

Tech Note 2

Setup Standard Test Cases using Validate Script Wizard – Alarm & Events

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Introduction

Using scripting to setup standard test cases has several advantages. First and foremost, it is a prerequisite to setting up a fully automatic testing and report notification procedure. In the least, it simplifies the steps necessary to configure the OPC server before testing begins. The Validate Script Wizard allows users to select the type of test case tree to be generated, the interfaces that will be tested, and other tedious configuration parameters. The wizard will generate a script based on user selection and show it the Script view. The basic script created by the wizard may then be modified to generate a truly customized testing procedure. The main role of the Validate Script Wizard is to generate a setup script that connects OPC server and its data, and then configures the test case parameters. Once the basic script is generated, it may be used as-is, or it may be modified to fully automate testing, generate reports, and notify developers of the test results.

Platform Requirements

Visual OPCTest® Client 8.0.0000 or later.

Examples used in this Tech Note are based on the OPC Foundation sample servers. In order to successfully follow all the procedures outlined in this Tech Note, please download the OPC Foundation's Alarm & Events sample server and the latest Visual OPCTest Client application. If the OPC Foundation sample server is not available, please substitute with another Alarm & Events server. The substitution of server definition in the sample code should be self-explanatory.

Basic Steps

There are two basic steps in using the Validate Script Wizard: (1) Connect to the OPC Alarm & Events Server and (2) Follow Wizard Steps. Once connection to the server is established, Validate Script Wizard may be executed against the selected OPC server. Wizard will allow the user to perform server specific tasks, such as selecting testing options and selecting interfaces to test.

Step 1 - Connect to the OPC Alarm & Events Server

Run the Client and select *Server | Connect to Server* main menu item. *OPC Server List* dialog will appear. For simplicity, select "OPC Alarm and Event Server Version 1.0" under LOCAL/ComputerName branch, then select "OPCFoundation.OPCEventServer.1" server. Click on the *Connect Server* button, then on the *Close* button. Of course, you may select a different server on either local or remote computer. Once we successfully connect to this server, there should be a server listed in the Workspace View with an entry such as "AE1\\LOCAL\OPCFoundation.OPCEventServer.1" (this entry will be different based on your server location and name).

Step 2 – Run Validate Script Wizard

Right-click on "AE1\\LOCAL\OPCFoundation.OPCEventServer.1" in the Workspace View, and select *Validate Script Wizard* from the popup menu.

The “Test Type Selection” wizard screen appears; keep default settings and click the *Next* button. Normally, we accept the default settings, as they allow the execution of standard and custom test cases under one test case tree.

The “Interface Test Selection” screen appears next. These options are useful when disabling interfaces not implemented by the server or interfaces that have not yet been implemented during development cycle. By deselecting the interface entry, wizard will add code to the script to disable test cases for that interface. Select interfaces of interest, disable others, and click on the *Next* button.

The “Finish – Generate Script” wizard screen appears last. Accept the defaults and click on the *Finish* button. Our wizard-generated script appears in the Script view. Save the script before continuing. Select from the main menu *File | Save As Script*, type the filename, and click on the *Save* button.

Testing the Wizard Generated Script

To test the wizard generated script; save it first, then select *Script | Run Script* from the main menu. If no errors are found in the script, and server connection was established along with event subscription object, then the script is ready for further modification. If the Wizard generated script is used as-is, run the script then right-click on the server entry “Validate AE1\\LOCAL\OPCFoundation.OPCEventServer.1” in the *Validate* screen, then select *Execute All Test Cases* from the popup menu.

Analyzing Wizard Generated Script

Variable definitions used in the script, most of scripting functions require handle to the server and subscription

```
DIM AEServerID
DIM SubID
```

Disconnect from all OPC server before running our test and wait 2 seconds before doing anything else

```
OPC.DisconnectAllServers
OPC.Wait 2000
```

Set up flags so we do not stop script execution when test case status is set to fail or warning,

Also, none of the logical test cases will be enabled

```
OPC.StopExecutionOnFail FALSE
OPC.StopExecutionOnWarning FALSE
OPC.EnableLogicalOnStartup FALSE
```

Connect to the server that will be tested. If the returned AEServerID handle is 0, then we did not connect to the server Please refer to on-line help for description of script function parameters.

The function parameters may be different if your server is located on a networked computer.

```
AEServerID = OPC.ConnectAEServer("OPCFoundation.OPCEventServer.1",
FALSE, "ALL", "")
```

```
if AEServerID=0 then Exit Sub
```

Once the A&E server is connected, we can setup the standard test case tree

```
OPC.SetupAETestCases AEServerID
```

This is how you disable all the test cases for a given interface. Interfaces are enabled by default Selection from the “Interface Test Selection” wizard screen

```
OPC.DisableInterface AEServerID, "IOPCSecurityNT"
OPC.DisableInterface AEServerID, "IOPCSecurityPrivate"
```

Create event subscription to receive alarm and event notifications. Subscription is created active by default

```
SubID = OPC.CreateSubscription( AEServerID, TRUE, 0, 0 )
```

Conclusion

Running the Validate Script Wizard generates a basic script for setting up OPC server data. Once the server is connected and all the data is configured, such as event subscription, then the test case tree is created. Subsequently, test cases may be executed manually using the application's main menu. However, a fully automatic test execution and data collection may be achieved by modifying and extending the Wizard generated script.

Contact

Contact Terravic with any questions regarding Visual OPCTest Client. Please let us know your concerns, desired improvements, or current issues with our software. We pride ourselves in making changes quickly based on your input. Please contact us at [support @ terravic.com](mailto:support@terravic.com).

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