAESTAHL.EPTTcipDA2, Matrikon.OPC.Simulation, ...). Under any OPC server could be defined more **OPC groups**, which exactly define for OPC server scanning and refresh rate.



Obr. 15.: Main configuration tree.

Every level of this structure have own [context menu](#)^[21].

Reference to topics:

[OPCAdapter with user interface](#)^[20]

[Main configuration tree, context menu](#)^[21]

2.6.1.1 Main configuration tree, context menu

Context menu for group of OPC servers



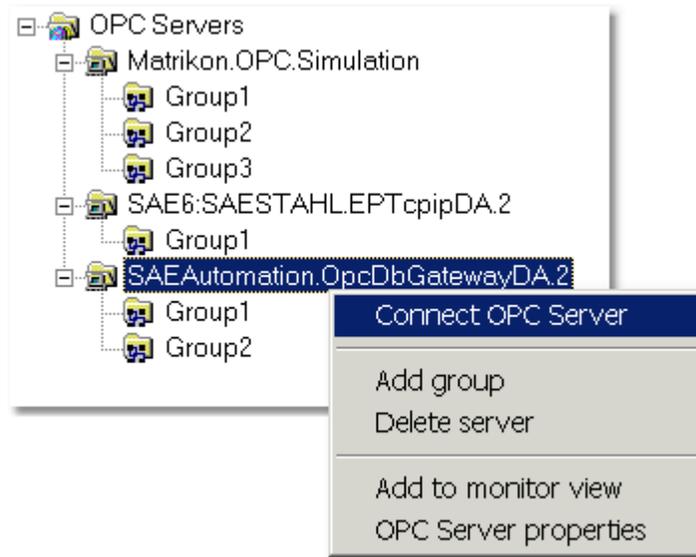
Obr. 16.: Context menu for group of OPC servers.

Connect to all OPC servers

This item allows to **OPCAdapter** to connect to all OPC servers, which are defined in the set of **OPC Servers**.

Add server

This item adds new OPC server to set of **OPC Servers**.

Context menu for OPC server

Obr. 17.: Context menu for OPC server.

Connect to OPC server

This item allows to **OPCAdapter** to connect to one selected OPC server (exam.: SAEAutomation.OpcDbGatewayDA.2).

Add group

It add the new group foe selected OPC server.

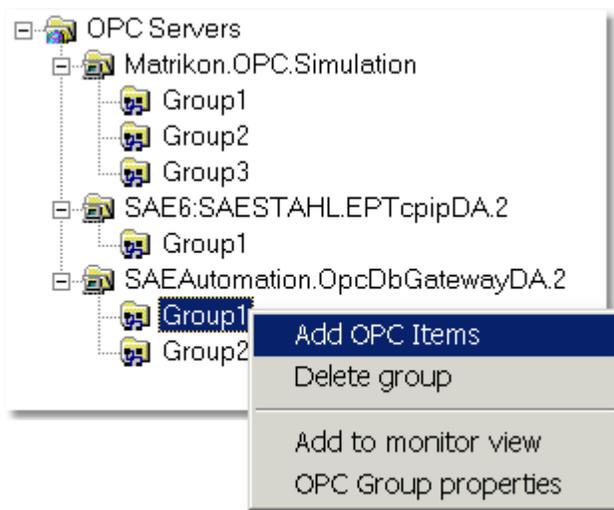
Delete server

It delete selected OPC server from configuration.

Add to monitor

For selected OPC server, it add all OPC variables to main monitoring window.

Context menu for OPC group



Obr. 18.: Context menu for group of OPC servers.

Add OPC Items

It add new OPC variables to OPC group.

Delete group

It delete selected OPC group from configuration.

Add to monitor view

It add all OPC variable to main monitoring window.

OPC Goup properties

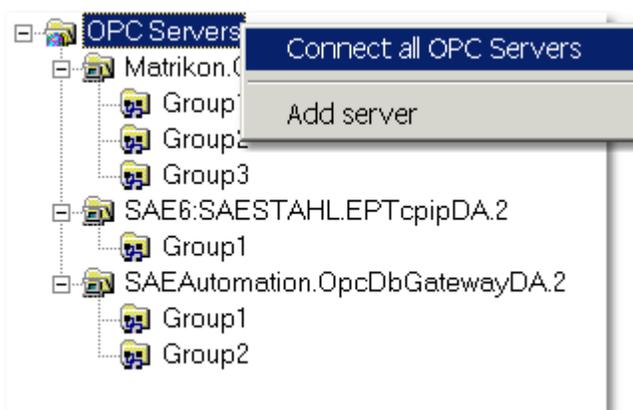
It shows dialog for setting the properties of OPC group.

Reference to topics:

[OPCAdapter with user interface](#) ^[20]

[Main configuration tree](#) ^[21]

2.6.1.1.1 Context menu for group of OPC servers



Obr. 16.: Context menu for group of OPC servers.

Connect to all OPC servers

This item allows to **OPCAdapter** to connect to all OPC servers, which are defined in the set of **OPC Servers**.

Add server

This item adds new OPC server to set of **OPC Servers**.

2.6.1.1.2 Context menu for OPC server



Obr. 17.: Context menu for OPC server.

Connect to OPC server

This item allows to **OPCAdapter** to connect to one selected OPC server (exam.: SAEAutomation.OpcDbGatewayDA.2).

Add group

It add the new group foe selected OPC server.

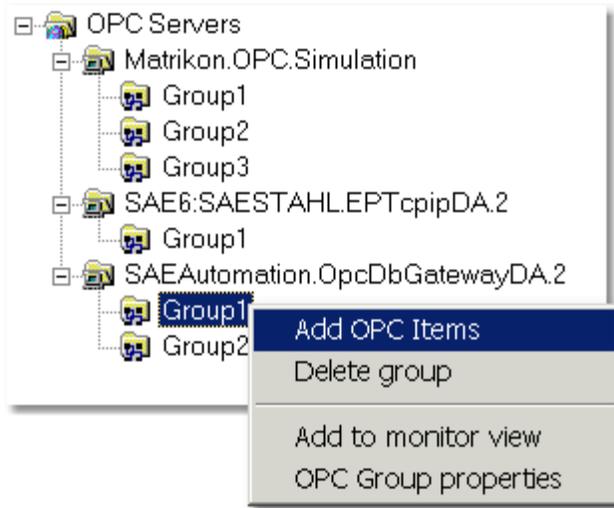
Delete server

It delete selected OPC server from configuration.

Add to monitor

For selected OPC server, it add all OPC variables to main monitoring window.

2.6.1.1.3 Context menu for OPC group



Obr. 18.: Context menu for group of OPC servers.

Add OPC Items

It add new OPC variables to OPC group.

Delete group

It delete selected OPC group from configuration.

Add to monitor view

It add all OPC variable to main monitoring window.

OPC Goup properties

It shows dialog for setting the properties of OPC group.

2.6.2 Configuration of OPC Items

Following picture shows list of **OPC Items**, which are in the one **OPC group** (example.:Group1). Configuration of OPC Items is supported by context menu and keybort shortcuts^[26].

OPC Name	Alias	OPC Group
System.A...	S1	Group1
System.A...	S2	Group1
System.A...	S3	Group1
System.ActualAlarmName	S4	Group1
System.ActualAlarmStatus	S5	Group1
System.AlarmDelete	S6	Group1
System.AlarmLanguage	S7	Group1
System.AlarmStatusOperator	S9	Group1
System.AlarmStatusTable	S10	Group1
System.AsyncQueueSize	S11	Group1
System.GeneratedReportsTable	S13	Group1

Obr. 19.: Configuration of OPC Items.

OPC Neno

Defines all access path to OPC Item.

Alias

Defines short label for name of OPC Item.

- If **OPCAdapter** will be run only as OPC client then it is not necessary to define this item.
- It is necessary to define alias in case, that **OPCAdapter** will be run as [TCP/IP server](#)^[11]. In this case is **Alias** as unique identifier for OPC Item.

After mouse clicking, or pressing the **F2** key, it is possible to modify right in the list of OPC Items.

S4

Obr. 20.: Modification of Alias right in the list of OPC Items.

OPC Group

Defines OPC group to which belong the OPC Items.

Reference to topics:

[OPCAdapter with user interface](#)^[20]

[Configuration of OPC Items, context menu and shortcuts](#)^[26]

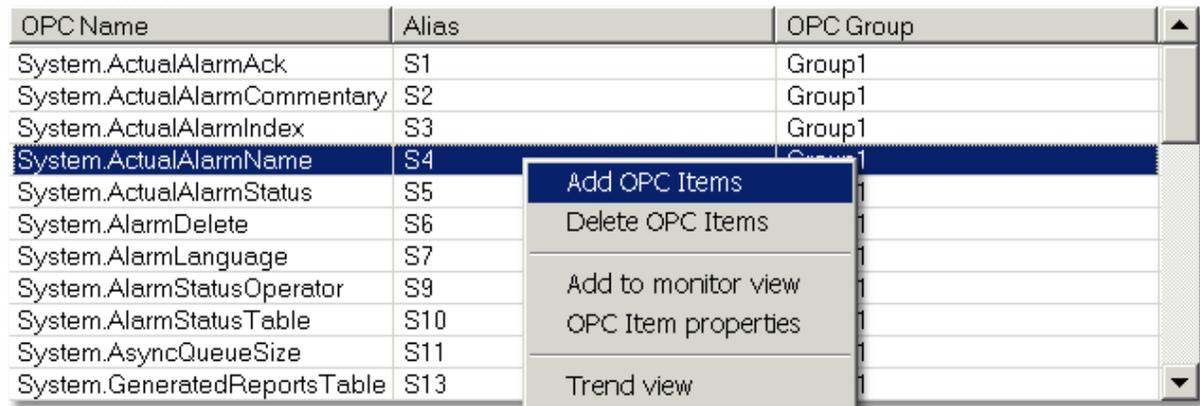
[Communication through interfaces OPC, COM, DCOM, TCP/IP](#)^[11]

[Communication TCP/IP client-server without COM, DCOM technologies](#)^[13]

2.6.2.1 Configuration of OPC Items, context menu and shortcuts

Context menu

OPC Name	Alias	OPC Group
System.ActualAlarmAck	S1	Group1
System.ActualAlarmCommentary	S2	Group1
System.ActualAlarmIndex	S3	Group1
System.ActualAlarmName	S4	Group1
System.ActualAlarmStatus	S5	Group1
System.AlarmDelete	S6	Group1
System.AlarmLanguage	S7	Group1
System.AlarmStatusOperator	S9	Group1
System.AlarmStatusTable	S10	Group1
System.AsyncQueueSize	S11	Group1
System.GeneratedReportsTable	S13	Group1



Obr. 21.: Configuration of OPC Items, context menu.

Add OPC Items

It add new OPC Items to OPC Group.

Delete OPC Items

It delete selected OPC Items from configuration.

Add to monitor view

It add selected OPC Items to main monitoring window.

OPC Item properties

It shows dialog for setting properties of OPC Item.

Trend view

It shows dialog for monitoring trend of OPC Item.

Shortcut keys

Ctrl+A	Select all OPC Items
Del	Delete all selected OPC Items from configuration
F2	Enable cell editing for modify Alias of one OPC Item
F5	Reload configuration form project file

Reference to topic:

[Configuration of OPC Item](#)^[25]

2.6.3 Monitoring actual values of OPC variables

Following picture shows actual values of selected **OPC Items**. In monitoring window is possible to watch **OPC Items** several different **OPC Servers** or **OPC Groups**. Configuration of OPC Items is supported by [context menu and shortcut keys](#)^[28].

OPC Name	Alias	OPC Group	OPC Server	OPC Value	Quality	Timestamp
Random.Int1	Random_Int1	Group	Matrikon.OPC.Simulation	28517 (VT_RB)	Good	2004-05...
Random.Int2	Random_Int2	Group	Matrikon.OPC.Simulation	8488 (VT_RB)	Good	2004-05...
Random.Int4	Random_Int4	Group	Matrikon.OPC.Simulation	25068 (VT_RB)	Good	2004-05...
Random.Real4	Random_Real4	Group	Matrikon.OPC.Simulation	13861 (VT_RB)	Good	2004-05...
Random.Real8	Random_Real8	Group	Matrikon.OPC.Simulation	27613 (VT_RB)	Good	2004-05...
Random.String	Random_String	Group	Matrikon.OPC.Simulation	4544 (VT_RB)	Good	2004-05...
System.PlcCycle	S1	Group2	SAEAutomation.OpcD...	10 (VT_I4)	Good	2004-05...
System.PlcPeriod	S2	Group2	SAEAutomation.OpcD...	1000 (VT_I4)	Good	2004-05...
System.PlcPeriodCounter	S3	Group2	SAEAutomation.OpcD...	242 (VT_I4)	Good	2004-05...
System.PlcStatus	S4	Group2	SAEAutomation.OpcD...	1 (VT_I2)	Good	2004-05...
System.SyncQueueSize	S5	Group2	SAEAutomation.OpcD...	0 (VT_I2)	Good	2004-05...
System.AsyncQueueSize	S6	Group2	SAEAutomation.OpcD...	0 (VT_I2)	Good	2004-05...

Obr. 22.: Monitoring of actual values of OPC Items.

OPC Name

It defines all access path to OPC item.

Alias

It defines short name of OPC Item.

OPC Group

It defines OPC Group to which allows OPC Items.

OPC Server

It defines OPC Server to which allows OPC Items.

OPC Value

It defines actual value of OPC Item.

Quality

It defines quality of OPC Item.

Time

Time stamp of last change of OPC Item.

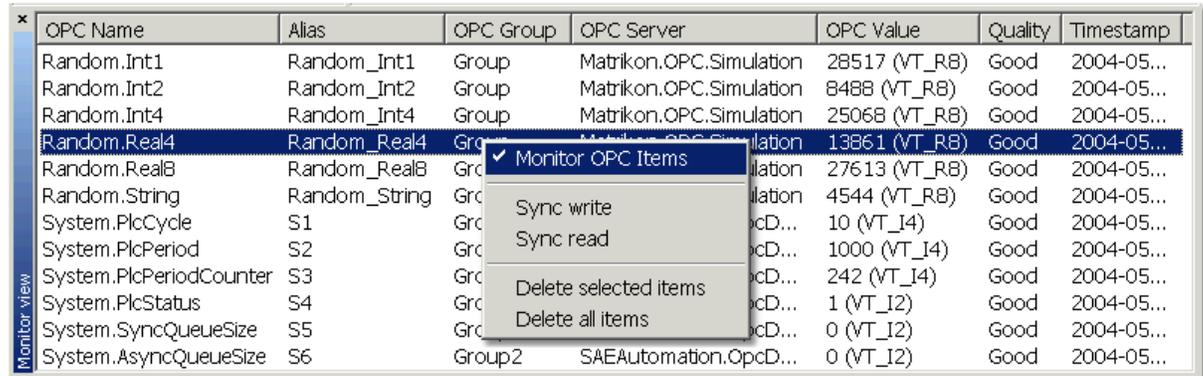
Reference to topics:

[OPCAdapter with user interface](#)^[20]

[Monitoring of actual values of OPC Items, context menu and shortcut keys](#)^[28]

2.6.3.1 Monitoring of actual values of OPC Items, cotext menu and shortcut keys

Context menu



OPC Name	Alias	OPC Group	OPC Server	OPC Value	Quality	Timestamp
Random.Int1	Random_Int1	Group	Matrikon.OPC.Simulation	28517 (VT_R8)	Good	2004-05...
Random.Int2	Random_Int2	Group	Matrikon.OPC.Simulation	8488 (VT_R8)	Good	2004-05...
Random.Int4	Random_Int4	Group	Matrikon.OPC.Simulation	25068 (VT_R8)	Good	2004-05...
Random.Real4	Random_Real4	Group	Matrikon.OPC.Simulation	13861 (VT_R8)	Good	2004-05...
Random.Real8	Random_Real8	Group	Matrikon.OPC.Simulation	27613 (VT_R8)	Good	2004-05...
Random.String	Random_String	Group	Matrikon.OPC.Simulation	4544 (VT_R8)	Good	2004-05...
System.PlcCycle	S1	Group	SAEAutomation.OpcD...	10 (VT_I4)	Good	2004-05...
System.PlcPeriod	S2	Group	SAEAutomation.OpcD...	1000 (VT_I4)	Good	2004-05...
System.PlcPeriodCounter	S3	Group	SAEAutomation.OpcD...	242 (VT_I4)	Good	2004-05...
System.PlcStatus	S4	Group	SAEAutomation.OpcD...	1 (VT_I2)	Good	2004-05...
System.SyncQueueSize	S5	Group	SAEAutomation.OpcD...	0 (VT_I2)	Good	2004-05...
System.AsyncQueueSize	S6	Group2	SAEAutomation.OpcD...	0 (VT_I2)	Good	2004-05...

The context menu is open over the 'Random.Real4' row and contains the following items:

- Monitor OPC Items (checked)
- Sync write
- Sync read
- Delete selected items
- Delete all items

Obr. 23.: Monitoring of actual values of OPC Items, context menu.

Monitor OPC Items

It starts or stops monitoring of OPC Items.

Sync write

It provides to user change the value of OPC Item.

Sync read

It provides to user read the actual value of OPC Item.

Delete selected items

Delete all selected OPC Items from monitoring window.

Delete all items

Delete all OPC Items from monitoring window.

Shortcut keys

Ctrl+A Select all OPC Items

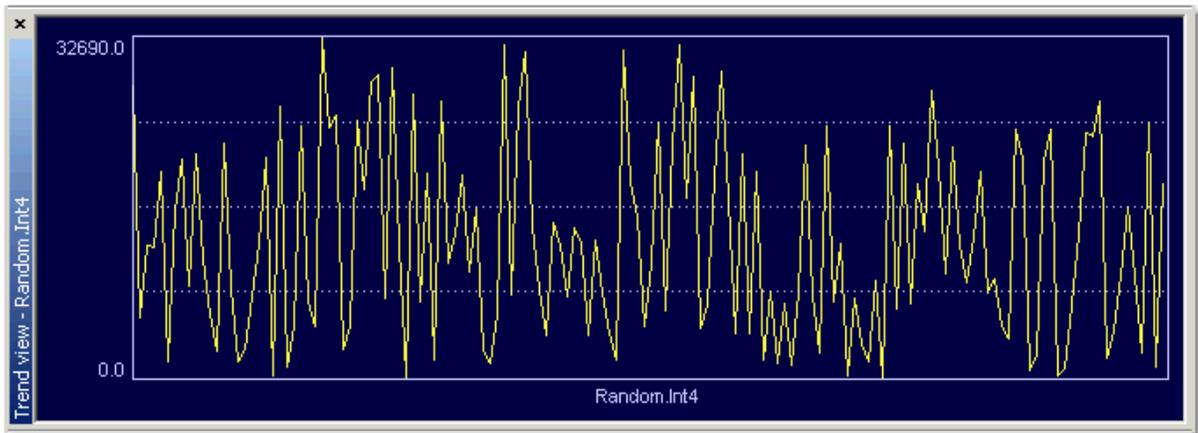
Del Delete selected OPC Items from monitoring window

Reference to topic:

[Monitoring of actual values of OPC Items](#)^[27]

2.6.4 Grpahic presentation of actual trend of OPC Item

Picture shows graph of actual trend of one OPC Item. Vizual properties iof graphic presentation of actual trend could be defined in [configuration dialog](#)^[29].



Obr. 24.: Graphic presentation of actual trend of OPC Item Random.Int4.

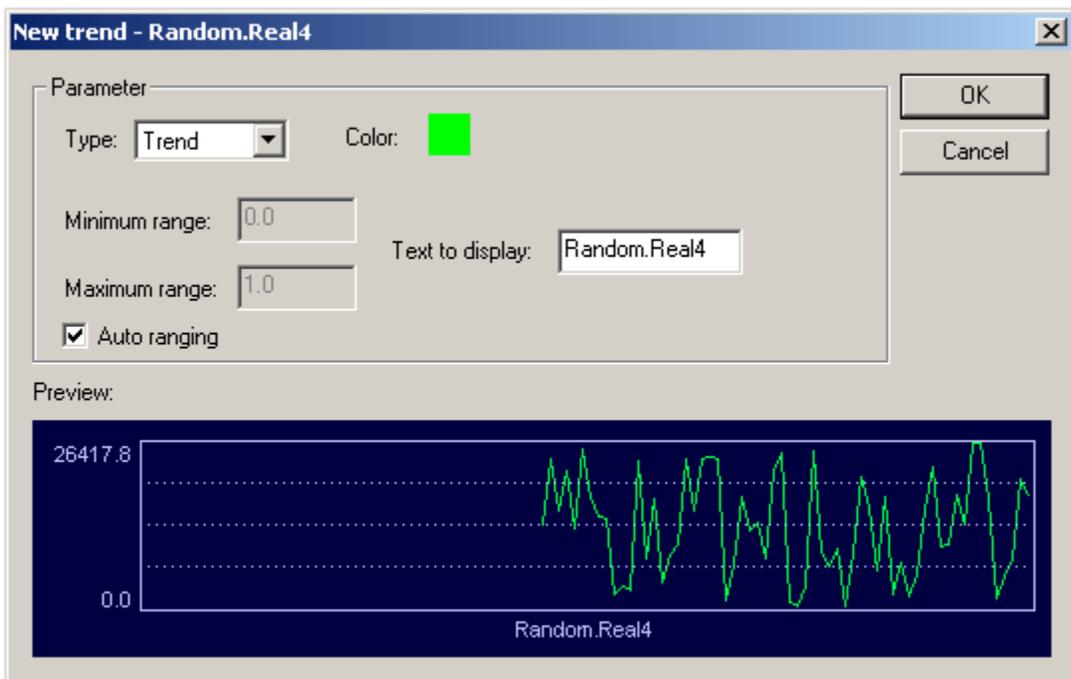
Reference to topics:

[OPCAdapter with user interface](#)^[20]

[Configuration dialog of graphical presentation of actual trend](#)^[29]

2.6.4.1 Configuration dialog of grafical presentation of actual trend

Following picture shows dialog window which defines property of the **graphical presentation of actual trend**.

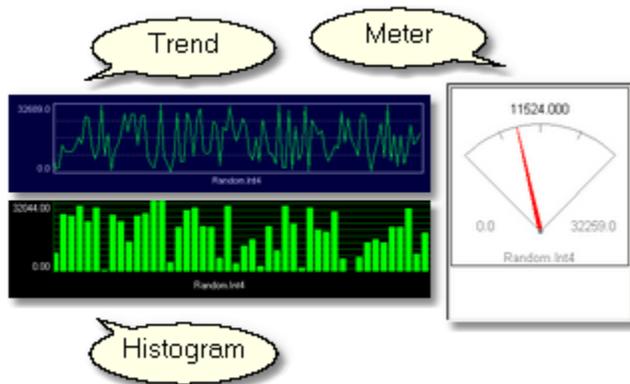


Obr. 25.: Configuration dialog of grafical presentation of actual trend of OPC variable Random.Real4.

Type

It define type of showing graph. The application provides following types of graph:

- Trend
- Meter
- Histogram



Minimal value

It defines minimal value of OPC Item which will be shown in the graph.

Maximal value

It defines maximal value of OPC Item which will be shown in the graph.

Color

It defines color of trend.

Computer setting of range

Sign, that tell us about usein of automatic range of values for actual graph.

OK

New window with defined graph properties will be creat for selected OPC Item.

Zruš

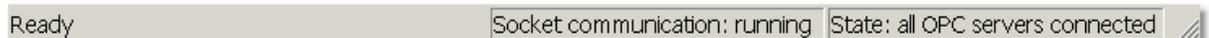
Configuration dialog will be destroye and any trend will not be shown.

Reference to topic:

[Graphical presentation of actual trend of OPC Item](#)^[28]

2.6.5 State panel

Following picture shows **actual state of communication** through interface [OPC a TCP/IP](#)^[11] in application **OPCAdapter**.



Obr. 26.: Actual state of communication through interface OPC and TCP/IP.

Socket communication

It shows actual stat of communication [TCP/IP client-server](#)^[13] between application **OPCAdapter** and **TCP/IP client** this application. Communication could have one of the following states:

- **stopped** (communication through interface TCP/IP is stopped),
- **running** (communication through interface TCP/IP is running).

State

It shows actual stat of communication [OPC client-server](#)^[12] between application **OPCAdapter** and **OPC server**. Communication could have one of the following state:

- **All OPC Servers are disconnected**
The communication through OPC interface is disconnected for all OPC Servers.
- **All OPC Servers are connected**
The communication through OPC interface is running.
- **Server 'SAEAutomation.OpcDbGatewayDA.2' disconnected**
The communication through interface OPC for defined OPC server is disconnected. Defined OPC server 'SAEAutomation.OpcDbGatewayDA.2' is not connected or connection failed.
- **Server 'SAEAutomation.OpcDbGatewayDA.2' connected**
The communication through interface OPC for defined OPC server is running. Defined OPC server 'SAEAutomation.OpcDbGatewayDA.2' is now connected, connection established.

Reference to topics:

[OPCAdapter with user interface](#)^[20]

[Communication through interfaces OPC, COM, DCOM, TCP/IP](#)^[11]

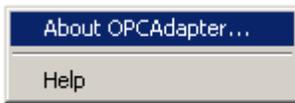
[Communication OPC client-server with COM, DCOM technologies](#)^[12]

[Communication TCP/IP client-server without COM, DCOM technologies](#)^[13]

2.6.6 About application OPCAdapter

It is possible to reach information about application right from main menu, or by mouse-click on relevant icon in tool panel.

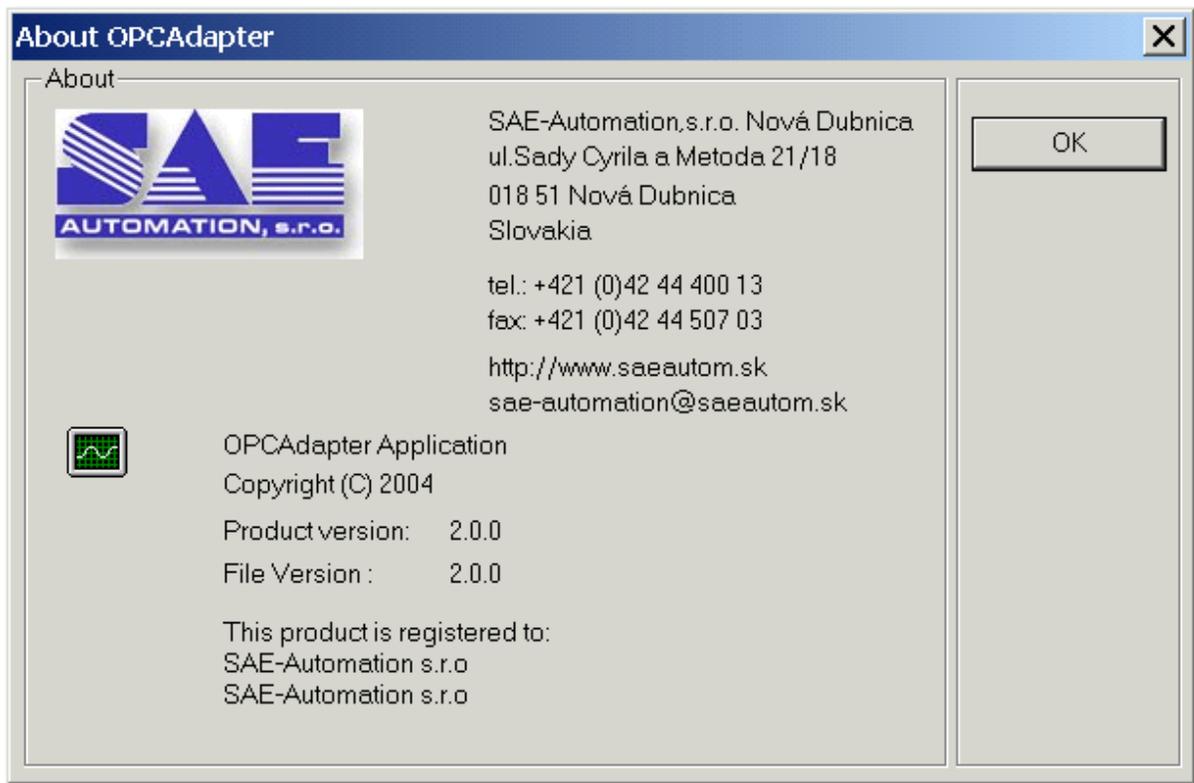
Menu



Icon in tool panel



Dialog with information will be display:



Obr. 27.: About application OPCAdapter.

Reference to topic:

[OPCAdapter](#)⁸⁾

2.6.7 Main menu

Main menu contains following items:

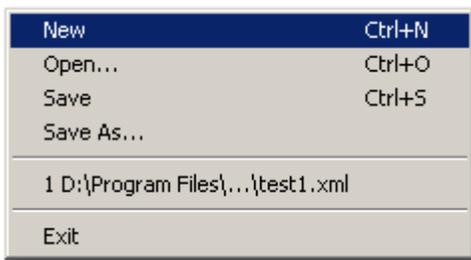
- [File](#)³²⁾,
- [View](#)³³⁾,
- [OPC Server](#)³⁴⁾,
- [OPC Group](#)³⁴⁾,
- [OPC Item](#)³⁵⁾,
- [Parameters](#)³⁵⁾,
- [Help](#)³⁷⁾.

Reference to topic:

[OPCAdapter with user interface](#)²⁰⁾

2.6.7.1 Main menu, item File

Following picture shows item **File** for working with configuration file [XLM](#)⁸⁾.



Obr. 28.: Item File.

New

It makes new configuration.

Open...

It open some stored configuration.

Save

It save actual configuration to configuration file.

Save as...

It save actual configuration to new configuration file.

List of last opened configuratio files

He is list of last opened configuration files. After mouse-click on any from list will be this configuration load to the application.

Exit

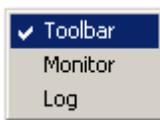
It end the application.

Reference to topic:

[Main menu](#) ^[32]

2.6.7.2 Main menu, item View

Following picture shows item **View** for turn on and off some windows.



Obr. 29.: Item View.

Tool panel

It shows or hide tool panel.

Monitor view

It shows or hide monitor window.

Log view

It shows or hide main log window of application.

Reference to topic:

[Main menu](#) ^[32]

2.6.7.3 Main menu, item OPC Server

Following picture shows item **OPC Server** for configuration and control of OPC servers.



Obr. 30.: Item OPC Server.

Connect of all OPC servers

It starts connection to all defined OPC servers in configuration.

Connect to OPC Server

It starts connection to OPC Server, which is selected in the [main configuration tree](#)^[21].

Add server

It adds new server to configuration.

Delete server

It delete selected OPC Server from configuration.

Reference to topics:

[Main menu](#)^[32]

[Main configuration tree](#)^[21]

2.6.7.4 Main menu, item OPC Group

Following picture shows item **OPC Group** for configuration of OPC Groups.



Obr. 31.: Item OPC Group.

Add group

It adds new OPC group to actual selected OPC Server.

Delete group

It deletes actual selected group from configuration.

Group properties

It defines properties of OPC Group, which is actual select in the [main configuration tree](#)^[21].

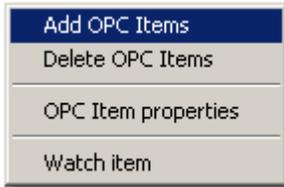
Reference to topics:

[Main menu](#)^[32]

[Main configuration tree](#)^[21]

2.6.7.5 Main menu, item OPC Item

Following picture shows item **OPC Item** for configuration of OPC Items.



Obr. 32.: Menu OPC Item.

Add new OPC Items

It allows to use the address area of OPC server and adds the new OPC Items to selected OPC Server.

Delete items

It delete selected items from configuration.

Item properties

It defines properties of OPC Item, which is selected in the [main configuration tree](#) ^[21].

Monitor item

Graphical presentation of [actual trend](#) ^[28] OPC variable.

Reference to topics:

[Main menu](#) ^[32]

[Main configuration tree](#) ^[21]

2.6.7.6 Main menu, item Parameters

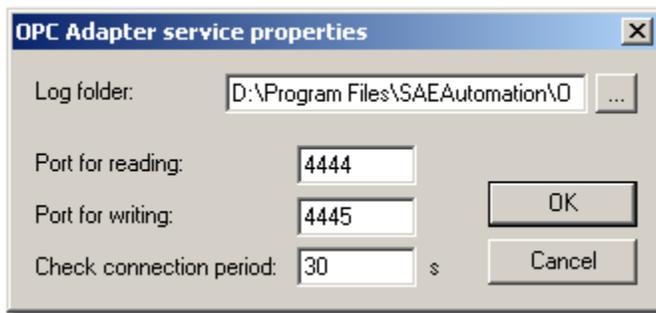
Following picture shows item **Parameters** for configuration of application parameters.



Obr. 33.: Menu Parameters.

Service properties

Setting of NT service properties of application **OPCAdapter**. The application allows defined the directory for logging file, number of ports for read and write and range of time for checking connection.



Obr. 34.: Setting dialog for properties of NT service OPC Adapter

Range of connection checking - it defines time interval for checking connection to OPC server. This time interval is set up in seconds (example.: 60 seconds). If OPCAdapter find, that connection is failed or the OPC server is disconnected, it will try to reconnect to this OPC server after defined time interval.

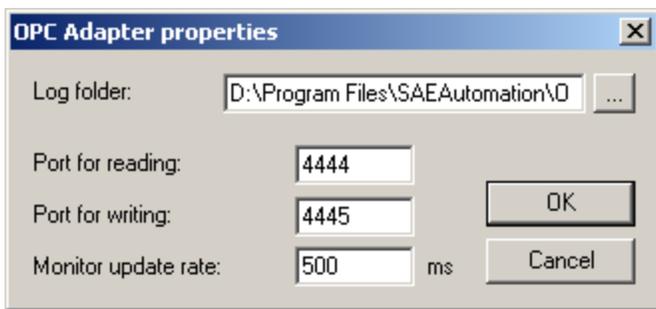
Log directory - it defines directory for logging files.

Port for readin - it defines number of [port](#)^[11] for [operation read](#)^[14].

Port for white - it defines number of [port](#)^[11] for [operation write](#)^[16].

Programm settings

Property settings for application **OPCAdapter**. The application allows to user set-up the directory for logging file, define ports for reading and writing and define interval for monitor reload.



Obr. 35.: Setting dialog for application OPC Adapter

Time for monitor reload - it defines time for monitor of OPCAdapter reload. The period is set-up in the milliseconds (example.: 500 ms).

Log directory - it defines directory for logging files.

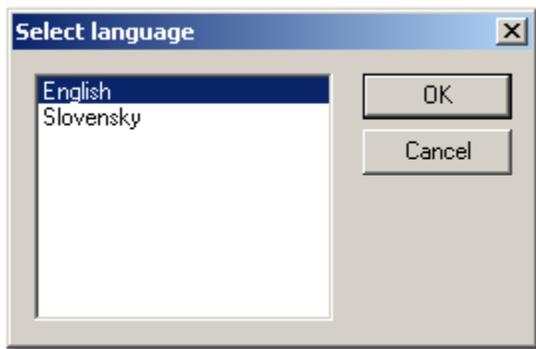
Port for readin - it defines number of [port](#)^[11] for [operation read](#)^[14].

Port for white - it defines number of [port](#)^[11] for [operation write](#)^[16].

Language

Language setting of application **OPCAdapter**. Today we support two language version of OPCAdapter

- English
- Slovak



Obr. 36.: Language setting dialog

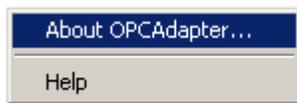
Reference to topics:

[Main menu](#) ^[32]

[OPCAdapter NT service](#) ^[37]

2.6.7.7 Main menu, item Help

Following picture shows item **Help**.



Obr. 37.: Menu Help .

About OPCAdapter...

It shows informaton about OPCAdapter.

Help

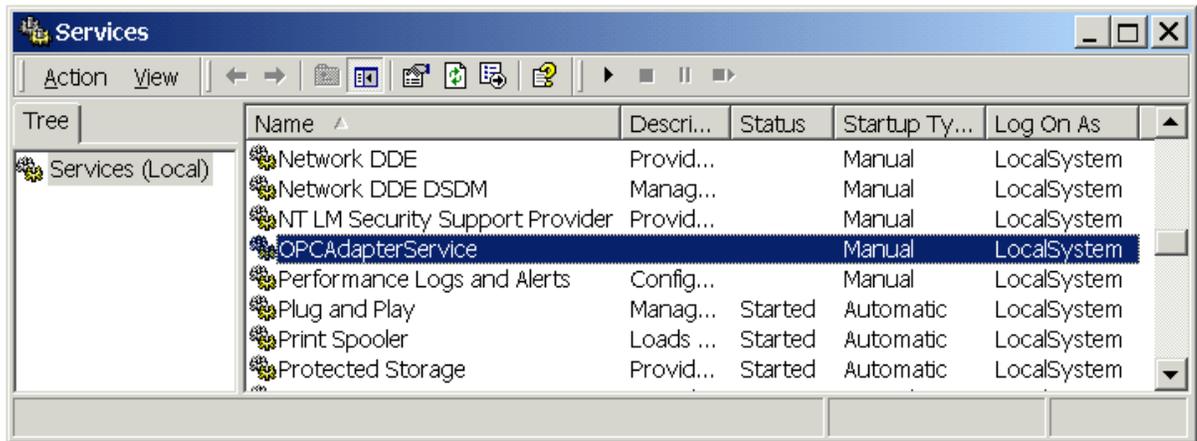
It shows help file of application OPCAdapter.

Reference to topics:

[Main menu](#) ^[32]

2.7 OPCAdapter NT service

Following picture shows panel of Windows **Services**. Here you can see that the application **OPCAdapter** is installed as NT service with name **OPCAdapterService**.



Obr. 38.: OPCAdapter NT service.

Configuration of application

OPCAdapter NT service is application without user interface. Configuration file for NT service is possible to make by application [OPCAdapter with user interface](#)^[20], which have function of configurator.

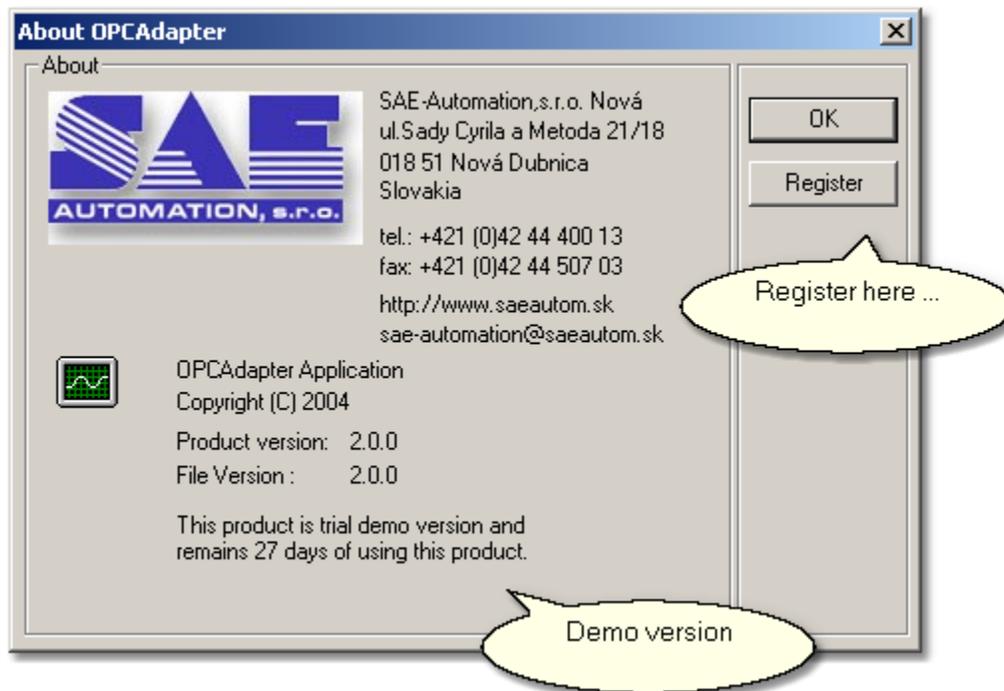
Reference to topics:

[OPCAdapter with user interface](#)^[20]

3 OPCAdapter registration

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Following picture shows [dialog with information about application](#)^[31].



Obr. 40.: Application OPCAdapter, demo version.

Dialog informs, that installed application **OPCAdapter** is demo version, which will be deactivated after 30 days.

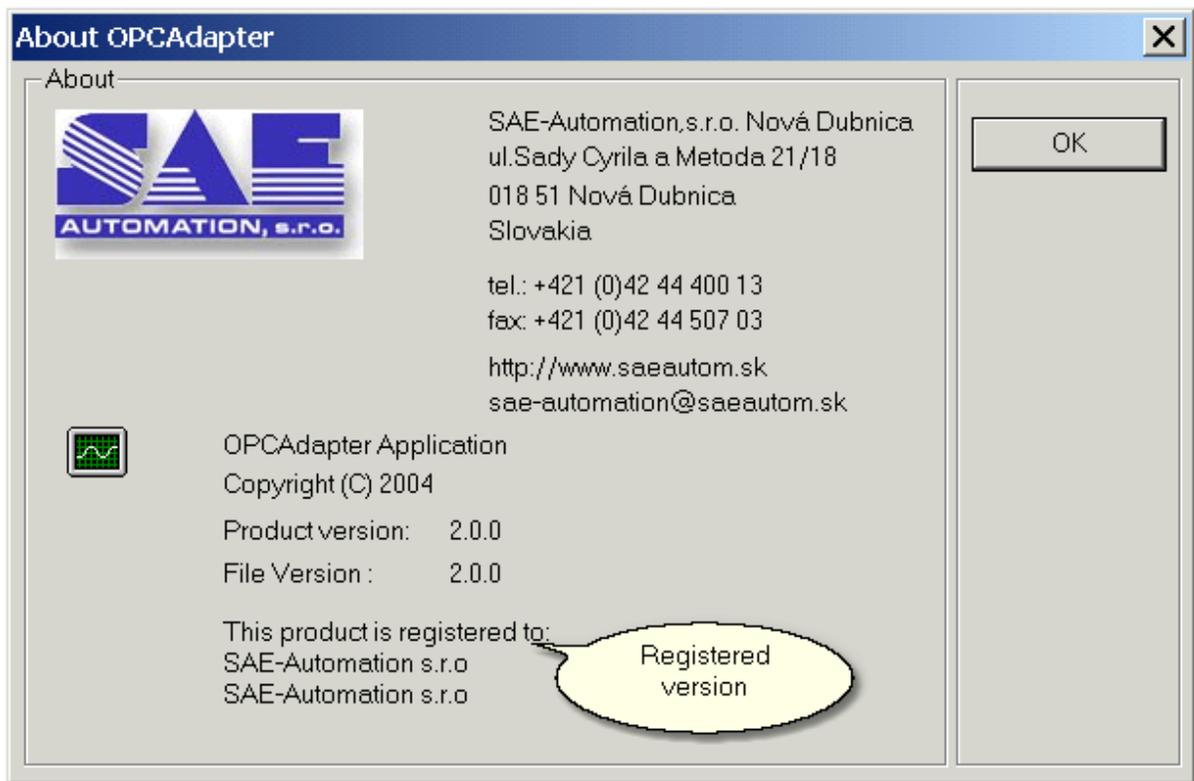
Product registration



Obr. 41.: Dialog for registration of OPC Adapter.

1. In dialog about **application OPCAdapter** push the button **Register**. This will show the dialog for registration of your OPCAdapter version.
2. The **identification number** from the dialog copy to the mail and send it to the e-mail address sae-automation@saeautom.sk. We [SAE-Automation, s.r.o.](http://www.sae-automation.sk) will send you the right **registration number**.
3. Registration number from us, copy to the registration dialog.
4. Push the button **Register**.
5. OK.

The application will be now right registered and the dialod about application OPCAdapter will be in following style.



Obr. 42.: Application OPCAdapter, registered version.

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4 OPCAdapterSocketClient

What is it OPCAdapterSocketClient?

It is application which communicate with application **OPCAdapter** throughl [TCP/IP](#)^[13] protocol. Through user interface it shows actual state of [inside memory](#)^[11] of application **OPCAdapter**.

In communication [TCP/IP client-server](#)^[13] it represents client, which in defined time interval sending requests to [TCP/IP server](#)^[11]. After sending the [request](#)^[14] it is waiting for [answer](#)^[54], which shows in the main window.

What we offer to you?

We offer you free very effectively tool for monitoring different types of variables. On our web presentation www.saeautom.sk you can find not only this application but also its complete source

codes.

Variable	Value	Timestamp	Quality
Random_String	of (VT_BSTR)	2004-04-26 07:09:33	192
Random_Int4	13206 (VT_I4)	2004-04-26 07:09:34	192
Random_Int1	45 (VT_I2)	2004-04-26 07:09:34	192
Random_Int2	29302 (VT_I2)	2004-04-26 07:09:34	192
Random_Real4	26019,65 (VT_R4)	2004-04-26 07:09:34	192
Random_Real8	480,35025303 (VT_R8)	2004-04-26 07:09:34	192
Random_String	solution (VT_BSTR)	2004-04-26 07:09:34	192
Random_Int4	13853 (VT_I4)	2004-04-26 07:09:35	192
Random_Int1	32 (VT_I2)	2004-04-26 07:09:35	192
Random_Int2	20109 (VT_I2)	2004-04-26 07:09:35	192
Random_Real4	14715,32 (VT_R4)	2004-04-26 07:09:35	192
Random_Real8	6176,80505646 (VT_R8)	2004-04-26 07:09:35	192
Random_String	-- (VT_BSTR)	2004-04-26 07:09:35	192
Random_Int4	4673 (VT_I4)	2004-04-26 07:09:36	192
Random_Int1	98 (VT_I2)	2004-04-26 07:09:36	192
Random_Int2	24186 (VT_I2)	2004-04-26 07:09:36	192
Random_Real4	6977,253 (VT_R4)	2004-04-26 07:09:36	192
Random_Real8	11275,75100856 (VT_R8)	2004-04-26 07:09:36	192
Random_String	options (VT_BSTR)	2004-04-26 07:09:36	192
Random_Int4	23485 (VT_I4)	2004-04-26 07:09:37	192
Random_Int1	38 (VT_I2)	2004-04-26 07:09:37	192
Random_Int2	11757 (VT_I2)	2004-04-26 07:09:37	192
Random_Real4	1048,468 (VT_R4)	2004-04-26 07:09:37	192
Random_Real8	6811,49902812 (VT_R8)	2004-04-26 07:09:37	192
Random_String	you (VT_BSTR)	2004-04-26 07:09:37	192
Random_Int4	23014 (VT_I4)	2004-04-26 07:09:38	192
Random_Int1	98 (VT_I2)	2004-04-26 07:09:38	192
Random_Int2	13452 (VT_I2)	2004-04-26 07:09:38	192
Random_Real4	3573,615 (VT_R4)	2004-04-26 07:09:38	192
Random_Real8	9195,42181092 (VT_R8)	2004-04-26 07:09:38	192
Random_String	Connect (VT_BSTR)	2004-04-26 07:09:38	192

Obr. 43.: OPCAdapterSocketClient - simple example of monitoring application.

Reference to topic:

[Introduction](#)^[3]

4.1 Communication protocol

Communication between **OPCAdapter** and **OPCAdapterSocketClient** is realized through **TCP/IP**^[13] protocol. Connection is defined by **IP address** and **Port**^[11] number.

IP address

It uniform identified computer on which the application **OPCAdapter** is running. Client application have to know the IP Address to make connection with this computer. The postme will not bring zou a letter without the right adress.



Port

The Port is defined by unique location, to which the application **OPCAdapter** could send messages and receive the answers or different messages.

On one computer run more applications in one time so definition of IP Adress is not comfortable. Also in the real life it so, that at the one address, one house, or one flat live more people. And the postman have to know who can read this letter.



Application layer of TCP/IP protocol, special communication protokol

[Special communication protocol](#)^[14] create application layer of [TCP/IP](#)^[13] protocol, which exactly defines available operations.

Reference to topics:

- [Special communication protocol](#)^[14]
- [Operation read](#)^[14]
- [Operation write](#)^[16]

4.2 Source code

Short look to source code

In this part we brings you short look to the implementation of main parts of application **OPCAdapterSocketClient**.

In application **OPCAdapterSocketClient** is implemented only communication one-way communication (read-only), source code included only subset of communication protocol. It is part for [operation read](#)^[14]. Example on the [operation write](#)^[16] one variable is not implemented, but is very simple and similar to operation read.

Within basic functions, which **OPCAdapterSocketClient** have to have:

- [sending of request](#)^[43] (read actual list of variables),
- answer receive (list of variables),
- [decoding and checking the answer](#)^[47] (checking the header of answer),
- [decoding one transfered OPC variable](#)^[49],
- showing answer.

Reference to topics:

- [Main working thread](#)^[43]
- [Answer decoding](#)^[47]
- [Decoding one transfered OPC variable](#)^[49]

4.2.1 Main working thread

OPCAdapterSocketClient send request for readin actual state of [inside memory](#)^[17] of application **OPCAdapter**.

Answer to request is represented by following technique:

- [OPCAdapter is accesible](#)^[45],
- [OPCAdapter is accesible, but recieved answer has wrong format](#)^[46],
- [OPCAdapter is not accesible](#)^[47].

Sending request and following recieving answer is implemented in the main function of working thread [Thread_PeriodicallyReadServerData](#). Receive answer is decoded in the function [CEngine::ParseResponse](#)^[47].

```

UINT Thread_PeriodicallyReadServerData(LPVOID lpParam)
{
    CEngine*          pEngine = (CEngine*) lpParam;
    int              nBytes = 0;

    CBlockingSocket  bsClient;
    CSockAddr        saServer;
    char             request[_REQUEST_LENGTH];
    BYTE            response[_RESPONSE_LENGTH];

    try
    {
        // @flow0 | create a socket server address
        saServer = CBlockingSocket::GetHostByName( pEngine->m_strIPAddress,
        >m_nPort);
    }
    catch(CBlockingSocketException* e)
    {
        // Error: A socket server address not created!
        char error[200];
        *error=0;
        e->GetErrorMessage(error, sizeof(error));
        e->Delete();

        if(pEngine)
        {
            pEngine->WriteBlock("\r\nServer not available! ", _COLORREF_ERROR);
            pEngine->WriteBlock(error, _COLORREF_ERROR);
        }

        Beep(500, 100);
        return 1;
    }

    // @flow0 | create the request header '12345'
    for(BYTE i=0;i<5;i++)
    {
        request[i] = i+1;
    }

    while(1)
    {
        // @flow1 | wait for a timeout or stop event (stop data reaging)
        reading
        DWORD dwRet = WaitForSingleObject( g_eventCloseDataReading, // stop the data
        pEngine->m_nUpdateRate); // Timeout

        if (dwRet == WAIT_OBJECT_0) // stop event (stop data reaging)
        {
            // @flow1 | if socket already exists
            bsClient.Close();

            break;
        }

        if (dwRet == WAIT_TIMEOUT) // timeout
        {
            try
            {
                // @flow1 | if socket already exists
                bsClient.Close();

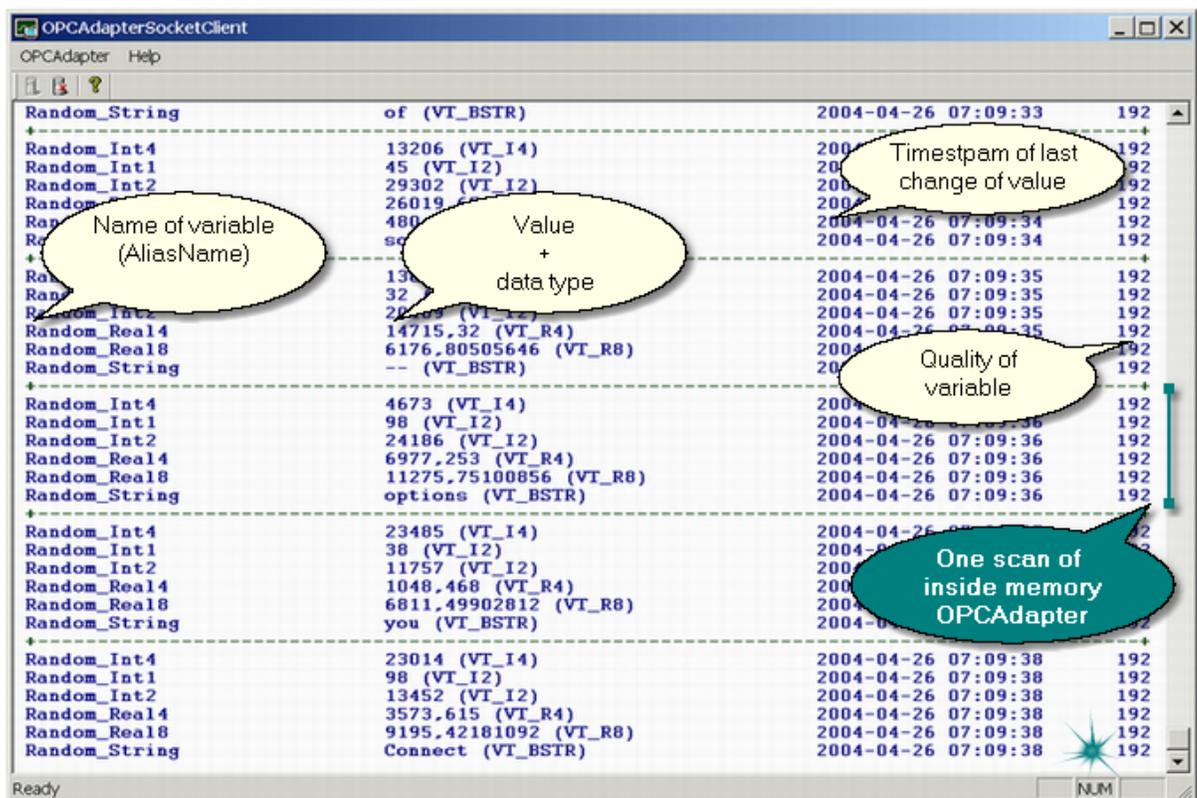
                // @flow1 | create a socket
                bsClient.Create();

                // @flow1 | connect to a socket server
            }
        }
    }
}

```

Reference to topics:[OPCAdapter ia accesible](#)^[45][OPCAdapter is accesible, but received answer has wrong format](#)^[46][OPCAdapter is not accesible](#)^[47][Answer decoding](#)^[47]**4.2.1.1 OPCAdapter is accesible**

If the asked server accesible and communication is correct, then on the main screen of the application are presents all transfered OPC variables, which are stored in the [inside memory](#)^[11] of **OPCAdapter**.



Obr. 45.: Communication is correct, list of transfered OPC variables is shown on the screen.

Reference to topics:[Main working thread](#)^[43][Answer decoding](#)^[47][Decoding of one transfered OPC variable](#)^[49][Operation read](#)^[14][Operation write](#)^[16][OPCAdapter ia accesible](#)^[45][OPCAdapter is accesible, but received answer has wrong format](#)^[46][OPCAdapter is not accesible](#)^[47][Supported data types of OPC variables](#)^[17]

4.2.1.2 OPCAdapter is accesible, but received answer has wrong format

If the asked server is accesible, but on screen is error message **Received response has an incorrect structure!**, then the client detects that the receiving message has bad format. One of the possible problems could be, that the receive message includes some [not supported data type of OPC variable](#)^[17].

Variable Name	Value	Data Type	Timestamp	Status
Random_Real4	14601,73	(VT_R4)	2004-04-26 10:55:29	192
Random_Real8	13058,59924356	(VT_R8)	2004-04-26 10:55:29	192
Random_String	control	(VT_BSTR)	2004-04-26 10:55:29	192
Received response has an incorrect structure!				
Random_Int4	19580	(VT_I4)	2004-04-26 10:55:30	192
Random_Int1	82	(VT_I2)	2004-04-26 10:55:30	192
Random_Int2	19978	(VT_I2)	2004-04-26 10:55:30	192
Random_Real4	8121,333	(VT_R4)	2004-04-26 10:55:30	192
Random_Real8	12211,49163933	(VT_R8)	2004-04-26 10:55:30	192
Random_String	a	(VT_BSTR)	2004-04-26 10:55:30	192
Received response has an incorrect structure!				
Random_Int4	25021	(VT_I4)	2004-04-26 10:55:31	192
Random_Int1	31	(VT_I2)	2004-04-26 10:55:31	192
Random_Int2	6556	(VT_I2)	2004-04-26 10:55:31	192
Random_Real4	19438,74	(VT_R4)	2004-04-26 10:55:31	192
Random_Real8	16464,85814283	(VT_R8)	2004-04-26 10:55:31	192
Random_String	--	(VT_BSTR)	2004-04-26 10:55:31	192
Received response has an incorrect structure!				
Random_Int4	20018	(VT_I4)	2004-04-26 10:55:32	192
Random_Int1	46	(VT_I2)	2004-04-26 10:55:32	192
Random_Int2	15468	(VT_I2)	2004-04-26 10:55:32	192
Random_Real4	23381,73	(VT_R4)	2004-04-26 10:55:32	192
Random_Real8	14824,63776663	(VT_R8)	2004-04-26 10:55:32	192
Random_String	options	(VT_BSTR)	2004-04-26 10:55:32	192
Received response has an incorrect structure!				
Random_Int4	11934	(VT_I4)	2004-04-26 10:55:34	192
Random_Int1	28	(VT_I2)	2004-04-26 10:55:34	192
Random_Int2	17441	(VT_I2)	2004-04-26 10:55:34	192
Random_Real4	24075,53	(VT_R4)	2004-04-26 10:55:34	192
Random_Real8	4777,01449938	(VT_R8)	2004-04-26 10:55:34	192
Random_String	to	(VT_BSTR)	2004-04-26 10:55:34	192
Received response has an incorrect structure!				

Obr. 46.: Receive message has wrong format.

Reference to topics:

[Main working thread](#)^[43]

[Answer decoding](#)^[47]

[Decoding of one transfered OPC variable](#)^[49]

[Operation read](#)^[14]

[Operation write](#)^[16]

[OPCAdapter ia accesible](#)^[45]

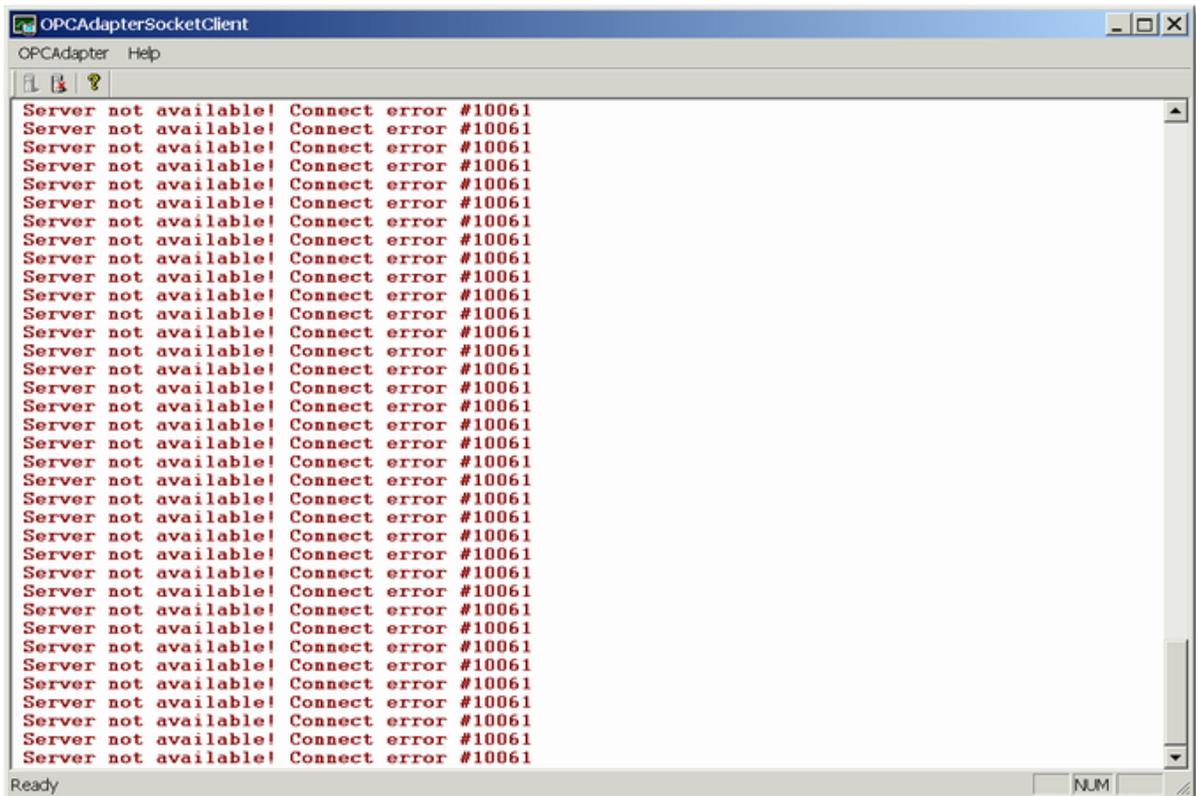
[OPCAdapter is accesible, but received answer has wrong format](#)^[46]

[OPCAdapter is not accesible](#)^[47]

[Supported data types of OPC variables](#)^[17]

4.2.1.3 OPCAdapter is not accesible

If the asked server is not accesible, than ther is detected following error message in the main screen of the application **Server not available! Connect error #10061**.



Obz. 47.: OPCAdapter (server) is not accesible.

Reference to topics:

[Main working thread](#)^[43]

[Answer decoding](#)^[47]

[Decoding of one transfered OPC variable](#)^[49]

[Operation read](#)^[14]

[Operation write](#)^[16]

[OPCAdapter ia accesible](#)^[45]

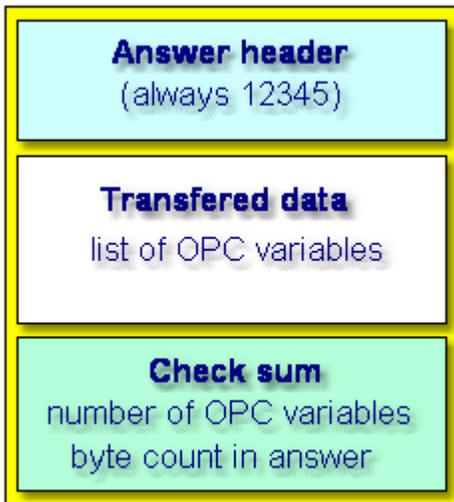
[OPCAdapter is accesible, but received answer has wrong format](#)^[46]

[OPCAdapter is not accesible](#)^[47]

[Supported data types of OPC variables](#)^[17]

4.2.2 Operation read, decoding answer

The following picture shows the structure of the answer for [operation read](#)^[14].



Obr. 48.: Operation read, answer format.

:Answer format for operation read is:

- header - (always 12345),
- transferred data,
- check sum.

In the function [CEngine::ParseResponse](#) are transferred data decoding to single OPC variables. Detailed decoding of single variable is made in the function [CEngine::ParseDataItem](#)^[49].

```
BOOL CEngine::ParseResponse(BYTE* response)
{
    // @flow0 | Response
    /* response[0] = 1;           // Header - 12345 (operation read)
       response[1] = 2;
       response[2] = 3;
       response[3] = 4;
       response[4] = 5;
       response[5] = ?;           // Parita2 4 bytes (the count of all bytes in response)
       response[6] = ?;
       response[7] = ?;
       response[8] = ?;*/

    DATA_ITEM data_item;

    // @flow0 | others bytes
    int pos=9; // cursor position
    while((pos < _RESPONSE_LENGTH) && (response[pos] != 255))
    {
        // @flow1 | reset a data item
        ::ZeroMemory(&data_item, sizeof(DATA_ITEM));

        // @flow1 | get a new data item
        if(!ParseDataItem(response, pos, &data_item))
        {
            // Error: bad response structure
            return FALSE;
        }

        // @flow1 | the formatted data item
        CString sDataItem = Format(&data_item);

        // @flow1 | write the formatted data item to view
        WriteBlock(    sDataItem,    _COLORREF_DATAITEM);
    }

    return TRUE;
}
```

Reference to topics:

[Main working thread](#)^[43]

[Answer decoding](#)^[47]

[Decoding of one transfered OPC variable](#)^[49]

[Operation read](#)^[14]

[Operation write](#)^[16]

[OPCAdapter ia accesible](#)^[45]

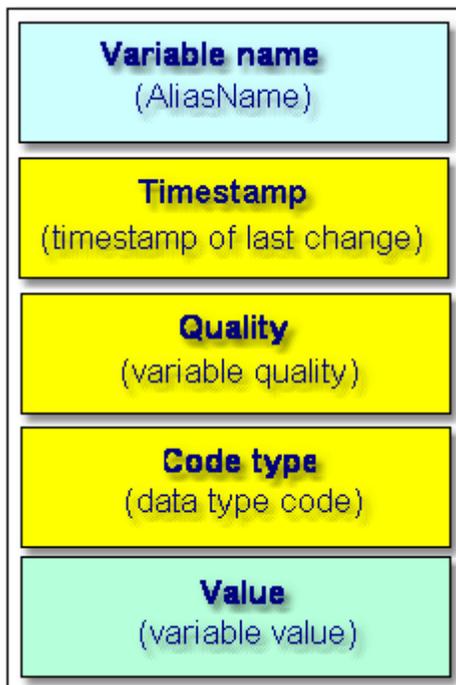
[OPCAdapter is accesible, but received answer has wrong format](#)^[46]

[OPCAdapter is not accesible](#)^[47]

[Supported data types of OPC variables](#)^[17]

4.2.3 Operation read, decoding one transfered OPC variable

Following picture shows format of the transfered OPC variable for [operation read](#)^[14].



Obr. 49.: Opaeration read, format of transfered OPC variable.

Format of transfered OPC variable for operation read:

- name of variable,
- timestamp,
- quality,
- code type,
- value.

Detailed design of format you can find in the part of [operation read](#)^[14]. Single items of structure OPC variable are decoding in function `CEngine::ParseDataItem`.

```
BOOL CEngine::ParseDataItem(BYTE* response, int & pos, DATA_ITEM* pItem)
{
    // 250
    if(FAILED_POINTER(pos) || (response[pos] != 250)) // Data item frame - Start (250)
    {
        // Error: bad response structure
        return FALSE;
    }

    // @flow0 | Alias - data item alias (ascii characters of name)
    if(FAILED_POINTER(++pos) // Alias - Start
    {
        // Error: bad response structure
        return FALSE;
    }

    for(int j=0; j<_MAX_DATA_ITEM_ALIAS_NAME_LENGTH; j++)
    {
        if(response[pos] == 251) // Alias - Stop (251)
        {
            pItem->Alias.Length = j;
            pItem->Alias.Name[j] = 0;
            break;
        }

        pItem->Alias.Name[j] = (char)response[pos];

        if(FAILED_POINTER(++pos))
        {
            // Error: bad response structure
            return FALSE;
        }
    }

    if(FAILED_POINTER(pos) || (response[pos] != 251)) // alias was not found!
    {
        // Error: bad response structure
        return FALSE;
    }

    // @flow0 | Timestamp
    if(FAILED_POINTER(++pos))
    {
        // Error: bad response structure
        return FALSE;
    }
    pItem->Timestamp = *((DATE*)&response[pos]);

    if(FAILED_POINTER(pos += 8) || (response[pos] != 252)) // timestamp was not found!
    {
        // Error: bad response structure
        return FALSE;
    }

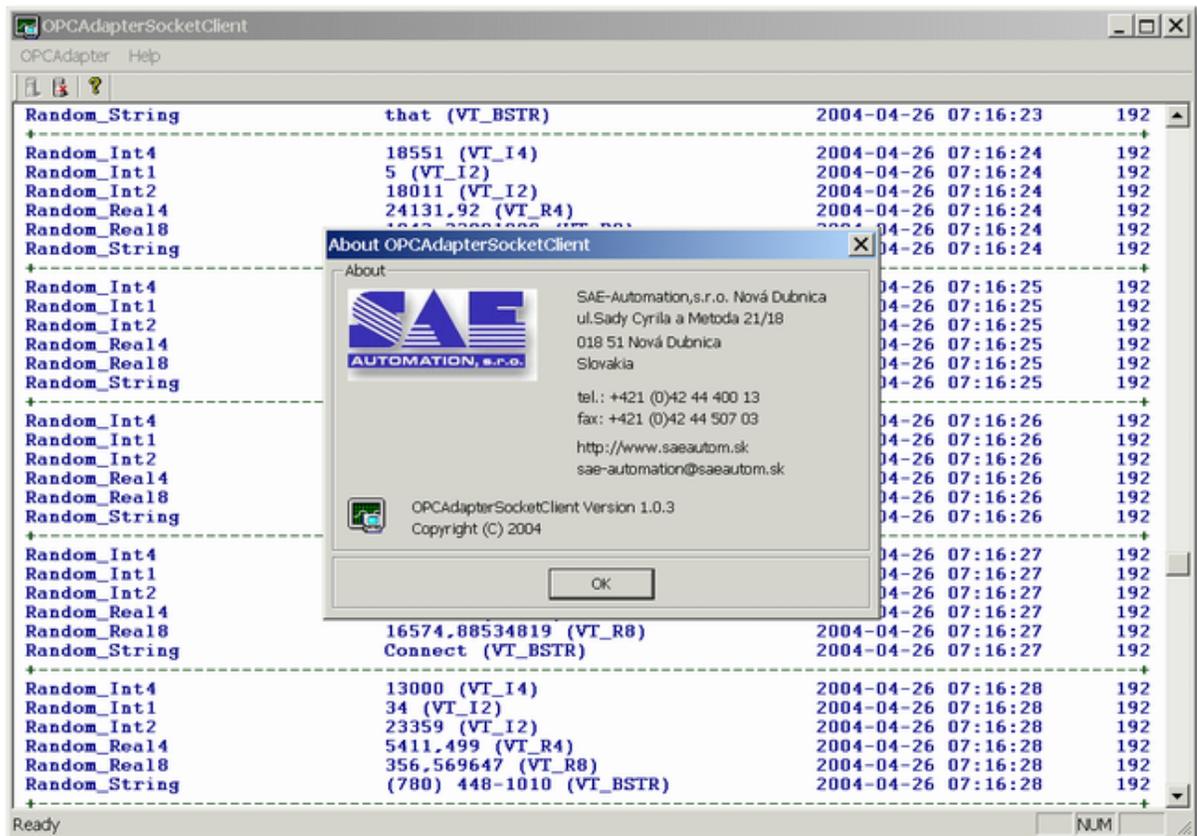
    // @flow0 | Quality
    if(FAILED_POINTER(++pos))
    {
        // Error: bad response structure
        return FALSE;
    }
    pItem->Quality = response[pos];

    if(FAILED_POINTER(++pos) || (response[pos] != 253)) // quality was not found!
    {
        // Error: bad response structure
        return FALSE;
    }

    // @flow0 | Type
    if(FAILED_POINTER(++pos))
```

Reference to topics:[Main working thread](#)^[43][Answer decoding](#)^[47][Decoding of one transfered OPC variable](#)^[49][Operation read](#)^[14][Operation write](#)^[16][OPCAdapter ia accesible](#)^[45][OPCAdapter is accesible, but received answer has wrong format](#)^[46][OPCAdapter is not accesible](#)^[47][Supported data types of OPC variables](#)^[17]

4.3 User interface

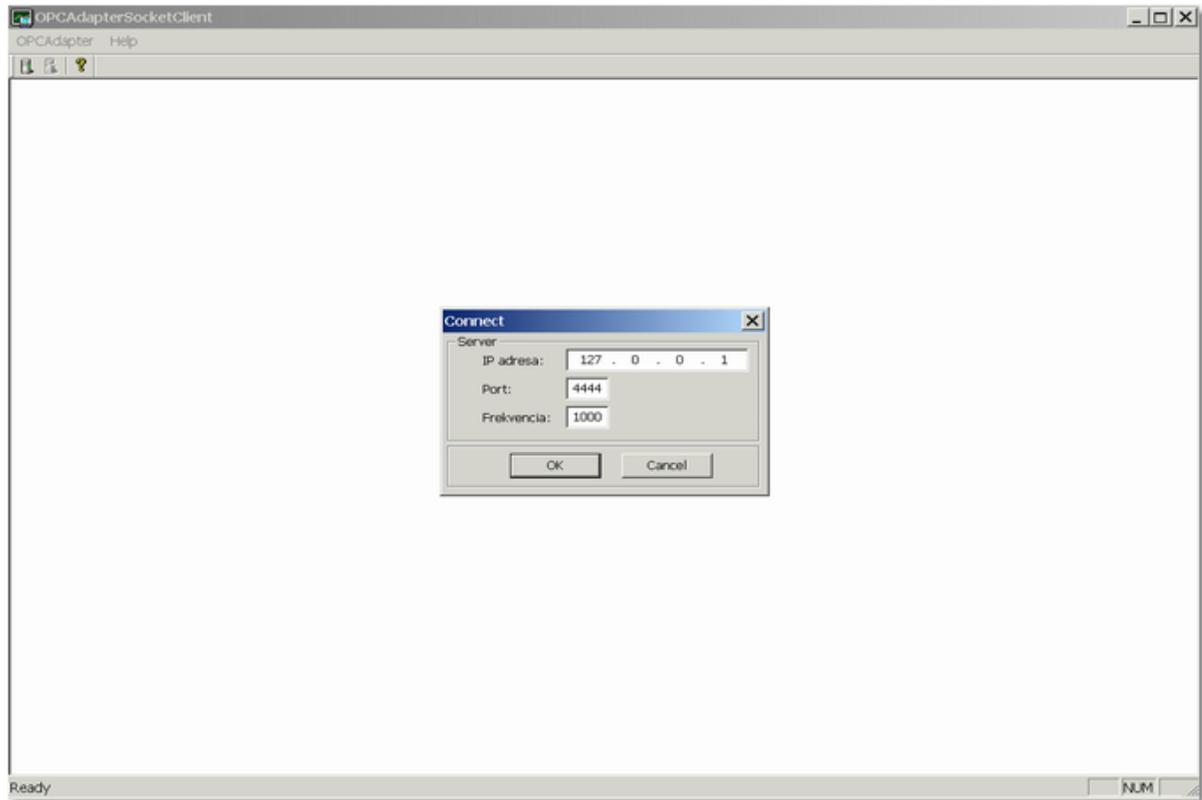


Obr. 50.: OPCAdapterSocketClient - simple application.

Odkazy na články:[OPCAdapterSocketClient](#)^[41][OPCAdapter ia accesible](#)^[45][OPCAdapter is accesible, but received answer has wrong format](#)^[46][OPCAdapter is not accesible](#)^[47]

4.3.1 First run of OPCAdapterSocketClient

Following picture shows user interface which will be shown after first run of the application **OPCAdapterSocketClient.exe**.



Obr. 51.: First run of application OPCAdapterSocketClient.

In front is dialog [Connect](#)^[54], which will be shown always before start communication.

After pushing button **OK**, client will try to establish [communication with server](#)^[54].

Reference to topics:

[Interpretation of receiving answer](#)^[54]

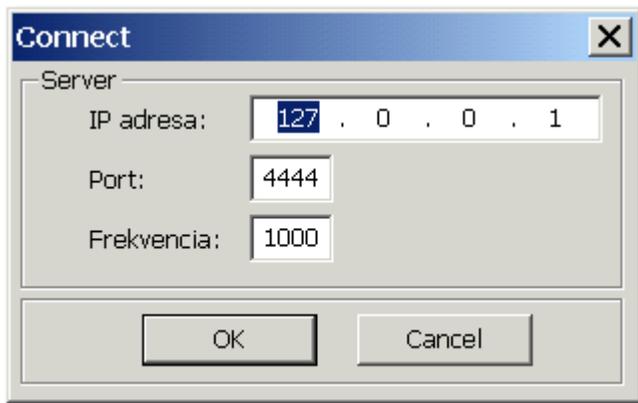
[OPCAdapterSocketClient](#)^[41]

[OPCAdapter ia accesible](#)^[45]

[OPCAdapter is accesible, but received answer has wrong format](#)^[46]

[OPCAdapter is not accesible](#)^[47]

4.3.1.1 Dialog Connect



Obr. 52.: Dialog Connect.

IP adresa

Expressly identify computer on which is running application **OPCAdapter**. Default value 127.0.0.1 is address of local machine.

Port

Number which defined location for reading messages from application **OPCAdapter**. Default value for [operation read](#)^[44] is 4444.

Frequency

It is time interval, on wich the request to the server will be send. Default value is 1000, what means 1000 miliseconds (1 second).

OK

After push the button, the client start the communication with server.

Cancel

After push the button the dialog will be cancel.

Reference to topics:

[Interpretation of receiving answer](#)^[54]

[OPCAdapterSocketClient](#)^[41]

[OPCAdapter ia accesible](#)^[45]

[OPCAdapter is accesible, but received answer has wrong format](#)^[46]

[OPCAdapter is not accesible](#)^[47]

4.3.1.2 Interpretation of receive message

Answer to the request is implemented by foolowing:

- [OPCAdapter is accesible](#)^[45],
- [OPCAdapter is accesible, but the message format is wrong](#)^[46],
- [OPCAdapter nie je dostupný](#)^[47].

Reference to topics:

[Interpretation of receiving answer](#)^[54]

[OPCAdapterSocketClient](#)^[41]

[OPCAdapter ia accesible](#)^[45]

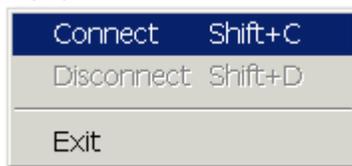
[OPCAdapter is accesible, but received answer has wrong format](#)^[46]

[OPCAdapter is not accesible](#)^[47]

4.3.2 Start of communication

Strat of communication is possible to make from main menu, or by mouse-click on the corresponding icon in the tool panel.

Menu



With mouse-click to item in the menu, or with shortcut key **OPCAdapter** ⇒ **Connect** (Shift+C).

Tool panel



After pushing one of the previous button the dialog [Connect](#)^[54] will be display.

Reference to topics:

[Dialog Connect](#)^[54]

[Stop of communication](#)^[55]

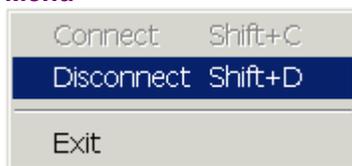
[About application OPCAdapterSocketClient](#)^[56]

[End of application](#)^[57]

4.3.3 Stop of communication

Communication disconnect is possible to make from main menu or by mouse-click on the icon in the tool panel.

Menu



By mouse-click on the item in the menu or with shortcut key **OPCAdapter** ⇒ **Disconnect** (Shift+D).

Tool panel



Reference to topics:

[Dialog Connect](#) ^[54]

[Stop of communication](#) ^[55]

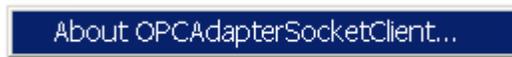
[About application OPCAdapterSocketClient](#) ^[56]

[End of application](#) ^[57]

4.3.4 About appliation OPCAdapterSocketClient

Information about application could be display from main menu or from tool panel.

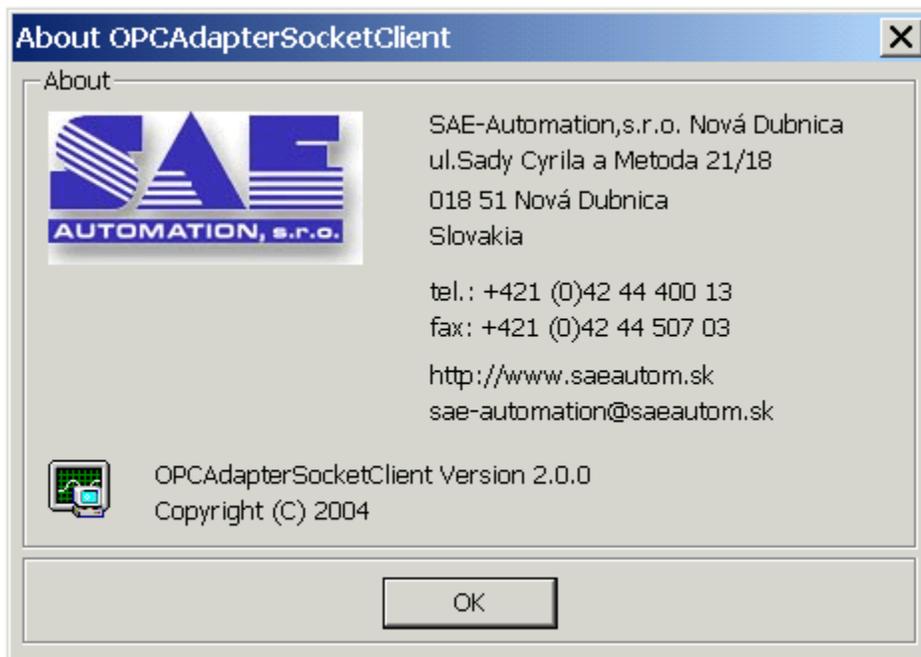
Menu



Tool panel



The following dialog with information will be display:



Obr. 53.: About application OPCAdapterSocketClient.

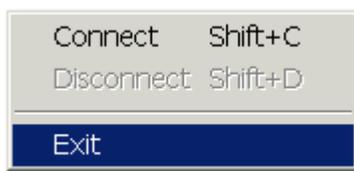
Reference to topic:

[OPCAdapterSocketClient](#)

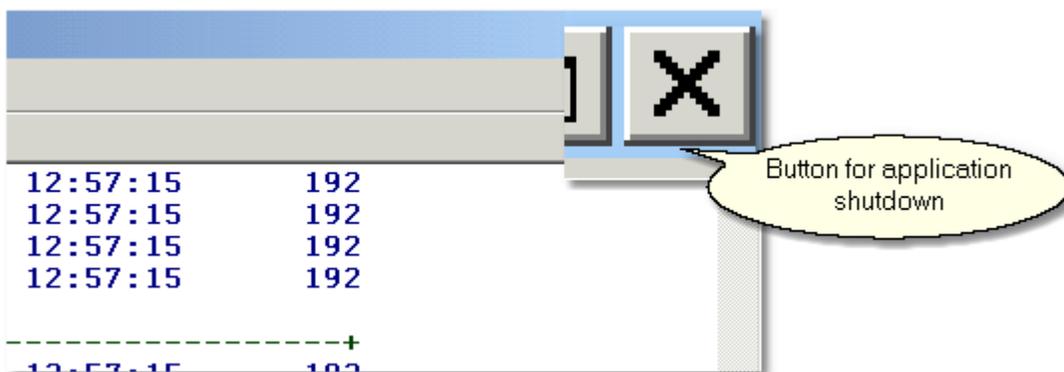
4.3.5 End of application

From main menu or with button for application shutdown, it is possible to finish work with the OPCAdapterSocketClient application.

Menu



Button for application shutdown



5 Final summary



Program package **OPCAdapter** from company [SAE-Automation s.r.o.](#) brings on the market new multi-use software, which provide simple, steady and executive process for data transfer between application, computers and alone platforms.

Utilize

Program package **OPCAdapter** was developed and implemented in regards to fulfillment following requirements:

- simplify access to OPC servers,

- enable data from OPC servers to outside world (computer and platform independence),

Helpful properties

- full-value OPC client (OPC Data Access 2.0),
- possibility of connection to several OPC servers in one time,
- display of actual values from OPC servers,
- graphical presentation of actual trends,
- accesible data from OPC server to outside world through TCP/IP.

6 Contact



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