

Description: Guide to running multimedia agents on remote computers instead of on the multimedia server.

OS Requirement: Win 2000 Pro/Server, XP Pro, Server 2003, Vista, Server 2008, Windows 7

General Requirement: AlarmWorX32 Multimedia installation on a server, Multimedia agent(s) installation on remote client(s), and general knowledge of AlarmWorX32 Multimedia and GenBroker.

Introduction

There are cases when an alarm notification needs to go out to machines other than the AlarmWorX32 Multimedia server. For example, playing a sound file or popping up a window on a different machine where operators are located is much more useful than having these alarm notifications on a locked up server machine. This document will describe the requirements and general setup necessary for such system configurations.

Multimedia Server Machine Setup

Since the system configuration includes two parts: the multimedia server and the client machines on which the agents will run, we will talk about these parts separately.

First, on the server machine, you will need to install either the Professional or the Standard Multimedia version. Once you have installed the AlarmWorX32 Multimedia software, you will need to configure your agents so that they know to go to your remote machines.

1. Open the AlarmWorX32 Multimedia configurator and browse to the particular agent configuration
2. In the Node section, type in or browse for the remote computer name or IP address.

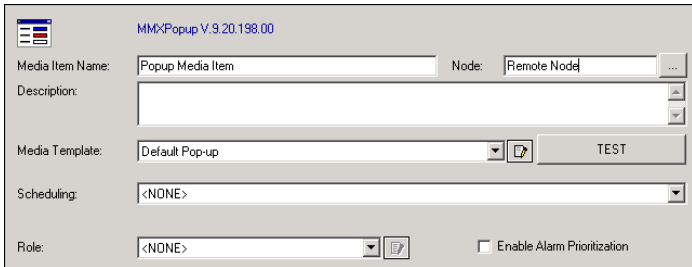


Figure 1 - Agent Property in AlarmWorX32 Multimedia Configurator

- NOTE:** If you want the alarm notification to stay on the server machine, leave the Node section blank. You do NOT want to put in the local computer name or IP address.
3. Once you have configured the agents, you will need to configure GenBroker. The remote client agents will try to

- call back the Multimedia server, which is similar to DA writes. Because of this, the Multimedia server will need to receive data.
4. If you are using the default GenBroker configuration, you have no further configuration. However, if you are using your own GenBroker configuration, you will need to make sure that the remote clients are listed under your OPC over TCP/IP Direct Channel. This channel for the most case should be your default communication channel.

NOTE: Since GenBroker are usually configured on the computer that receives data, you will need to do the same thing on the remote computer. If you need more information on GenBroker, please refer to the application note entitled *GenBroker - Which Communications Channel is Right for You*.

Remote Agent Machine Setup

Once you have setup the AlarmWorX32 Multimedia server machine, you should setup your client machine(s). First, you will need to **install the agents that you want to play the alarm notification**. You do not need to install the full AlarmWorX32 Multimedia on the machine, but all desired agent(s) must be installed. To install the agent(s), simply run the AlarmWorX32 Multimedia installation as usual. When you reach a screen that allows you to choose which version of multimedia to install, select the “Multimedia Agents Installation (Custom)” option.

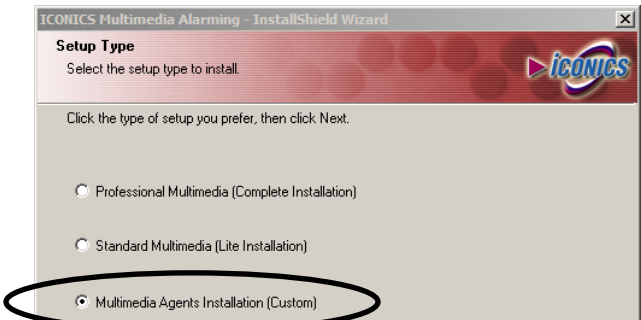


Figure 2 - Installation Type

You will then enter a screen that allows you to choose which component to install; select only the desired agents. Regardless of the type of multimedia installation you choose, the installation will install ICONICS Tools on the machine, which contains GenBroker.

As mentioned earlier, we will need to configure GenBroker on each of the client machines. Again, if you are using the default GenBroker configuration, then you can leave the configuration as-is. However, if you are using a special GenBroker configuration, make sure that the AlarmWorX32 Multimedia server machine is listed under the OPC over TCP/IP Direct



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Channel, which should be your default communication channel for the most part.

Since the agent client machines do send data to the Multimedia server, you will need to start the GenBroker service on each of your client machines.

Testing Your Setup

Now that you have finish setting up your client and server machines, you should be able to run a test. However, before you run any tests, we recommend that you check and make sure that the connection between the remote machines and AlarmWorX32 Multimedia Server is good.

Since the machines communicate through GenBroker, we can do a GenBroker ping from the client machine.

1. Start OPC DataSpy from Start → Programs → ICONICS Tools → OPC DataSpy.
2. Go to Tools → Ping...
3. In the Dialog that pops-up, enter the AlarmWorX32 Multimedia Server name or IP and click on OK
4. You should receive a message on the bottom of the OPC DataSpy window that tells you if the GenBroker King was successful.
5. If the ping is successful, you are ready to test the remote agent; otherwise, you will need to troubleshoot GenBroker communication first.

NOTE: If you are not able to successfully run a GenBroker ping, check that no firewall is blocking it and that port 38080 (default GenBroker port) is open for bi-directional communication on both the server and client machines.

6. If the GenBroker ping was successful, you can try using the “Test” button in the multimedia configurator to test the agent.
7. The agent of choice should respond on the remote client after a few seconds.

NOTE: Running Phone, IP Marquee (Hardware marquee), Fax, Skype, or Video Agent will require client units, thus an additional license is required on the remote node (or from license server).