GENESIS64
Using AssetWorX vs UDM

APPLICATION NOTE

October 2015

Description: Guide to the differences between AssetWorX and the Unified Data Manager.
General Requirement: Basic knowledge of AssetWorX and the Unified Data Manager.

Introduction

AssetWorX and the Unified Data Manager have a lot in common. They can both be used to aggregate, organize, and load balance tags. However, AssetWorX and Unified Data Manager work in slightly different ways.

This application note will instruct you in the differences between AssetWorX and the Unified Data Manager and when it's best to use AssetWorX assets or Unified Data Manager registers.

> **NOTE:** For more information on AssetWorX and the Unified Data Manager see the help documentation or the application notes entitled *AssetWorX – Quick Start* and *Unified Data Manager – Data Registers*.

AssetWorX Strengths

Organization

AssetWorX is excellent for organizing your OPC tags into structures that represent the real world. You can organize your assets by physical location and create "templates" (equipment classes) which can be used to quickly create multiple objects with the same structure.

The AssetWorX tree is also a lot more complex than the simple folder structure of the Unified Data Manager. In AssetWorX, an asset can have multiple properties, each of which is an OPC tag, and assets can have multiple children assets.

Commanding

Assets can be assigned commands to be executed on a right-click of the Asset Navigator or the Asset Tree. These commands can be used to quickly open displays and viewers to specific assets, write to tags, and much more.

> **NOTE:** See these application notes for more details: *AssetWorX – Navigator*, *GENESIS64 - Commanding Introduction*, and *GENESIS64 - Commanding Configuration and Runtime*.

AnalytiX

Assets are the backbone of the AnalytiX products, such as Energy AnalytiX and Facility AnalytiX. The AnalytiX products perform calculations based on the assets in AssetWorX.

Unified Data Manager Strengths

Simplicity

The structure of the Unified Data Manager is a simple folder structure. Folders are used to group registers. Folders themselves have very little (if any) configuration. If your tags do not exactly match real world structures it may be easier to organize them using the simple folder structure of the Unified Data Manager instead of the complex and powerful tree of AssetWorX.

Speed

Because of its simplicity, the Unified Data Manager's registers can handle tags at a faster scan rate than AssetWorX. If you need to aggregate and load balance thousands of tags that have 50-100 millisecond scan rates you will get much better performance from Unified Data Manager registers than AssetWorX assets.

Data Bridging

The Unified Data Manager has the ability to automatically bridge data between two OPC tags, copying changes from one tag into another. AssetWorX assets are not designed to do bridging.

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