

# **Configuring FactoryTalk Linx (aka RSLinx Enterprise) Communications**

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### **General Configuration Tasks**



- Add drivers if the desired communications path differs from the default options
- Add devices and device shortcuts when preparing for online communication with one or more controllers



## FactoryTalk Linx (aka RSLinx Enterprise) Swagelok

- A FactoryTalk-enabled communications server that is bundled with FactoryTalk View ME software. It links networks and devices.
  - FactoryTalk Linx, formerly called RSLinx Enterprise, is the preferred data server for Rockwell Automation FactoryTalk-enabled products.
    FactoryTalk Linx takes data from Rockwell Automation controllers.
    Through FactoryTalk services, it delivers data to FactoryTalkenabled applications via Live Data. Live Data is the communication protocol used in the FactoryTalk suite of software products.
  - The software is accessed from the Exployer window of an open application:





### **Other software features**



- Optimized for use with Rockwell Automation controllers:
  - Logix5000 family
  - Also supports legacy PLC-5 and SLC 500 products
- KepServer Enterprise drivers available for connections to third-party products
  - KepServer Enterprise is used to communicate with non-Rockwell Automation devices like Siemens or Modicon controllers. KepServer Enterprise does not require activation or licensing for FactoryTalk View ME.

### FactoryTalk Linx VS RSLinx Classic

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- FactoryTalk Linx
  - Collects runtime data for FactoryTalk View ME applications from a specific processor or controller
- RSLinx Classic Software
  - Provides the network connections necessary to upload and download logic files to processors or controllers
- Note: RSLinx Classic software and FactoryTalk Linx software cannot share the same driver

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### **Tags & Drivers**

### Tag

- An area of memory where data from devices, calculations, and other content is stored
- Driver
  - A software configuration that allows a computer tp access a specific type of external device, such as a PLC

### 🔗 Tags - /InstantFizz\_ME/ - C × Tag Close ATag1 Name: Type: Analog Prev Description: Next Minimum: 0 Scale: 1 New Maximum: Offset: 0 10000 Data Type: (Default) Data Source Help O Device Memory Type: Initial Value: 0 Retentive Tag Name Туре Description Search For: 1 ATag1 Analoc 2 AvailableRAM Analog 3 File Location String - 🛅 Progra 4 intensity Analog SBCP 5 PercentCompleteTag Analog 🚞 system 6 RemoteRAM bit Digital 7 RuntimeRAM Analog 8 StatusTan Analon





## **Types of HMI Configurations**



- Design Configuration
  - A communications path between a development computer running FactoryTalk View Studio software and the processor(s) controlling an application
    - It is for establishing the location of the tags/addresses for editing.
  - Creating a design configuration allows the users to test application from the development computer before downloading the application to a PanelView Plus Terminal
- Runtime Configuration
  - A communications path between a PanelView Plus terminal running FactoryTalk View ME Station software and the PLC controlling an application.

### **Configuring FactoryTalk Linx**



- 1. In the Explorer window, open the FactoryTalk Linx data server.
- 2. Double-click the Communication Setup editor.



### **Configuring FactoryTalk Linx**



- In a new application, the FactoryTalk Linx Configuration Wizard opens. Follow the instructions to create a new configuration or use an existing device configuration.
- Once you make a choice and click Finish, the Communication Setup editor opens.



### **Communication Setup editor**





### **Adding a Shortcut**





# Tag Browser after Communication is Configured



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Swagelok_PLC_Trainer	Name   A	Access Ri ReadWrite ReadWrite ReadWrite ReadWrite ReadWrite ReadWrite ReadWrite ReadWrite ReadWrite ReadWrite ReadWrite ReadWrite ReadWrite	Descriptic	~
Refresh All Folders Tag filter:	<none></none>			~
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Home area: /				