



Description: Alarm Viewer Optimization App Note

OS Requirement: Win98, Me, NT, 2000, XP

General Requirement: This application note requires some knowledge of the Alarm Viewer and the Window Registry.

Limit and EventLimit

If you find that you have more alarms and messages in your alarm viewer than is supported then you can expand the message limit of the alarm viewer. Go to **Start, Run** and enter **Regedit** to bring up the Registry Editor, and find the following directory:

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\ICONICS\
AWXView32

Restrict the number of messages in the Alarm Viewer by adding these two DWORD Values to the registry:

Limit - total number of messages allowed

EventLimit - total number of event messages allowed.

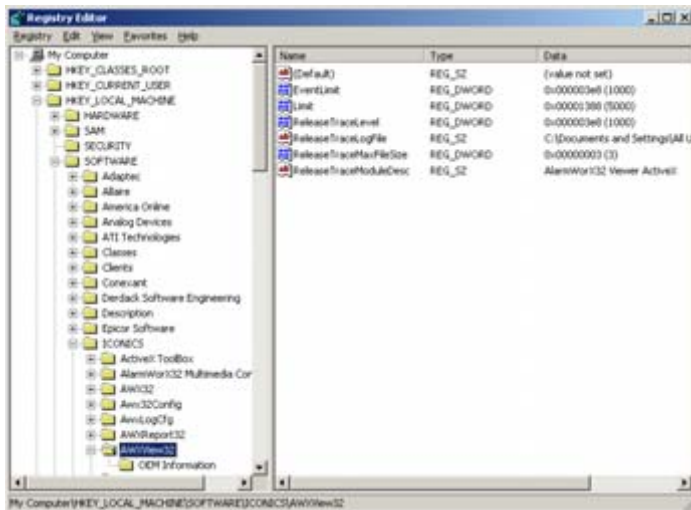


Figure 1. Alarm Viewer registry settings

The **Limit** is the total number of messages that can be contained in the Alarm Viewer at any one time. If this limit is reached, then you will see an error message, indicating that you must acknowledge some message to make more space, or increase the Limit value. Alarm messages will not be automatically removed to make room for new alarm messages.

The **EventLimit** is the limit on the total number of event messages that are allowed in the Alarm Viewer. If the number of event messages exceeds this amount then old event messages will be discarded to make room for the new ones. The EventLimit should be set less than the Limit to save space for alarm messages.

Optimization and Troubleshooting

Here are some useful tips for configuring the Alarm Viewer to run faster and more reliable:

- 1) Do not use Alarm Viewer filters. It is much better to edit the Alarm Server subscription to eliminate alarm messages that you are not interested in. The Alarm Viewer filter does not prevent alarm and event messages from being processed, they are just not displayed. Alarm Viewer operations are much faster if fewer alarms are received from the Alarm Server. Also, all messages (filtered or not) count against the Limit and EventLimit.
- 2) Delete or modify your GenEvent subscription if you are seeing many events in your Alarm Viewer that you are not interested in. You can change the Severity range in the Types tab, or change the Categories to which you are subscribed, or just delete the GenEvent subscription.
- 3) Decrease the EventLimit so that fewer event messages are retained in the Alarm Viewer. This creates more space for alarm messages, and decreases the chance that you will hit the Limit value.
- 4) Adjust the Limit value. Increase the Limit registry value if you run into the limit and get an error message indicating that the Alarm Viewer Message Limit was exceeded. This will allow your alarm viewer to hold more messages.
- 5) Edit your Alarm Server subscription. The subscription tab in the Alarm Viewer allows you to configure Types, Categories, Areas, Sources, and Attributes. To use up less memory and to stop processing messages that are not of interest you should use these settings to fine-tune your subscription. Eliminate any unwanted messages and attributes if possible, but be sure not to leave out information that you need to see in the Alarm Viewer.