New features in ibaPDA v6.29.0

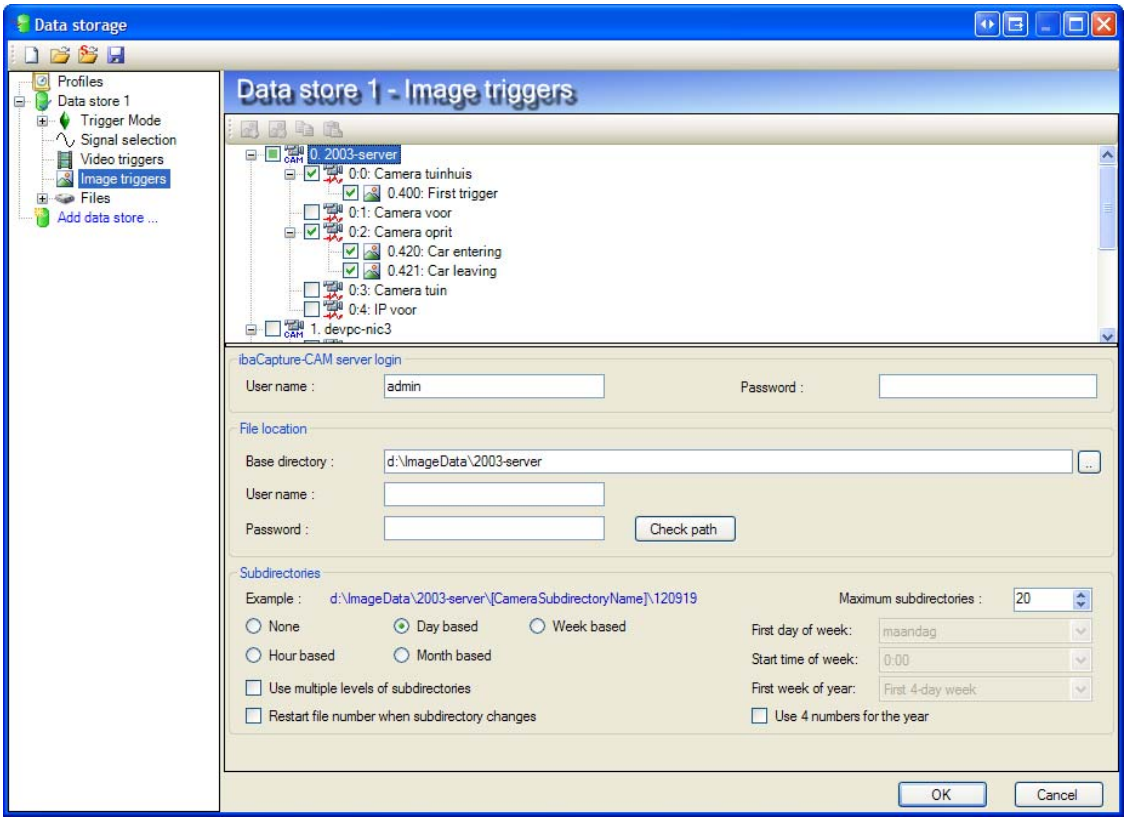
1 ibaCapture-CAM : Image trigger feature

Image triggers allow you to save snapshots from a video stream at specific moments. The image triggers are defined in the data store configuration. The “Image triggers” node will be available when there are ibaCapture-CAM modules in the I/O configuration.

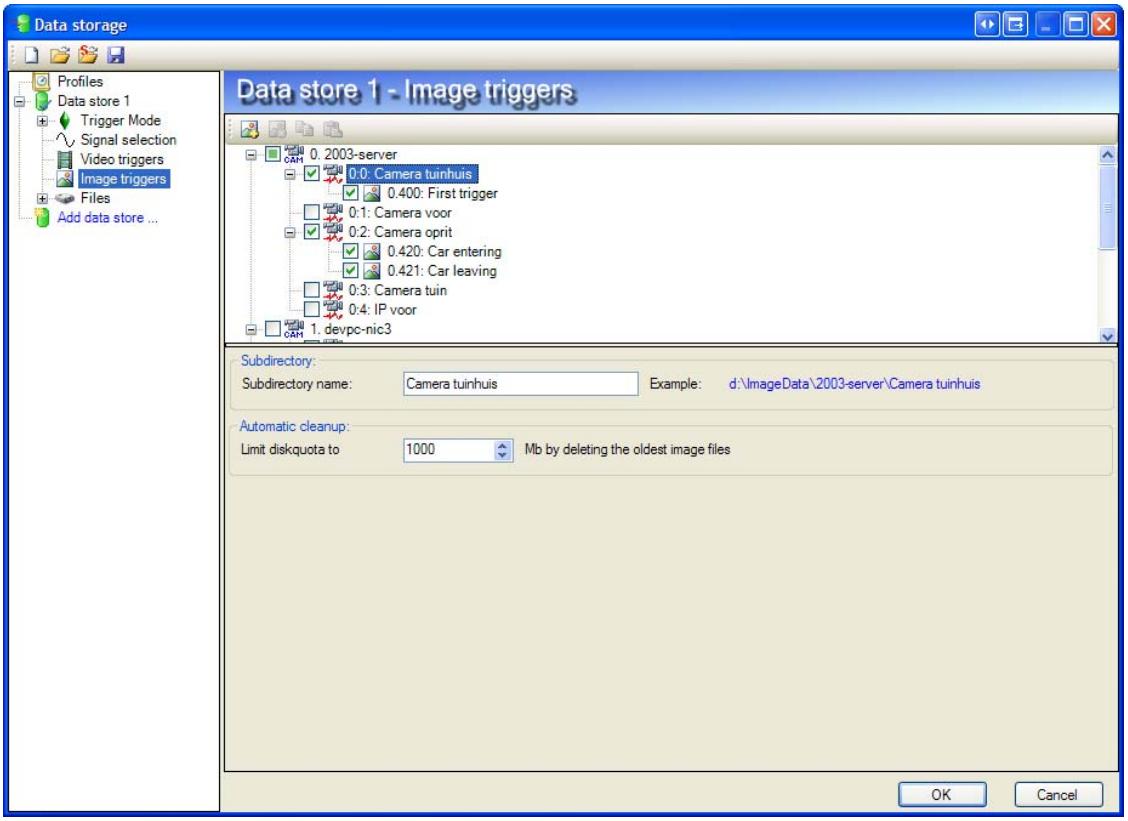
The tree shows all video servers and the active cameras connected to them. You can add a video trigger to a camera by selecting the camera in the tree and clicking the "Add" button in the tool bar or using the context menu (right click on camera).

By setting / removing a checkmark you can enable / disable an image trigger. A camera can have up to 10 image triggers.

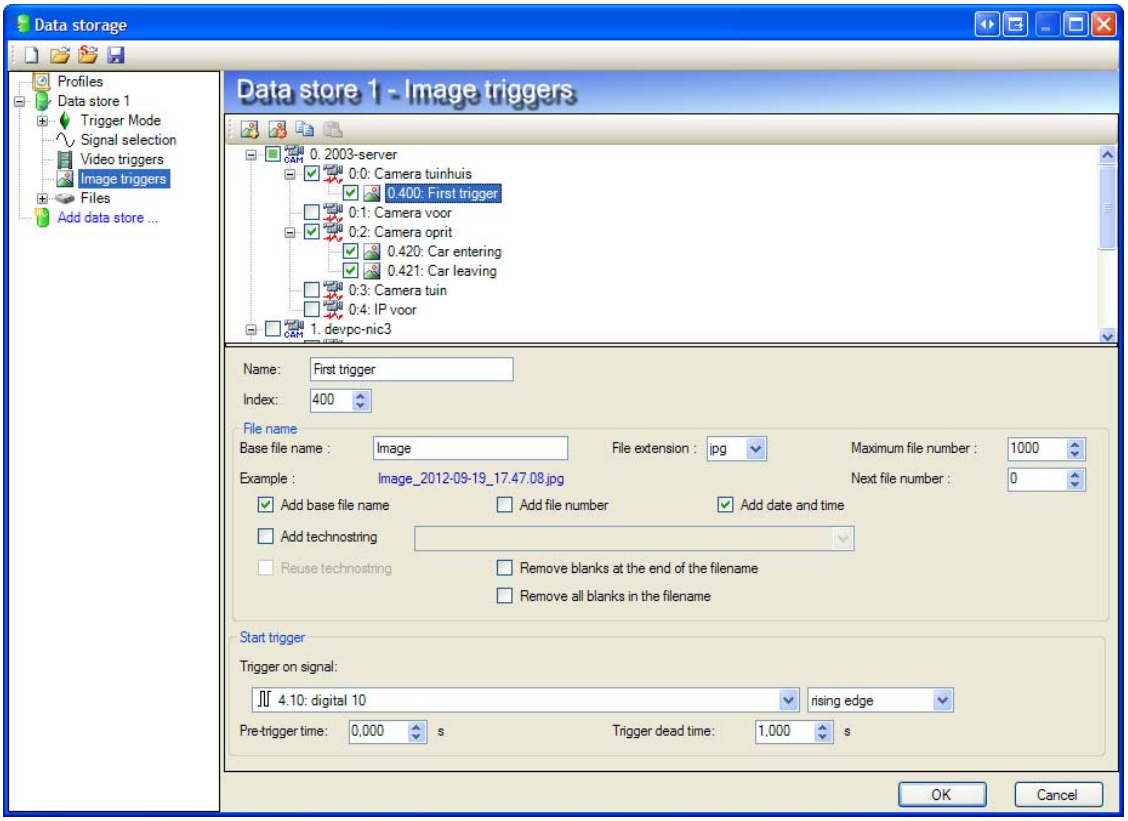
The image trigger configuration is set up at three levels: video server, camera and trigger level itself.



On the video server level you can specify the base directory and the subdirectory structure which will be created under the camera’s base directory. This is very similar to the data store DAT file directory setup. You can also specify the user account used to logon to the video server.



On the camera level you can specify the subdirectory name for the camera and the disk quota. The disk quota is like the disk quota of the data store only checked every 15 minutes. So you should set the limit to the maximum value you want minus the approximate amount of data that is generated within 15 minutes.



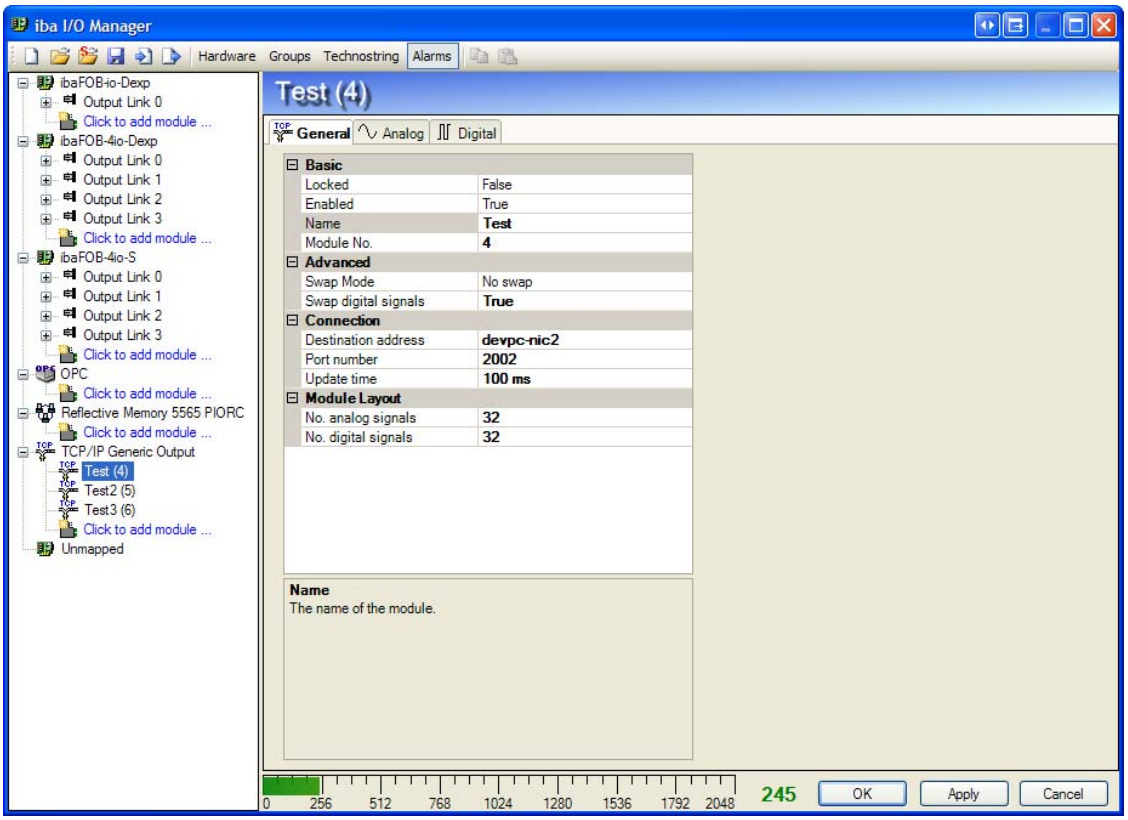
On the trigger level you can change the name of trigger and set its index. The trigger index defines the order of the triggers for one camera. You can specify how the image file name will be generated. The filename options are the same as the options you have for the standard dat file.

The start trigger determines when the snapshot will be taken. You can trigger on the edge of a digital signal or on a level crossing of an analog signal. It is possible to set a pre-trigger time. The snapshot will be taken at the trigger timestamp minus the pre-trigger time. The trigger dead time determines the minimum amount of time between two images.

The image triggers are also saved in the dat file as image channels. An image channel contains the file names of the generated images. A future ibaAnalyzer will then be able to show the generated images.

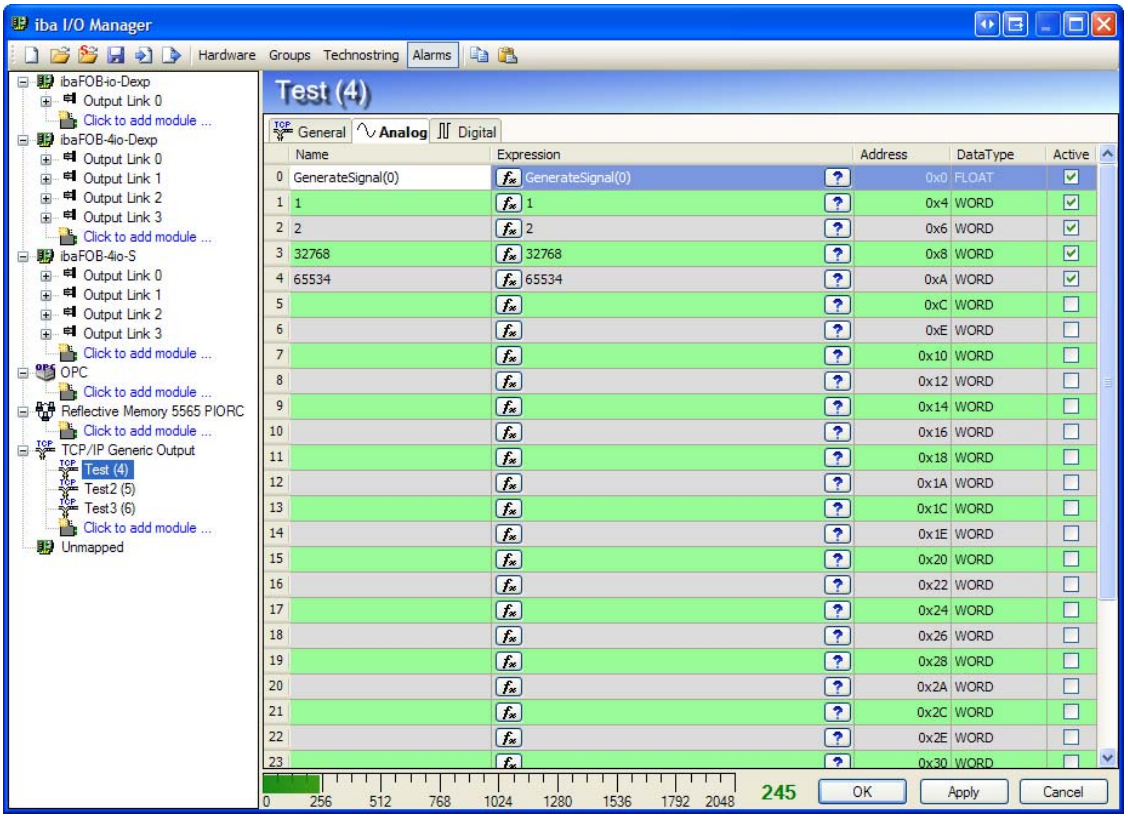
2 Generic TCP/IP output interface

This new interface allows pda to send out values via TCP/IP. It uses the same license as the generic TCP/IP interface. Each module you add to the TCP/IP generic output interface corresponds with one TCP/IP connection.



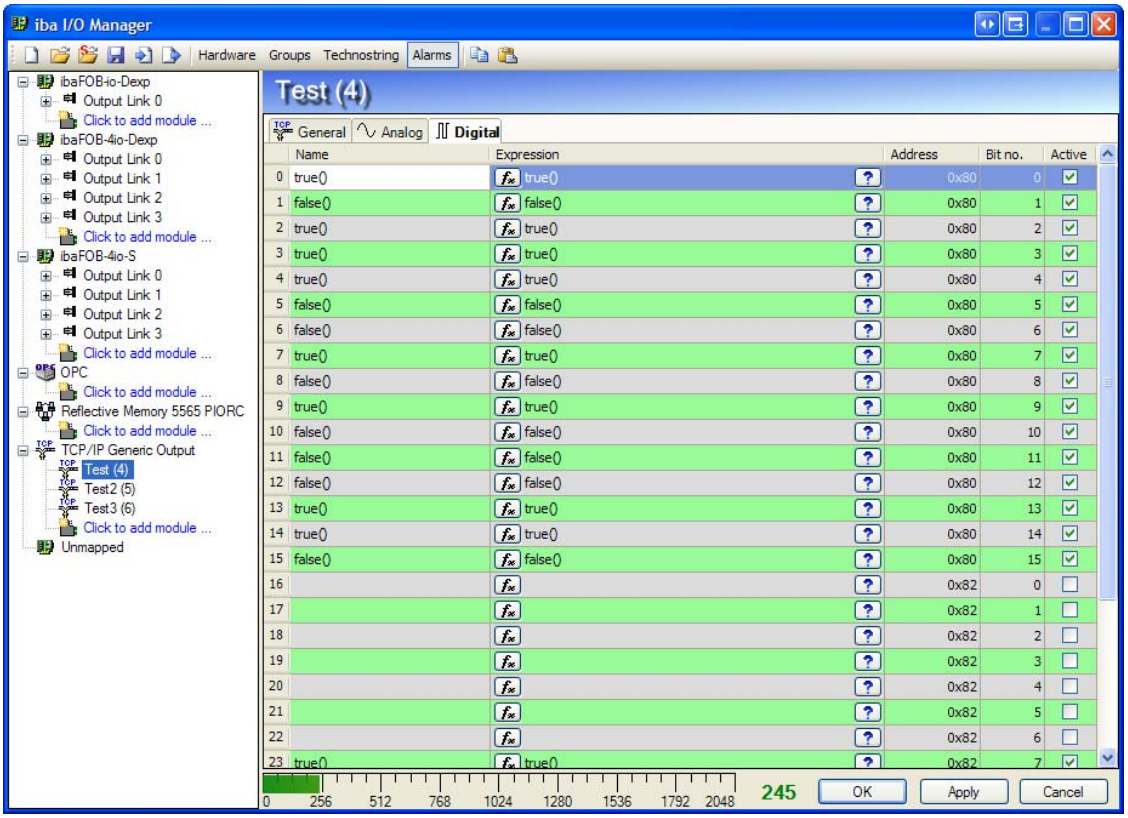
You have to set the destination address and port number you want to connect to. The update time determines how fast pda will send messages. If the update time is set to 0 then pda will send the message as soon as it receives the data. Like for all output modules pda can only generate data every 50ms or slower if there are modules with a slower timebase.

You can change the number of analog and digital signals. The swap mode can also be changed in case the other side of the connection expects a different byte order than little-endian. The digital signals are packed in 16 bit integers. These integers are also swapped when the “Swap digital signals” property is set.



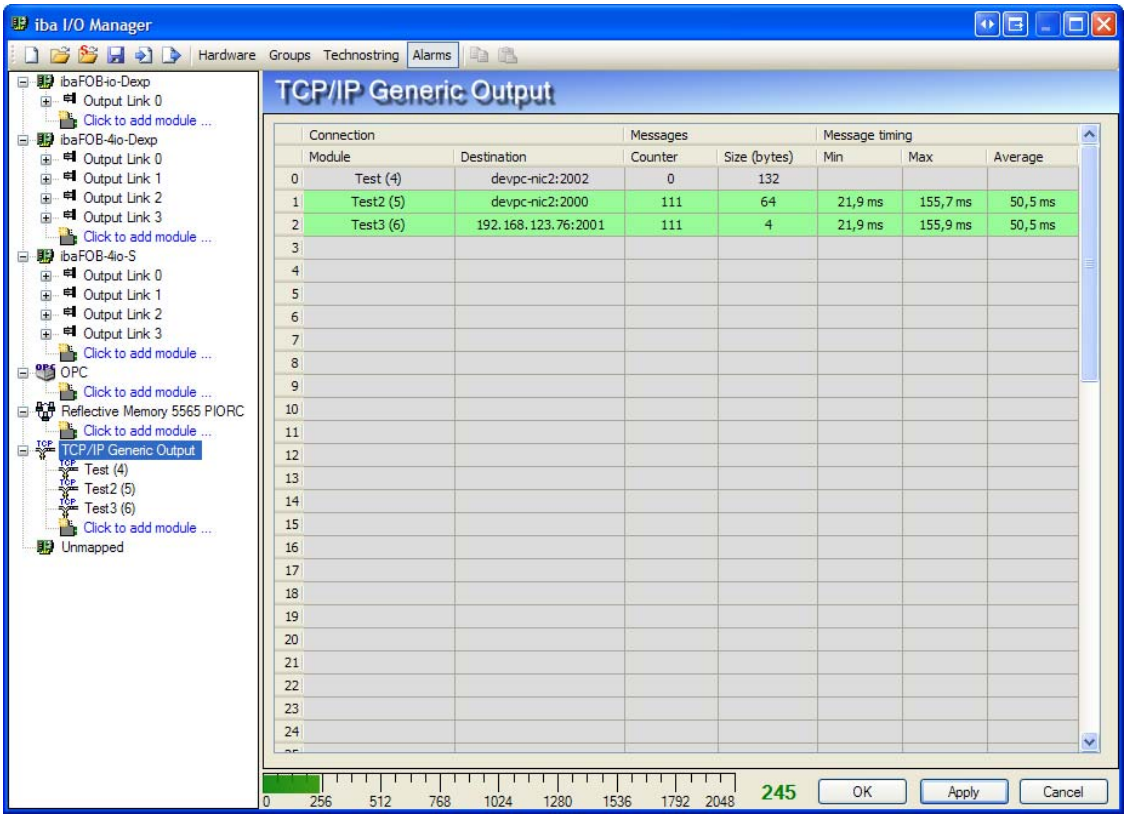
Each analog signal has these properties:

- Name: This is the signal name. It is only used for information.
- Expression: This determines the data that will be generated for the signal.
- Address: This is the address within the TCP message where the data for this signal will be written.
- DataType: This is the datatype of the signal. The possible datatypes are BYTE, INT, WORD, DINT, DWORD and FLOAT.
- Active: If the signal is active then the data generated by the expression will be written to the TCP message. If the signal is inactive then zero will be written to the TCP message.



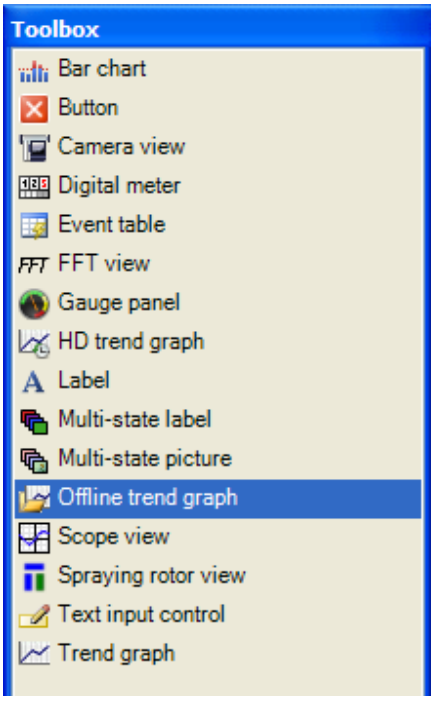
Each digital signal has these properties:

- Name: This is the signal name. It is only used for information.
- Expression: This determines the data that will be generated for the signal.
- Address: This is the address within the TCP message where the data for this signal will be written.
- Bit no: This is the bit within the 16 bit integer that will be written. The bit number goes from 0 to 15.
- Active: If the signal is active then the data generated by the expression will be written to the TCP message. If the signal is inactive then zero will be written to the TCP message.

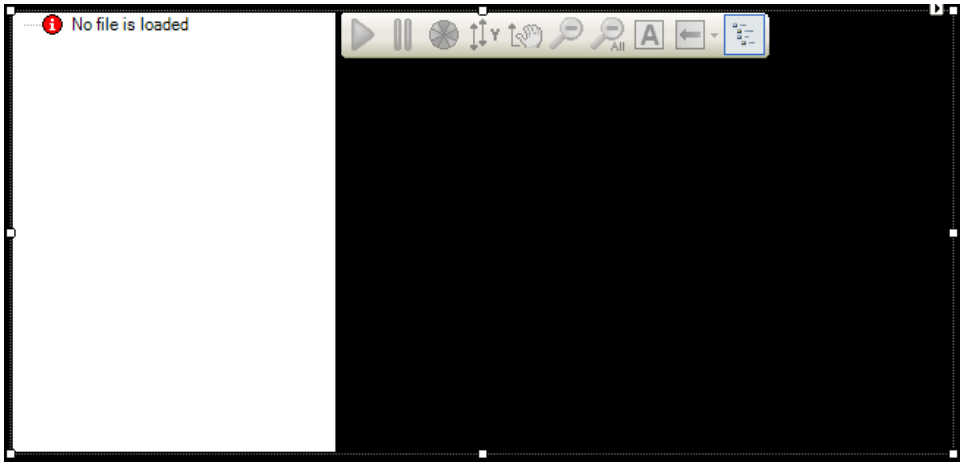


When you select the interface in the tree then you get a table with diagnostic values about the configured connections. Each row corresponds to a connection/module. A row is green if the connection is established and it is gray when the connection is broken. The module column shows which module corresponds with the row. The destination shows the address and port number of the other side of the connection. The message counter shows how many messages have been sent successfully. The size shows the size in bytes of each message. The message size is determined by the maximum offset of all signals configured in the module. The message timing columns show the time between 2 messages. You can see the minimum, maximum and average time. The average time is taken over 100 messages.

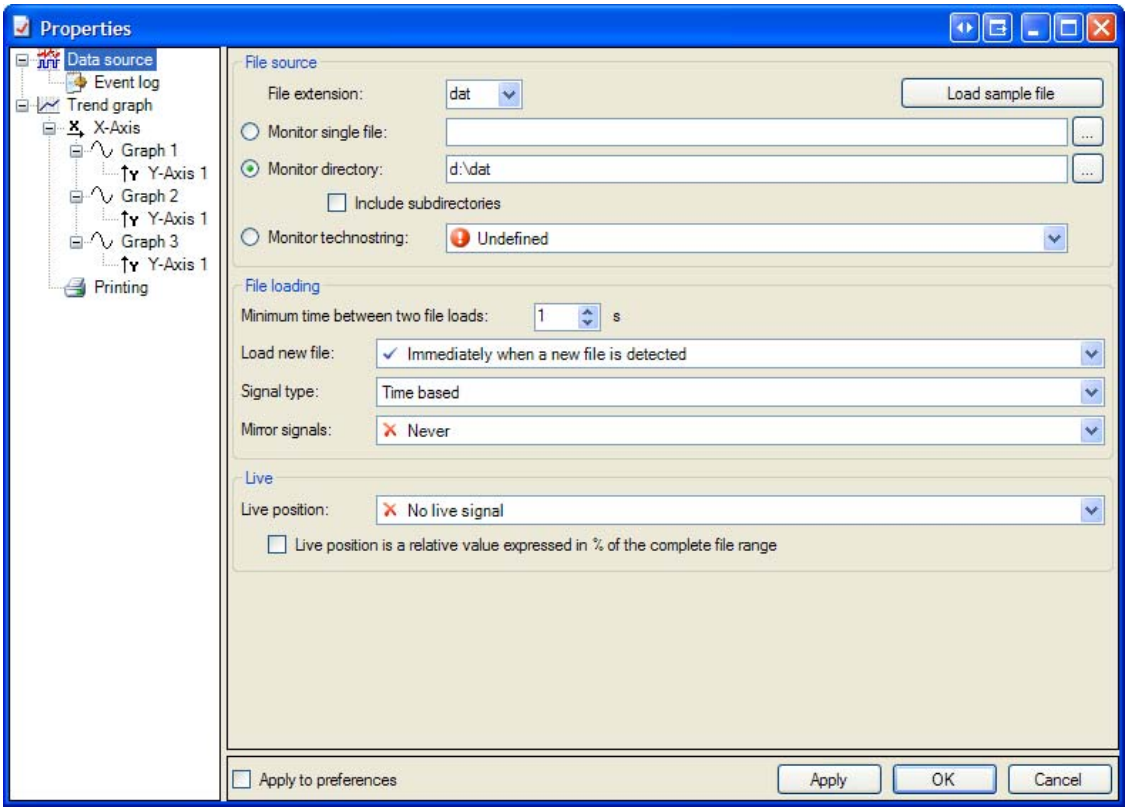
3 Offline trend view



In QPanel there is a new control called the offline trend graph. It behaves like the normal trend graph but the data is coming from a dat file.



The control itself has 2 parts. On the left there is a signal tree that shows the signals from the currently loaded file. On the right there is a trend graph. The visibility of the signal tree can be changed via the context menu of the signal tree, via the context menu of the trend graph and via a button on the trend graph toolbar.

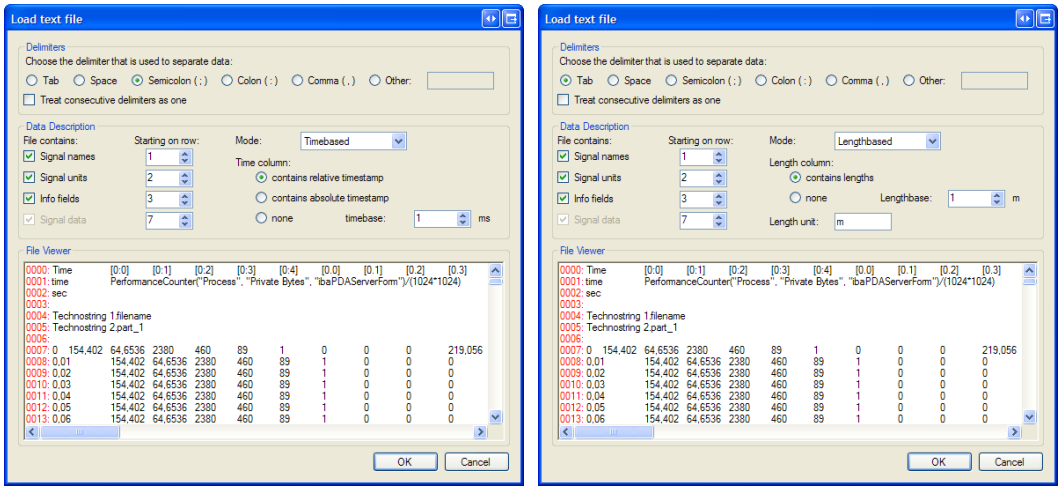


Initially there is no file loaded so we have to configure which file to load. Open the properties of the offline trend graph via the context menu. The first node is the data source node. There are three sections: file source, file loading and live.

In the file source section you first have to decide what file types you want to load. The offline trend graph supports iba dat files and text files. In the rest of the section you can select how the trend graph determines the next file to load. There are 3 options:

- Monitor single file: In this mode the trend graph reloads the same file each time its contents are changed.
- Monitor directory: In this mode the trend graph will load the most recent file within a directory and optionally its subdirectories.
- Monitor technostring: In this mode the trend graph receives the complete file path from a technostring. Each time the technostring changes the trend graph will try to load the file.

There is also a button to load a sample file immediately. If you have selected a text file then the text file settings form will open. Here you can specify how a text file should be parsed.

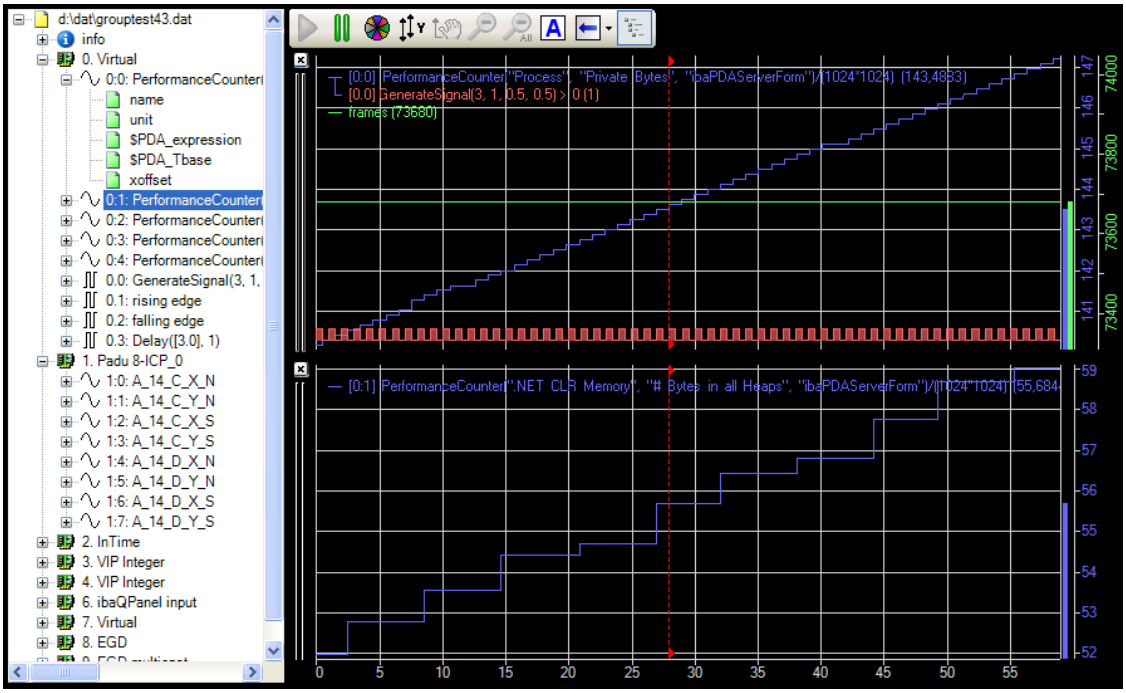


This form shows you the first 1000 lines of the file in the file viewer section. The line numbers are shown in red. The first thing you have to select is the delimiter. In the data description section you can determine the row for signal names, signal units and info fields. You also have to specify on which row the data begins. Via the mode setting you can decide if the text file contains timebased or lengthbased data. If it contains timebased data then you can select if there is a time column or not. Two types of time are supported: relative time (in seconds) and absolute time (in the format used by the ibaAnalyzer export = day/month/year hour:minute:seconds.microseconds). If there is no time column then you have to set the timebase manually. In length mode you have to set if there is a length column or not. If there is no length column then you have to specify the length base. You can also set the length unit.

Back in in the file loading section of the datasource form you can determine when and how the newly found file is opened. First of all there is a minimum time between two file loads. The minimum time is 1s in order not to overload the PC. The new file can be loaded immediately or it can be loaded only when a rising edge on a digital trigger signal occurs. Next you have to select if you want to load time-based or length-based signals from the file. The signal data can be mirrored. You can never mirror, always mirror or let it determine by a digital signal. The trigger and mirror digital signals are signals coming from pda so NOT from the loaded dat file.

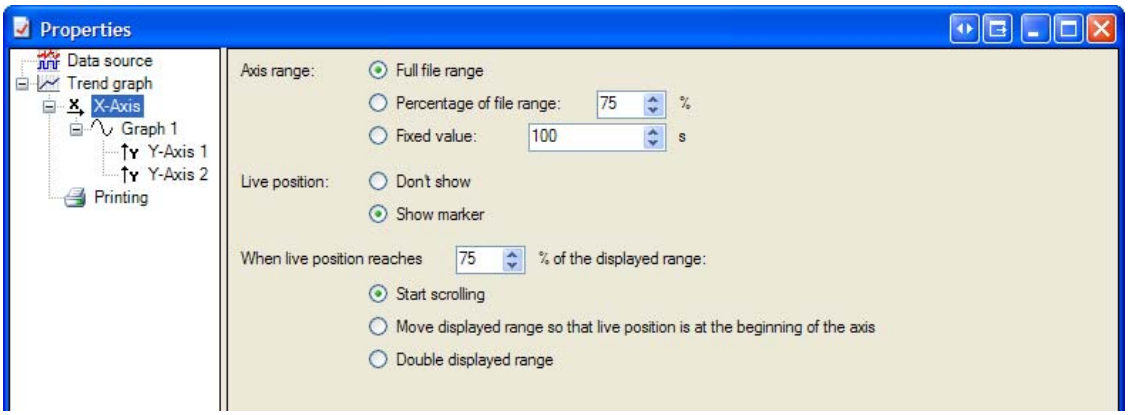
In the live section you can configure a live position signal. This signal comes from pda and it allows you to display a live positon marker on the trend graph. There are 2 modes for the signal:

- Absolute mode: The live position signal value determines the absolute position on the X-axis expressed in seconds for time-based signals and m (or the length unit from the file) for length-based signals.
- Relative mode: The live position signal value is expressed in a percentage of the complete file range. So its value has to go from 0% to 100%.



The screenshot above shows the offline trend graph in action. You can see the loaded dat file on the left. The tree contains the global infofields and all the signals with their infofields. You can doubleclick a signal or an infofield to add it to the trend graph. You can also drag & drop from the tree to the trend graph. The signal tree can also show groups and vectors if they are available in the dat file. Text channels are currently not supported. On the trend graph you can see the red live position marker.

The only difference between the normal trend graph and the offline trend graph are the properties of the X-axis.



You can setup the range of the X-axis. If you haven't configured a live position signal then the only mode that makes sense is the full file range mode. In this mode the X-axis will automatically show the complete signal data when a new dat file is loaded. If you use a live position signal then you can choose to only show a portion of the file range. This portion can be a percentage of the file range or a fixed value.

When the X-axis only shows a part of the file range then you can select how it will show more of the file's data. First you decide when it should show more data. You do this by selecting what percentage of the visible range the live position should reach. When the live position reaches this percentage then there are 3 modes:

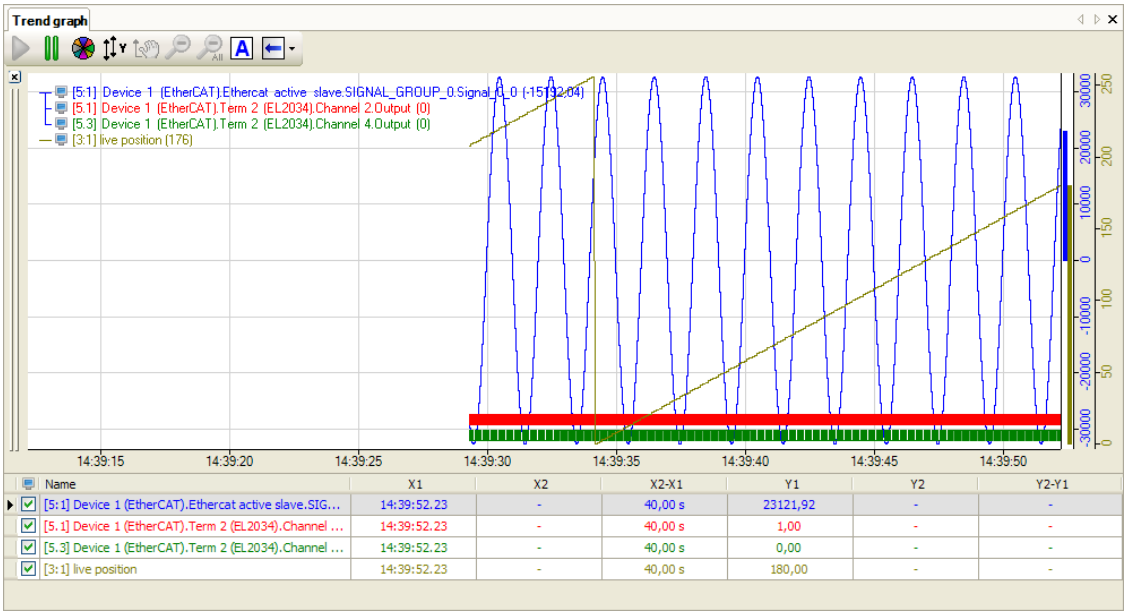
- The X-axis size stays the same and it just starts scrolling
- The X-axis size stays the same but its start position is set to the live position (so it jumps forwards)
- The X-axis size is doubled

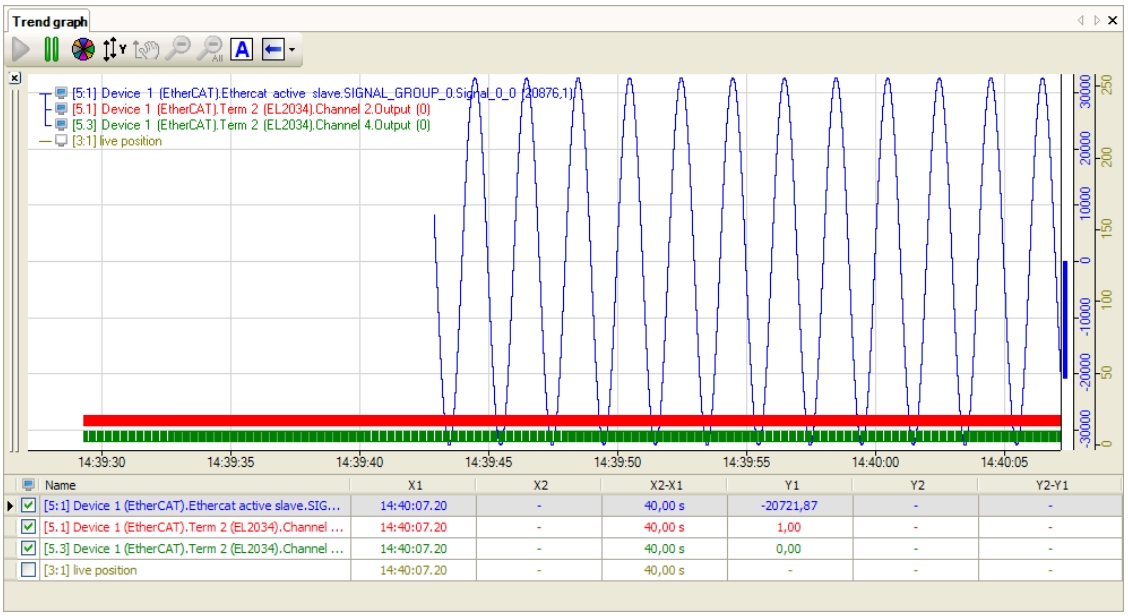
The live position can be made visible via a marker.

4 Trend view changes

These changes have been made to the base trend graph so they are available in the normal trend graph, HD trend graph and offline trend graph.

4.1 Hide/show signals

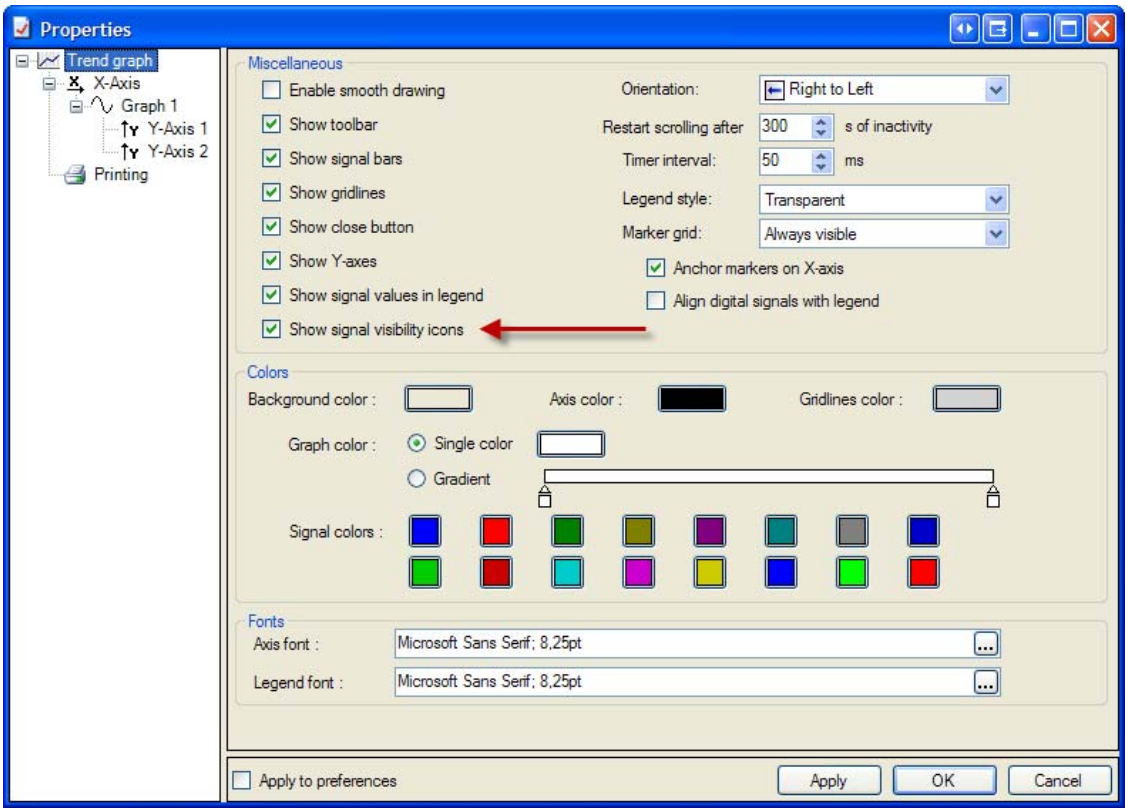




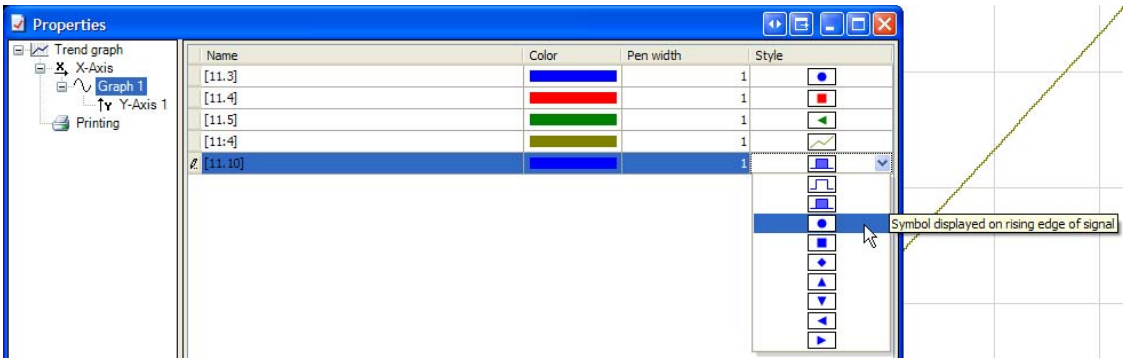
The top screenshot shows a graph with 4 visible signals. The bottom screenshot shows the same 4 signals but now the 4th signal is hidden. A hidden signal is no longer visible in the graph. Its signal bar is empty and no current or marker values are shown in the legend and in the signal grid. The signal name is still visible in the legend and there is also a row for the signal in the signal grid.

There are 3 ways to hide/show a signal:

- Right click on a signal and use the context menu to hide or show a signal
- Click the checkbox in the signal grid
- Configure the trend graph to show the visibility icon in the legend and then click on the visibility icon.



4.2 Draw styles for signals

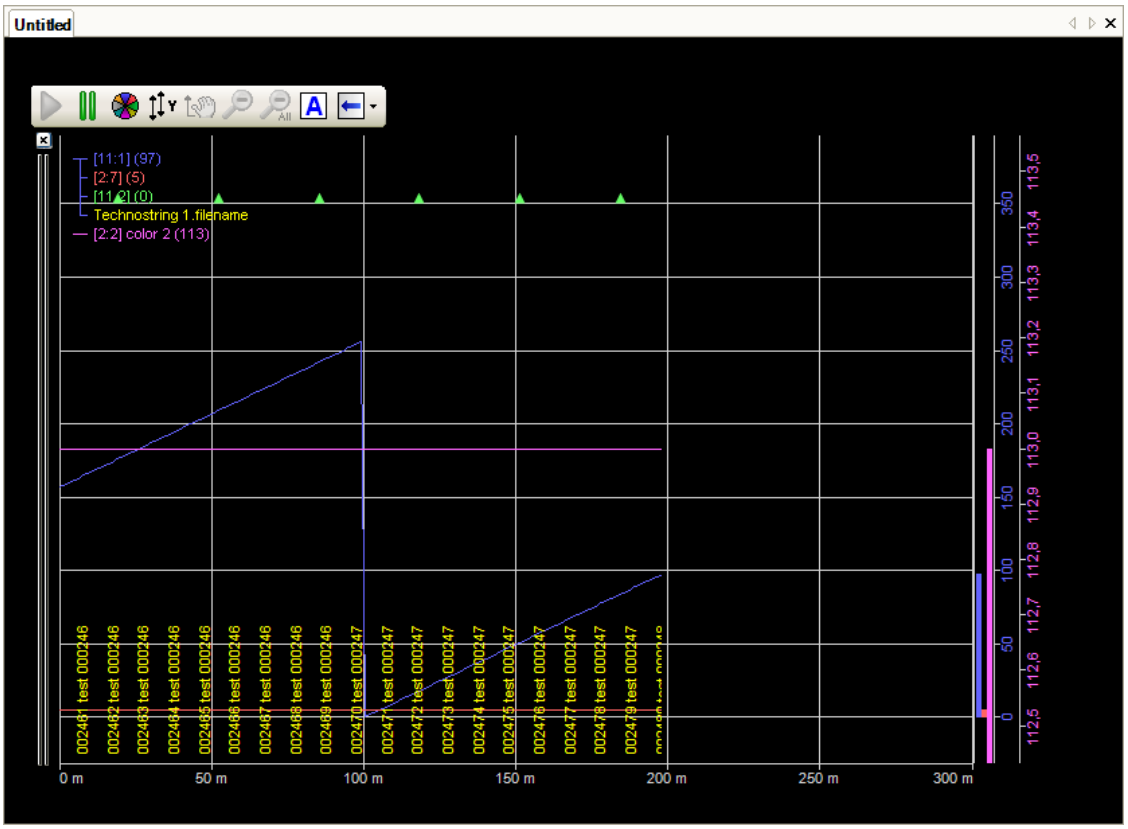


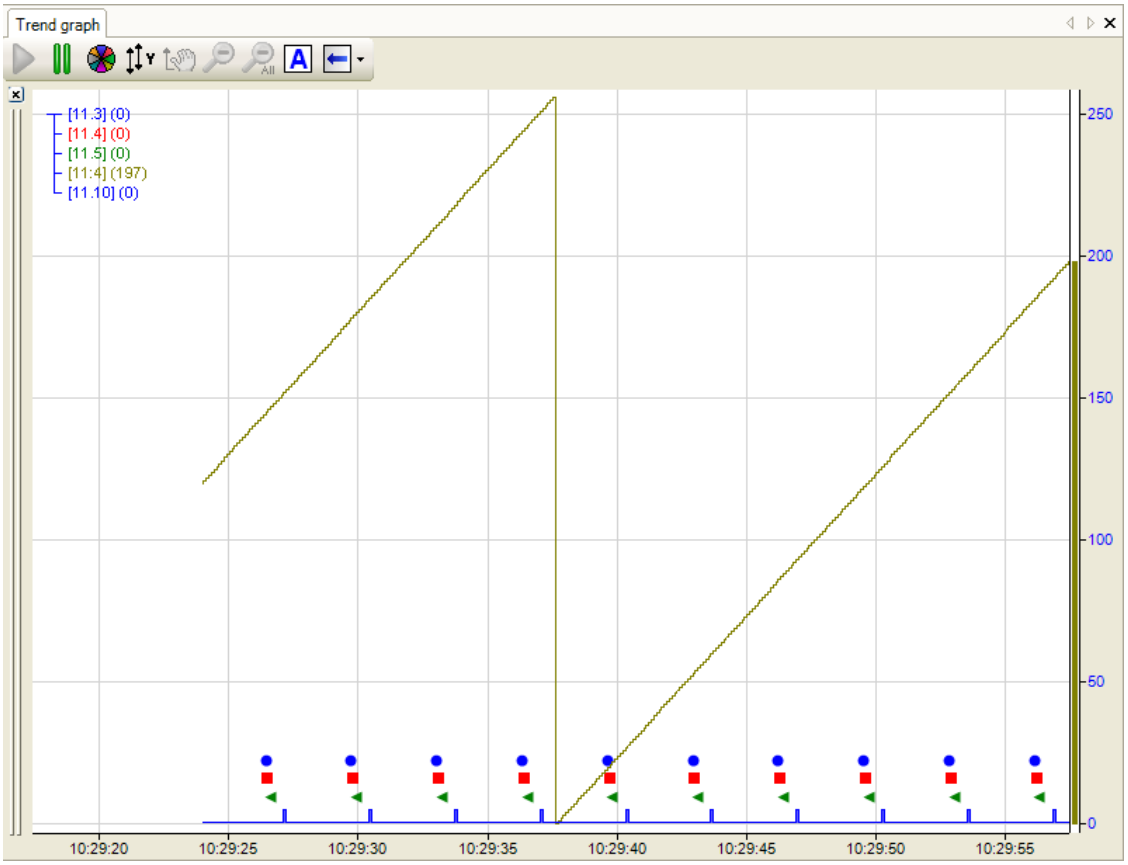
In previous versions you could select if a signal was drawn filled or non-filled. Now this is replaced with a drawing style property. For analog signals you can still decide between a non-filled line and a filled line. For digital signals there are more options. The filled and non-filled line still exist but you can now also decide to draw a symbol at each rising edge of the digital signal. There are 7 possible symbols:

- Circle

- Square
- Diamond
- Triangle pointing up
- Triangle pointing down
- Triangle pointing left
- Triangle pointing right

The following screen shots show these draw styles on a Q-Panel trend graph and on a normal trend graph.

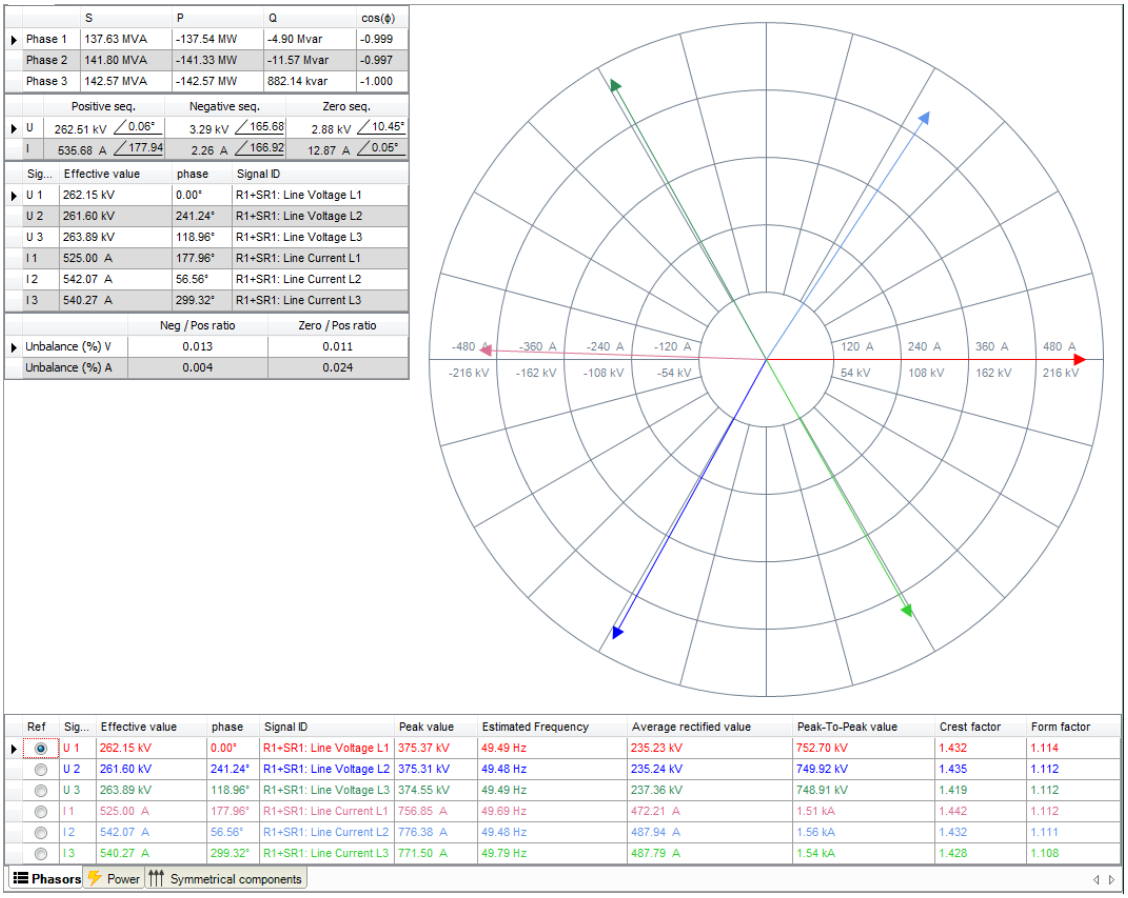




The digital symbol draw styles are not supported on the HD trend graph. This is because on the higher levels of a digital signal there is not enough information available to determine if there is a rising or a falling edge.

5 Phasor view

See separate document: TechSpec_Phasor_View.doc



	S	P	Q	cos(ϕ)
Phase 1	137.63 MVA	-137.54 MW	-4.90 Mvar	-0.999
Phase 2	141.80 MVA	-141.33 MW	-11.57 Mvar	-0.997
Phase 3	142.57 MVA	-142.57 MW	882.14 kvar	-1.000

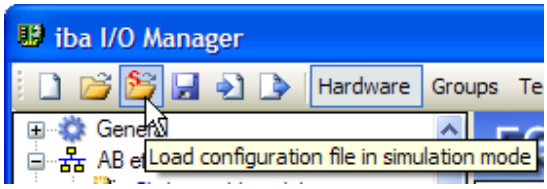
	Positive seq.	Negative seq.	Zero seq.
U	262.51 kV ∠0.06°	3.29 kV ∠165.68	2.88 kV ∠10.45°
I	535.68 A ∠177.94	2.26 A ∠166.92	12.87 A ∠0.05°

Sig...	Effective value	phase	Signal ID
U 1	262.15 kV	0.00°	R1+SR1: Line Voltage L1
U 2	261.60 kV	241.24°	R1+SR1: Line Voltage L2
U 3	263.89 kV	118.96°	R1+SR1: Line Voltage L3
I 1	525.00 A	177.96°	R1+SR1: Line Current L1
I 2	542.07 A	56.56°	R1+SR1: Line Current L2
I 3	540.27 A	299.32°	R1+SR1: Line Current L3

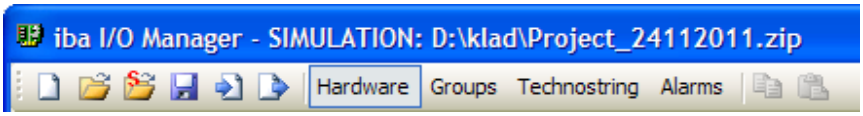
	Neg / Pos ratio	Zero / Pos ratio
Unbalance (%) V	0.013	0.011
Unbalance (%) A	0.004	0.024

Ref	Sig...	Effective value	phase	Signal ID	Peak value	Estimated Frequency	Average rectified value	Peak-To-Peak value	Crest factor	Form factor
◉	U 1	262.15 kV	0.00°	R1+SR1: Line Voltage L1	375.37 kV	49.49 Hz	235.23 kV	752.70 kV	1.432	1.114
○	U 2	261.60 kV	241.24°	R1+SR1: Line Voltage L2	375.31 kV	49.48 Hz	235.24 kV	749.92 kV	1.435	1.112
○	U 3	263.89 kV	118.96°	R1+SR1: Line Voltage L3	374.55 kV	49.49 Hz	237.36 kV	748.91 kV	1.419	1.112
○	I 1	525.00 A	177.96°	R1+SR1: Line Current L1	756.85 A	49.69 Hz	472.21 A	1.51 kA	1.442	1.112
○	I 2	542.07 A	56.56°	R1+SR1: Line Current L2	776.38 A	49.48 Hz	487.94 A	1.56 kA	1.432	1.111
○	I 3	540.27 A	299.32°	R1+SR1: Line Current L3	771.50 A	49.79 Hz	487.79 A	1.54 kA	1.428	1.108

6 Simulation mode



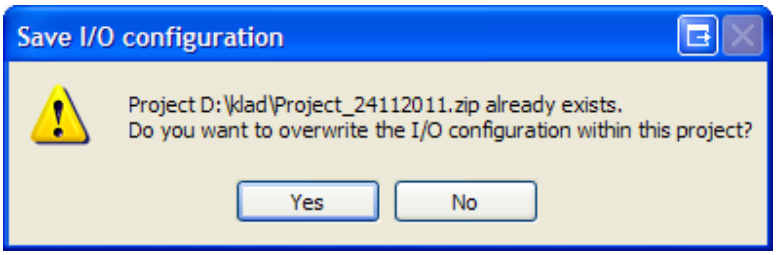
There is a new button in the I/O manager that allows you to load an I/O configuration in simulation mode. Simulation mode means that the configuration is not changed to match the local hardware. This is the same functionality as the button that used to be on the unmapped interface.

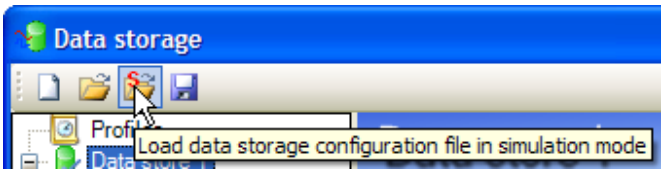


You can load either an I/O configuration file (.io) or a project file (.zip). After you load it in simulation mode the title bar of the I/O manager window changes and shows you simulation and the full path of the loaded file. You can also drag and drop a .io or a .zip file from windows explorer into the tree to open the configuration in simulation mode.

The simulation mode can be used by the support department to diagnose customer problems. It can also be used to prepare an I/O configuration when the hardware is not available or the dongle licenses are not available. In simulation mode you can right-click on the general node to add interfaces. You can also add modules that you don't have a license for.

The save functionality has been extended to save the I/O configuration inside of a project zip file. In the save dialog you just have to type in a filename with the .zip extension. If the file doesn't exist then ibaPDA will create a new project zip file that contains the saved I/O configuration (CurrentIoConfig.io) and the exported I/O configuration (IoConfig.txt). If the zip file already existed then a messagebox will appear asking you if you want to update the I/O configuration within the existing project.





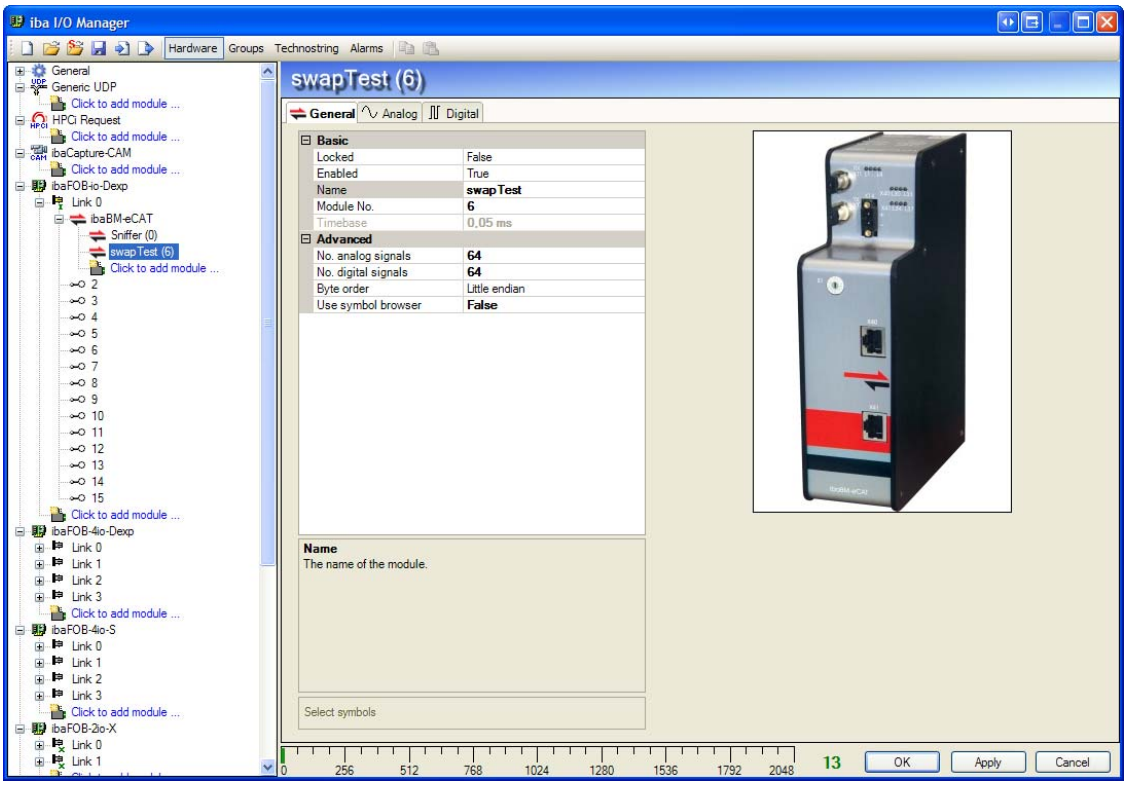
The data storage manager has also been extended with a simulation mode. In simulation mode you can load a project zip file or drag and drop it into the tree. The I/O configuration of the project will be loaded and the data store configuration will be loaded. This way you can configure

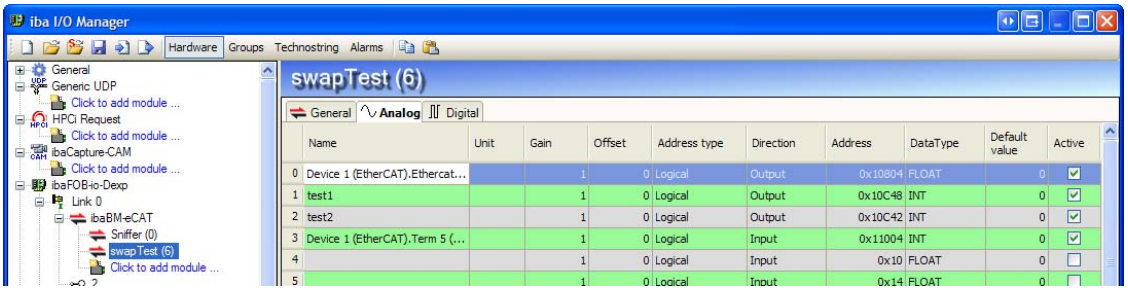
the data storage without applying the I/O configuration. This can also be used by the support department to see how the data stores are configured on a customer’s system.

Similar to the I/O manager save functionality the data storage manager can save the data storage configuration in a project zip file.

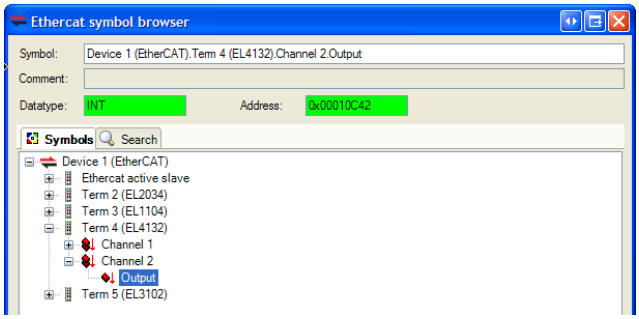
7 ibaBM-eCAT changes

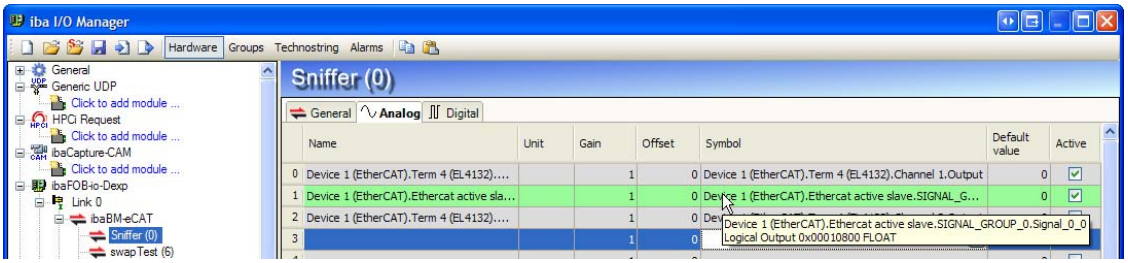
The ibaBM-eCAT module has a new property called “Use symbol browser”. It allows you to switch between symbol mode and raw address mode. In symbol mode you use the symbol browser to select the signals and the address information is retrieved from the addressbook. In raw address mode you have to specify all the address information yourself. The address information consists of address type, direction, address, bit number and or data type. In the previous versions you could only switch between the two modes by setting or clearing the symbol path on the ibaBM-eCAT device. The following screenshot shows a module in raw address mode.



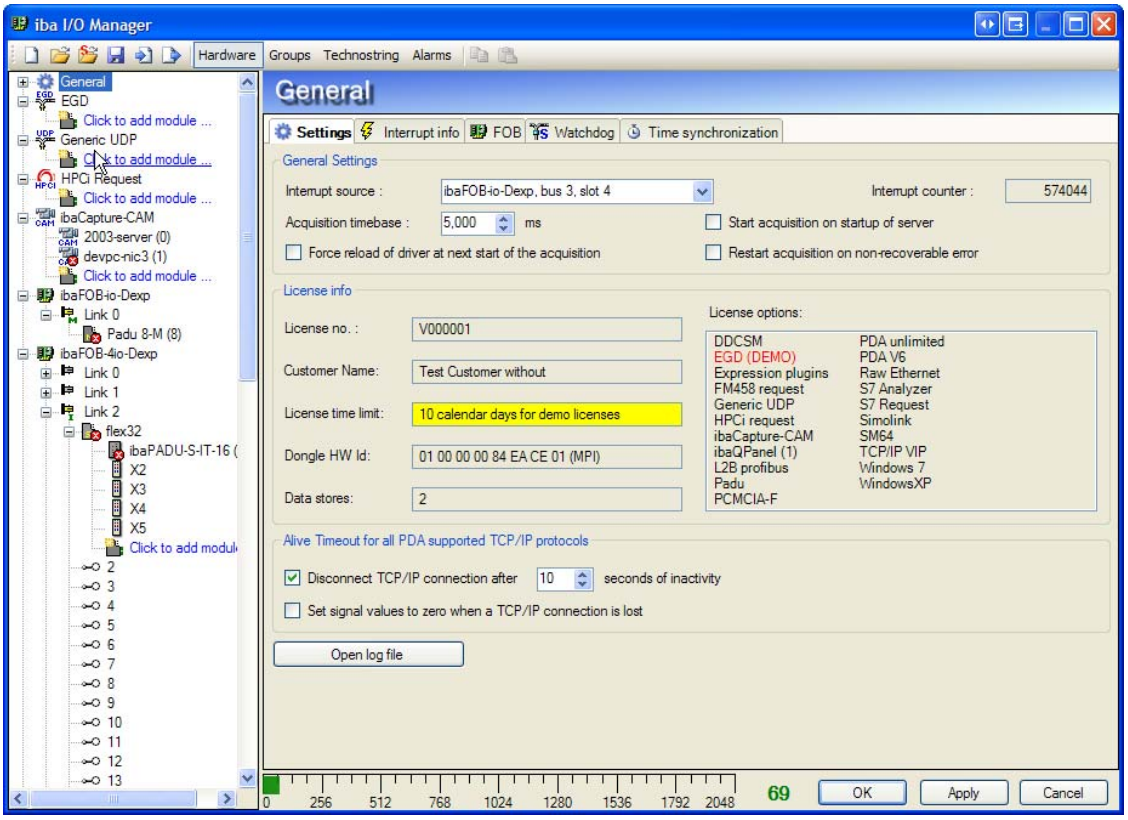


The symbol browser has been extended with an address field. It shows you the logical address of the selected symbol. In symbol mode there is a tooltip when you hover over the symbol column. This tooltip now also contains all the address information for the signal under the mouse.

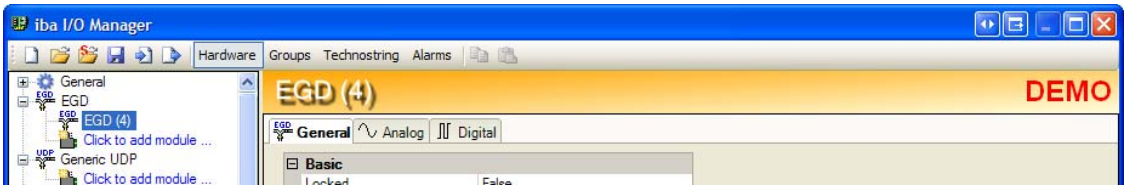

Ethercat symbol browser
Symbol: Device 1 (EtherCAT).Term 4 (EL4132).Channel 2.Output
Comment:
Datatype: INT
Address: 0x00010C42
Symbols
Search
Device 1 (EtherCAT)
Ethercat active slave
Term 2 (EL2034)
Term 3 (EL1104)
Term 4 (EL4132)
Channel 1
Channel 2
Output
Term 5 (EL3102)


iba I/O Manager
Hardware
Groups
Technostring
Alarms
General
Generic UDP
Click to add module ...
HPCI Request
Click to add module ...
ibaCapture-CAM
Click to add module ...
ibaFOB-io-Dexp
Link 0
ibaBM-eCAT
Sniffer (0)
swapTest (6)
Sniffer (0)
General
Analog
Digital
Name
Unit
Gain
Offset
Symbol
Default value
Active
0 Device 1 (EtherCAT).Term 4 (EL4132).... 1 0 Device 1 (EtherCAT).Term 4 (EL4132).Channel 1.Output 0
1 Device 1 (EtherCAT).Ethercat active sla... 1 0 Device 1 (EtherCAT).Ethercat active slave.SIGNAL_G... 0
2 Device 1 (EtherCAT).Term 4 (EL4132).... 1 0
3 1 0
Device 1 (EtherCAT).Ethercat active slave.SIGNAL_GROUP_0.Signal_0_0
Logical Output 0x00010800 FLOAT

8 Demo licenses

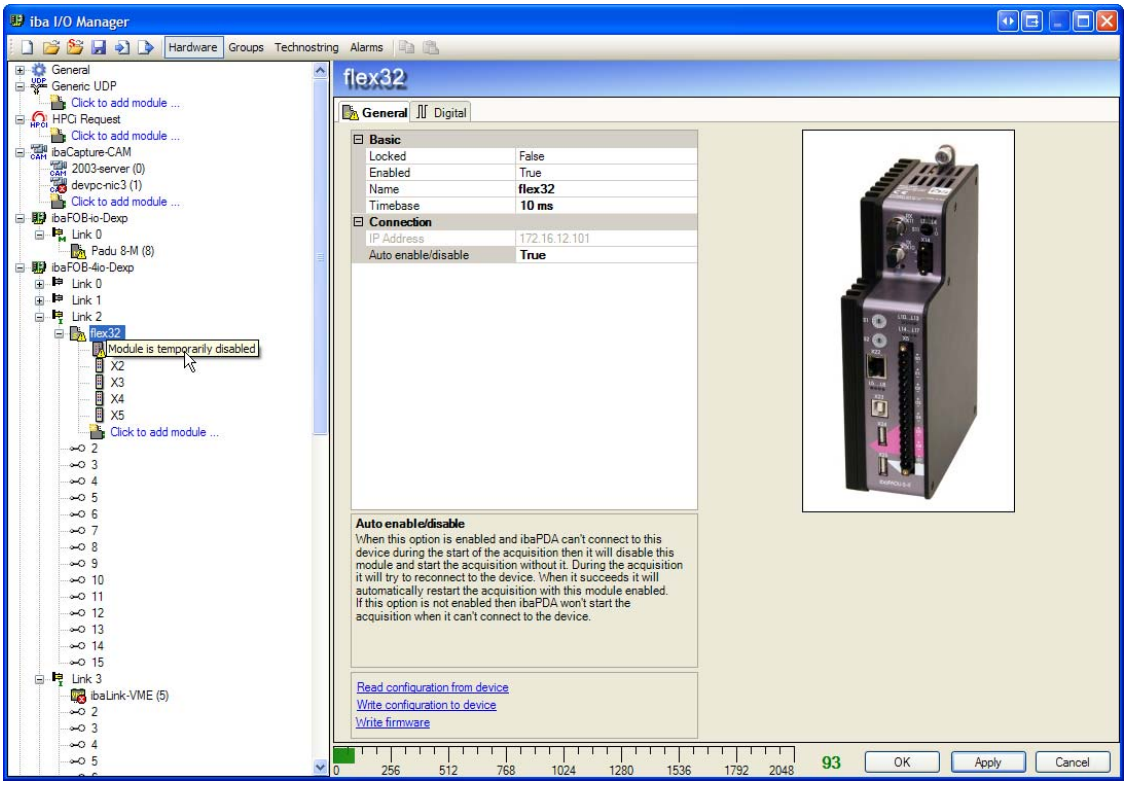


IbaPDA uses a new dongle library that supports both MPI and SmarxOS dongles. The dongle type is shown after the dongle hardware ID. The new dongle library also supports up to 8 demo licenses. In the license info in the I/O manager you can see the days remaining for the demo licenses. In the license options you can recognize demo licenses by their red color and the text (DEMO) appended to them. This same information is also shown in the license info of the server status program.



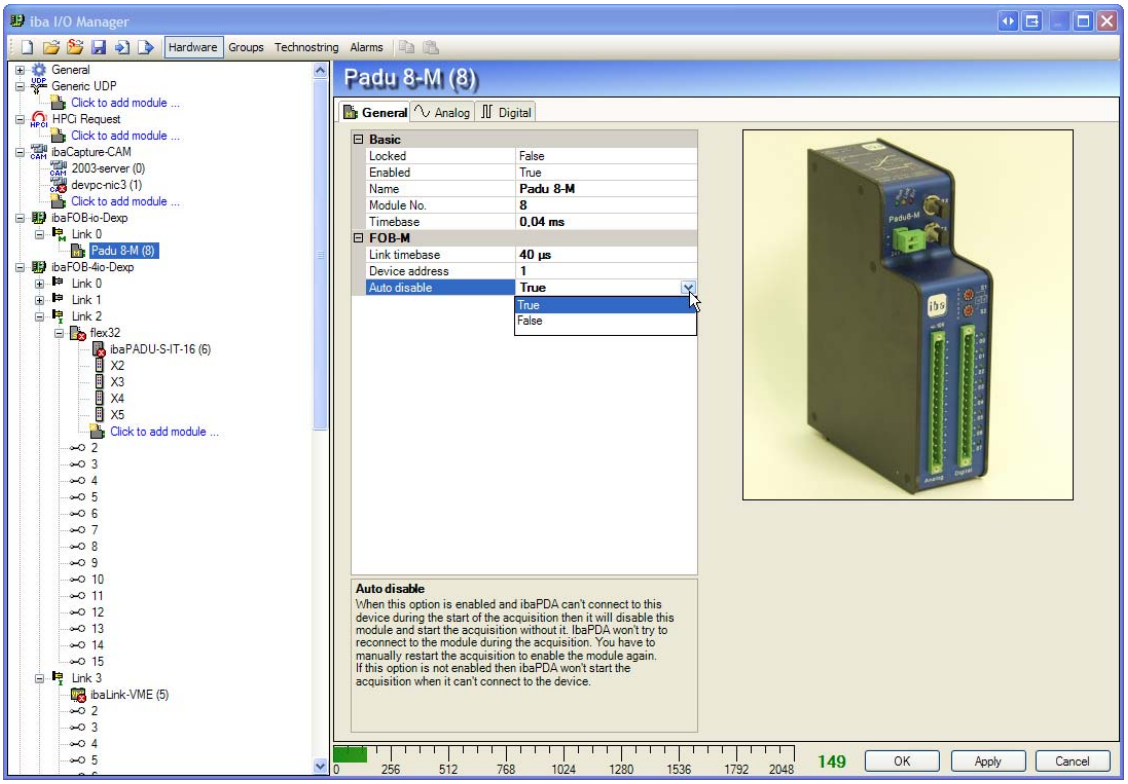
The I/O manger header changes color and shows DEMO when you select an interface or module that you only have a demo license for.

9 Auto enable/disable of flex- and M-modules

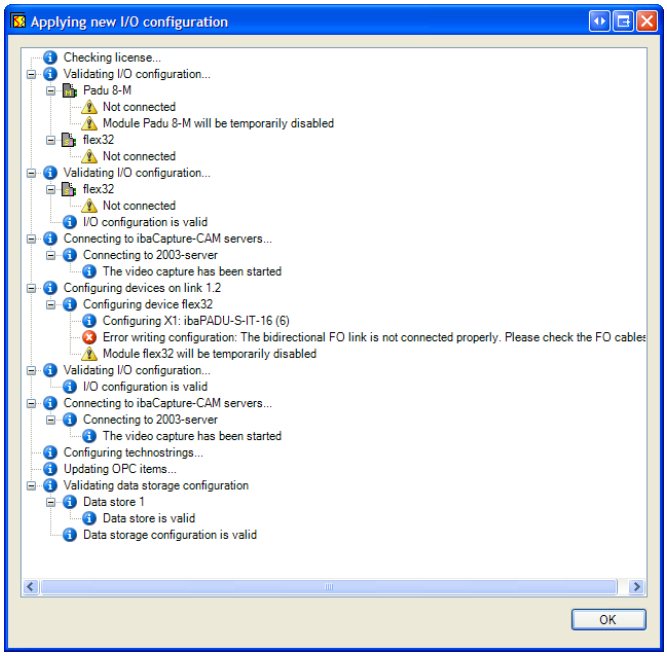


In previous versions of ibaPDA you couldn't start the acquisition if a flex module like ibaPADU-S-IT, ibaBM-DDCS, ibaBM-eCAT, … or a FOB-M module like Padu8-M, Padu16-M or Padu8-ICP wasn't connected to the system. You had to manually disable the module before you could start the acquisition.

Now the flex modules have a property called "Auto enable/disable". When this property is set ibaPDA will automatically disable the module when it can't connect to the device during the start of the acquisition. When the acquisition is running it will periodically try to connect to the device. When it succeeds it will automatically restart the acquisition with this module enabled.



The FOB-M modules have a similar property called “Auto disable”. This will automatically disable a FOB-M device when it isn’t connected when the acquisition is started. IbaPda will **NOT** try to connect to it during the acquisition. You have to manually restart the acquisition when the device is reconnected.

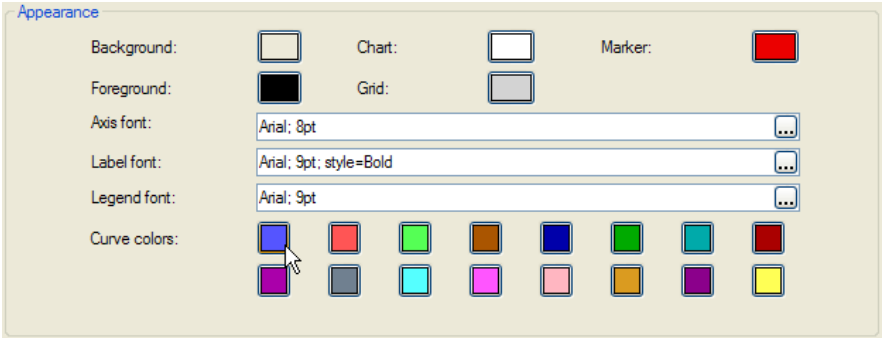


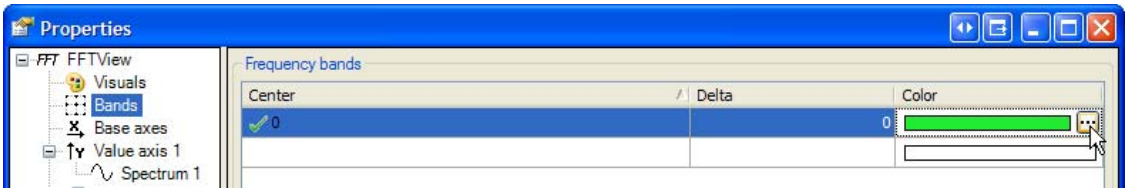
The screenshot shows the validation form with a Padu8-M module that is not connected and an ibaPADU-S-IT module that is not connected. You can see that the first time the Padu8-M module

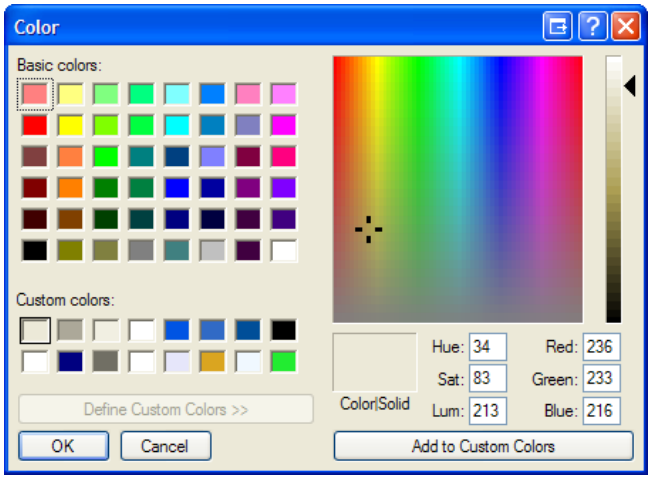
is disabled. Then the validation is restarted and you see that pda can’t connect to the ibaPADU-S-IT so it is disabled as well. The validation is then started for the third time and now everything is ok and the acquisition is started.

10 Standardized color pickers

The different color pickers in the different views within ibaPDA and ibaQPanel have been standardized. There are now 2 color pickers: one is a button and the other one is an editor in a grid. They both show the same color picker form. This form is the standard Windows color picker form.







There are 16 possible custom colors in this form. You can change them via the “Add to Custom Colors” button. These 16 colors are saved so that they can be reused in all controls.