



GENESIS64

Drag & Drop Data Browser



APPLICATION NOTE

October 2015

Description: Guide to show how the new Drag & Drop Data Browser can be used to speed up Configuration and Display Creation.

Introduction

GENESIS64 version 10.90 has introduced a re-designed Data Browser which incorporates cutting edge drag & drop and search technology to decrease development time.

Workbench for Desktop

By default the Workbench for Desktop will have the Data Browser pinned to the right-pane of the layout, and will be accessible via the tabs underneath, as shown in Figure 1.

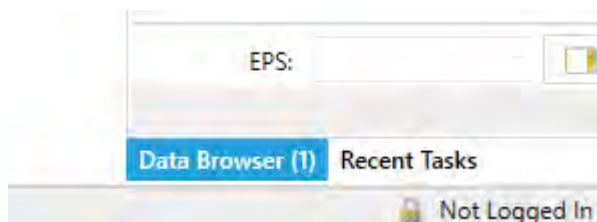


Figure 1 - Data Browser Tab

Inside the Data Browser the Favorites, Local Computer and Network is shown. Under each the different data types are split into their logical grouping. This allows for easy access based on the required function as shown in Figure 2.

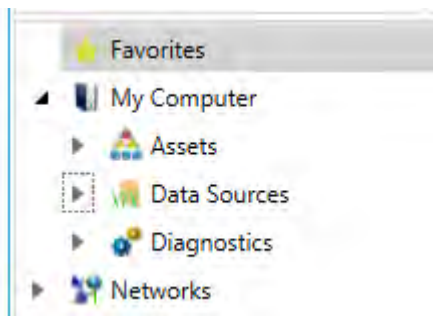


Figure 2 - Data Browser

When editing a configuration (such as an AlarmWorX64 Server tag), any elements which can receive input from the Drag and Drop Data Browser will be denoted with a tag symbol to the right of the field as shown in Figure 3.

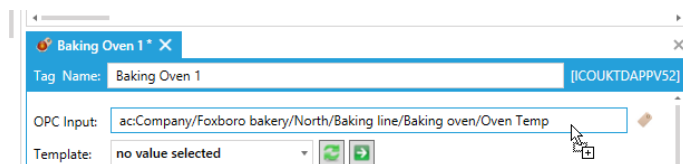


Figure 3 - Drag & Drop

The mouse cursor will change to include a plus symbol and the area will have a blue highlight around the edge to show that it is a valid drop target. The Data Browser will appear in the right-pane by default however the Data Browser context menu allows for the ability to undock and reposition it as shown in Figure 4.

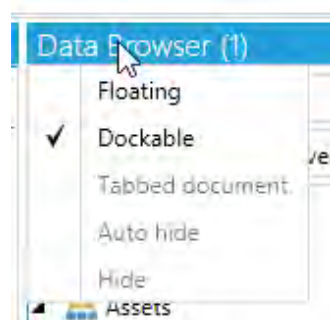


Figure 4 - Data Browser Context Menu

Multiple Data Browsers

By default the Workbench Desktop will open one Data Browser in the right-pane however it is possible to have up to four open concurrently, this allows for saving specific sections (e.g. a certain OPC server or Point Manager) in a Data Browser without impeding the need to configure other data sources.

The Workbench for Desktop ribbon has the option to turn off the Data Browser or show between one and four Data Browsers based on the users' preference as shown in the Tools Menu > Data Browsers option in Figure 5.

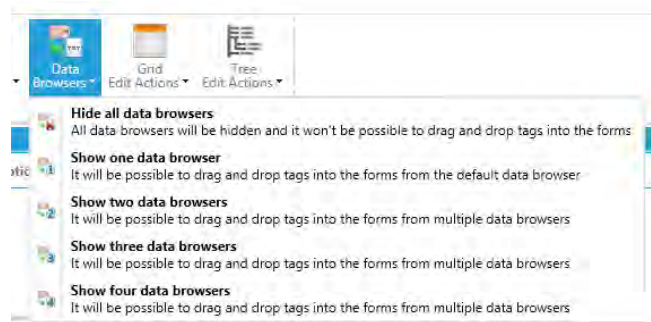


Figure 5 - Multiple Data Browsers



GENESIS64

Drag & Drop Data Browser



APPLICATION NOTE

October 2015

Search

At the top of the Data Browser is a text field where the user can enter a specific search string. The Data Browser will then search for that string and return any tags which match the specified criteria.

This allows for the easy and fast finding of specific tags, especially in configurations with thousands of tags. A process which would traditionally take much longer in an alphabetized list.

NOTE: The Global Search functionality needs to be turned on within Workbench Desktop under Platform Services > FrameWorX > Global Search Settings.

GraphWorX64

Similarly to the Workbench Desktop, GraphWorX64 will have the Data Browser opened and pinned in the left-pane by default. As with the other tabs in GraphWorX64 it can be moved, undocked or even turned off if desired.

Drag and Drop Targets

Like the Workbench for Desktop, GraphWorX64 will show a tag icon to denote a valid Drag and Drop target for the Data Browser. The icon will be inline within relevant properties in the Property Grid as shown in Figure 6.

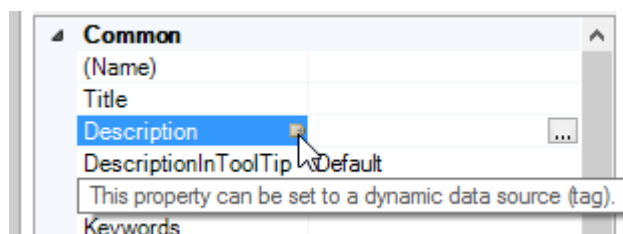


Figure 6 - GraphWorX64 Icon

Hovering over the icon with the mouse cursor will show a tooltip stating that a dynamic data source can be used within that property.

NOTE: GraphWorX64 can only support a single Data Browser at a time.

Classic Data Browser

Selecting the ellipses button will open the Classic Data Browser in a popup dialog. It will have the new layout and functionality as well as other tabs (including Global and Language Aliases).

Process Point Creation

The new Data Browser supports multi-select for the data sources using a keyboard modifier. Holding SHIFT will select all of the tags between the first and second selected tags whereas CTRL can be used to manually select individual tags.

While the tags are highlighted it is possible to drag and drop them onto a GraphWorX64 display to dynamically create a Uniform Grid which automatically arranges the Process Points into a logical group as shown in Figure 7.

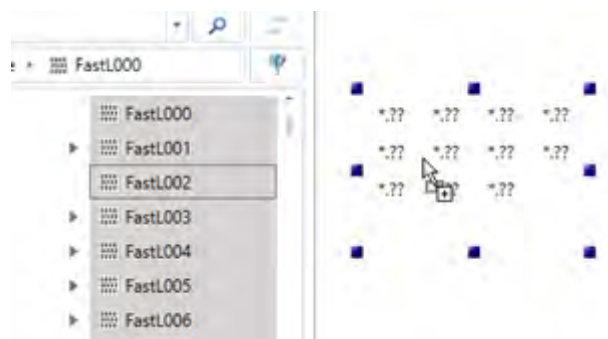


Figure 7 - PPT Creation

This can be used to quickly create screens to show debug information or allow for checking the values of lots of Data Sources without the need to use an external client or write a script.

Process Points and Data Entry Points

Process Points and Data Entry Points support the ability to drag and drop a data source directly onto the object on the canvas. Other items instead need the data source to be dropped onto the property within the Property Grid.

This is because these objects show Data Source values directly on the display.

Favorites and Root

Opening the Context Menu when selecting an item gives the ability to add the item to the Favorites branch or Pin as Root. Any number of items can be added as a favorite and pinning the item will make it the parent item in the tree as shown in Figure 8.

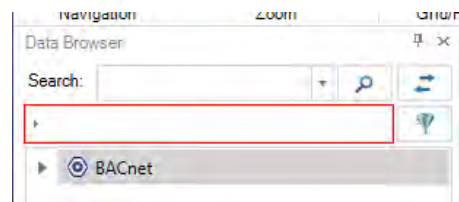


Figure 8 - Pinned as Root