

SETTING UP COMIML

Please follow the below steps to get you started :

Connecting your instrument - make sure your instrument is connected and working and you know which COM port it is connected to.

- 1) Run comDebug and select create a new Windmill Instrument File
- 2) Select the correct COM port i.e. the one the instrument is connected to, and set the communication parameters as you have sent them to us.
- 3) Your instrument can work in background mode i.e. the software does not have to request a reading but will deal with the message when it arrives from the instrument.
- 4) Select edit Message_1 (not the Initialisation message which is only sent out once when the software starts up).
- 5) The comDebug will display a form with 3 grids. Leave the left hand grid empty but click the send button. This setups the software to expect a message from the instrument - which will appear in the middle grid. Each character of the message appears in a row of the grid.
- 6) You now have to parse the message to extract the numbers you want to log. Click the parse button to bring up a grid showing the steps in the parsing. You will mainly use the Add Action and Extract commands
 - i) You need to Search for something that tells you that this is the start of the message. This can be either a character or group of characters that are always sent at the start of the message e.g. a unit identifier, a fixed character like a *, or even the carriage return at the end of the previous message.
 - ii You then step through the message Ignoring characters that are not the numbers you want, and then Extracting a set of characters (e.g. by a fixed number of characters or by looking for a space at the end etc).
 - iii) Each time you Extract a value, the software will ask you for a channel to allocate to this parameter, you can Add a New channel, and then click on it to select it.
- 7) Once you have parsed the data - you can save the setup you have created. This is saved as an .imd file in the directory
- 8) Keep clicking OK until you get back to the comDebug start page.
- 9) Select Edit Windmill Device - remove any existing entries in the panel and then Add a device and select the file you have just created. Keep clicking Ok until you can leave comDebug

Make sure comDebug is closed down

- 10) Run setupIML - this should also load the comIML handler in the task bar
- 11) The number of channels available should be the same as the number you Extracted when doing the parsing.
- 12) You can double click on each channel and then give it a name.
- 13) Save the setup - this will be an .ims file and is saved in the windmill\setups\ directory
- 14) Run wmDDE and select File.Load hardware setup - select the .ims file you have just created.
- 15) Select all channels and the values from the instrument should appear in the window.