

# Codesys

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**UNIMORE**  
UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI  
MODENA E REGGIO EMILIA

High Performance  
Real Time **Lab**

“

Programming is a skill  
best acquired by practice  
and example rather than  
from books.

ALAN TURING



# Load the main program interface

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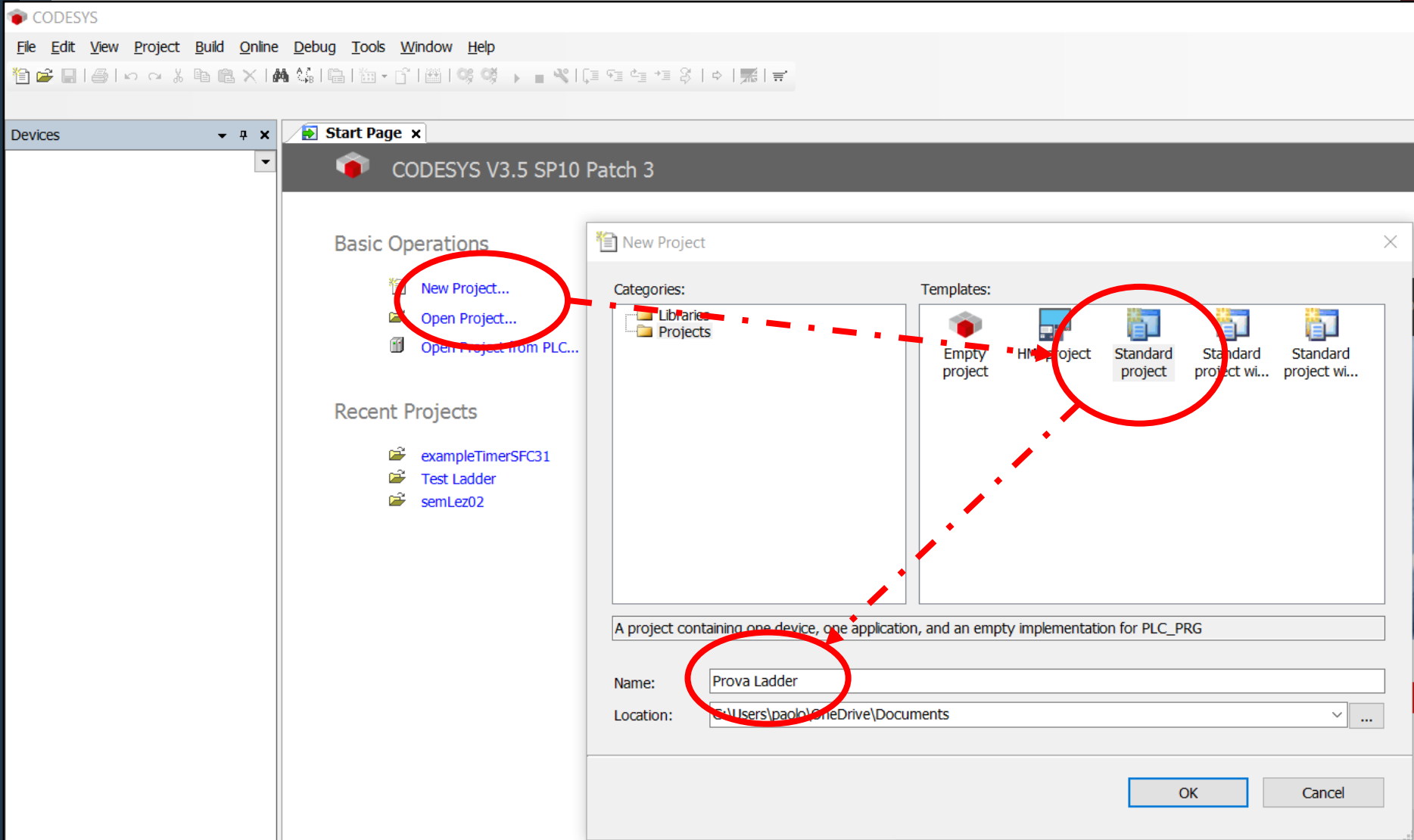
What is it?

- › An IDE to create PLC programs, and **simulate** them
- › In any of the five main languages
- › I use V3.5 SP1 patch 3, recommended version (for compatibility with the examples I'll give you)



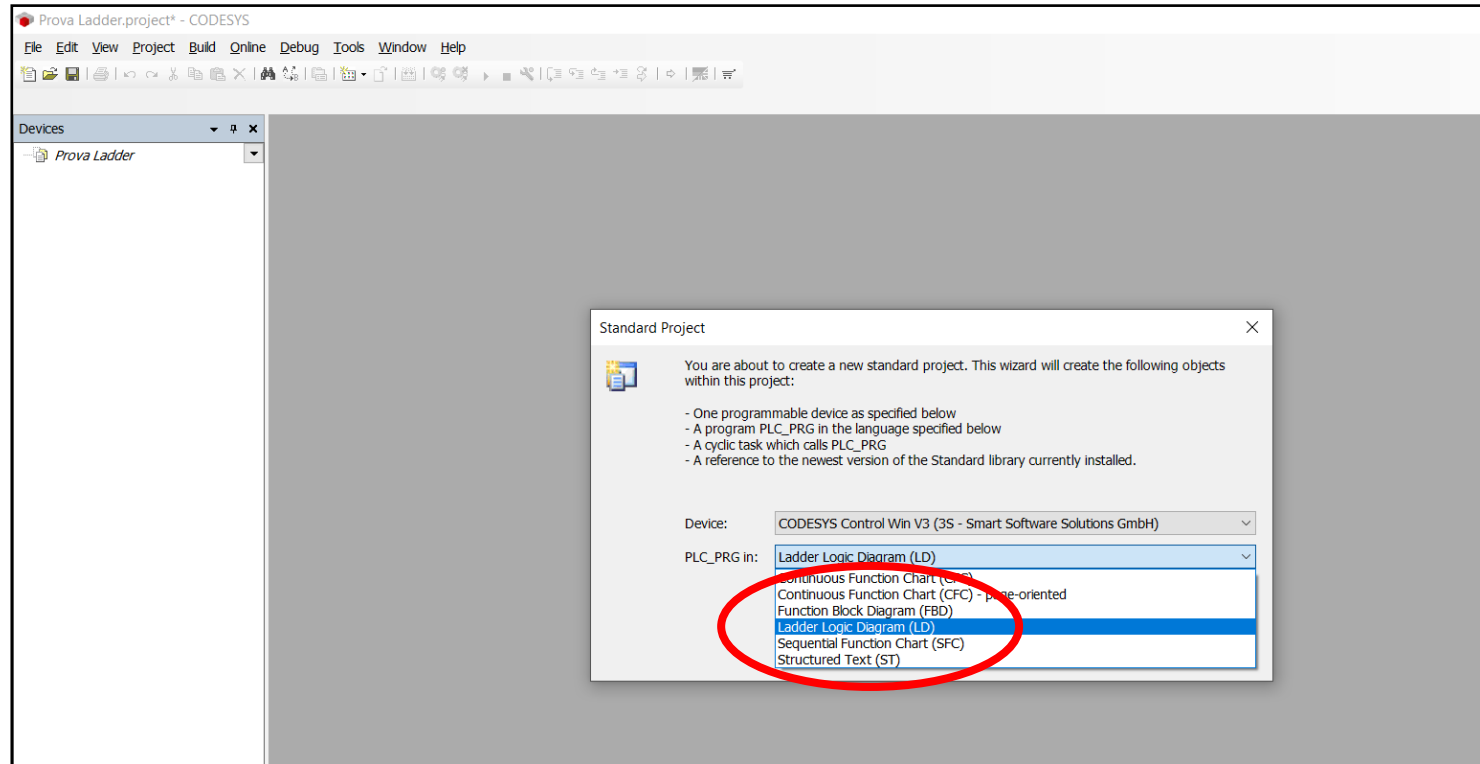


# Create a project





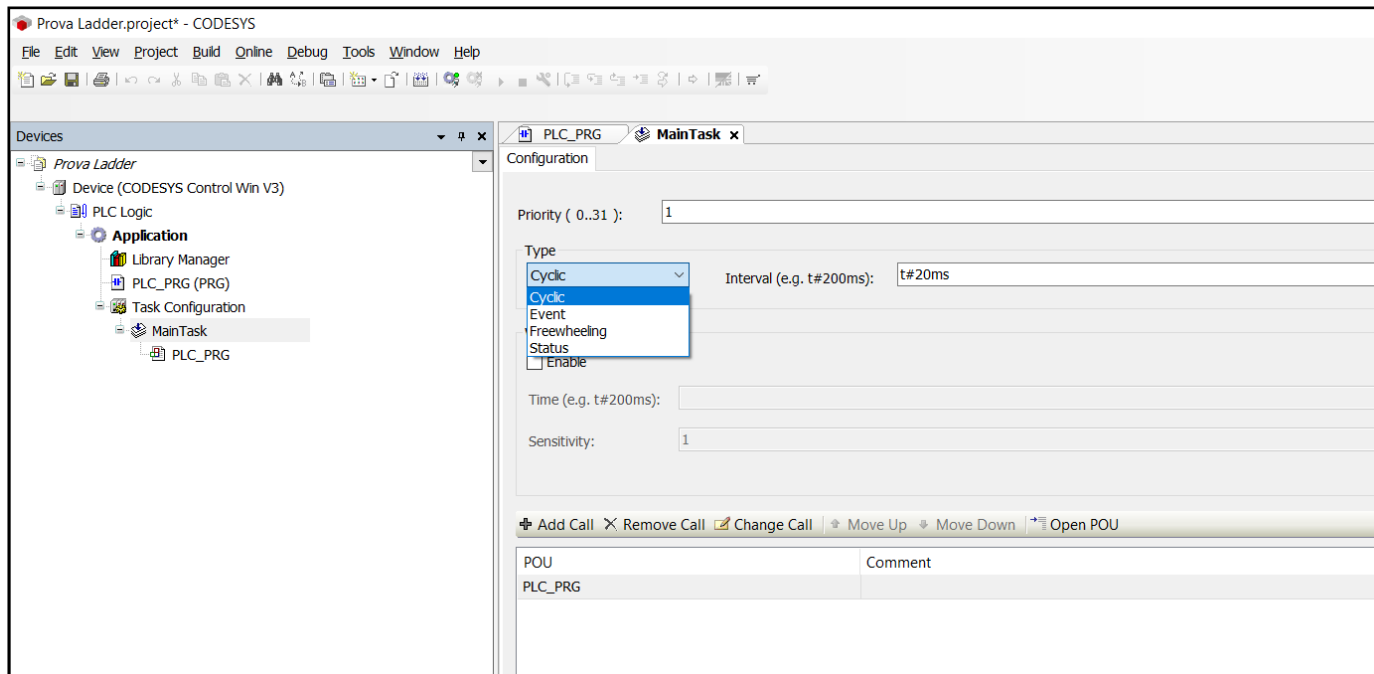
# Select the language





# Project workbench

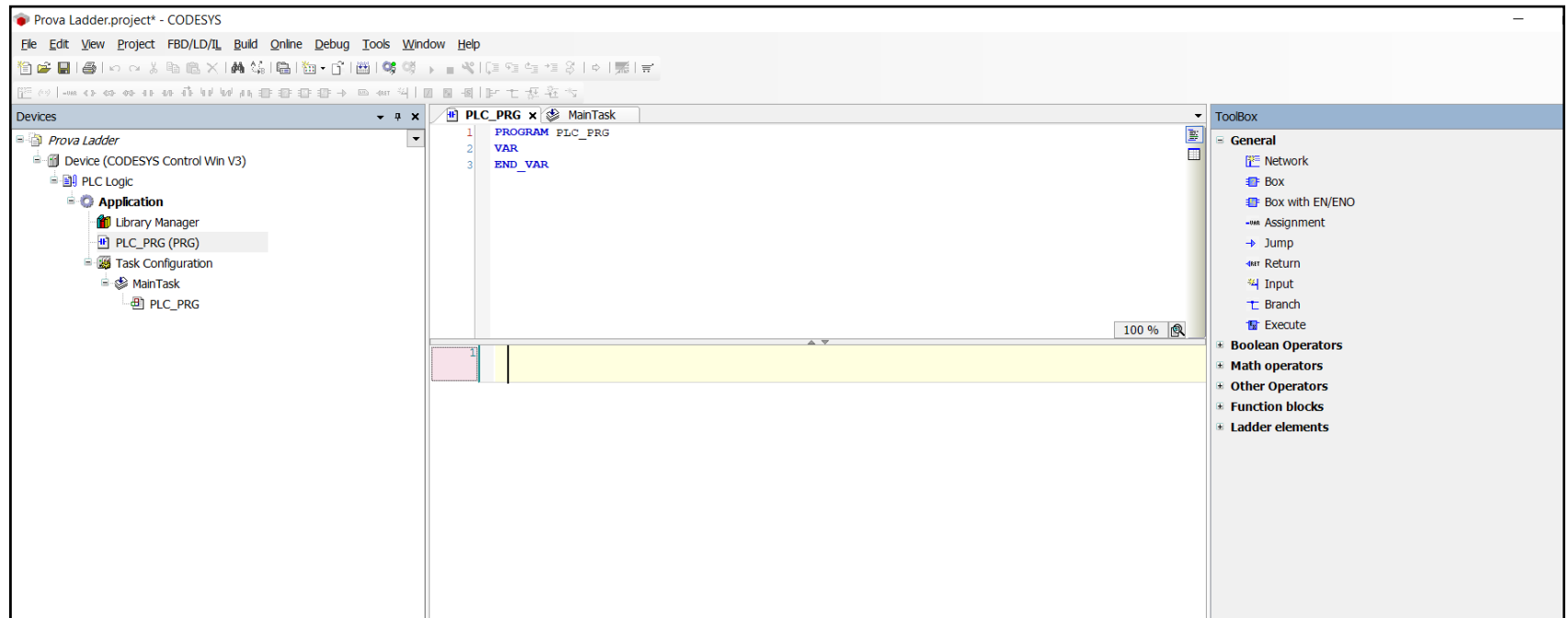
- › Your application has a Main task, that (here) runs cyclically





# Project workbench - Ladder

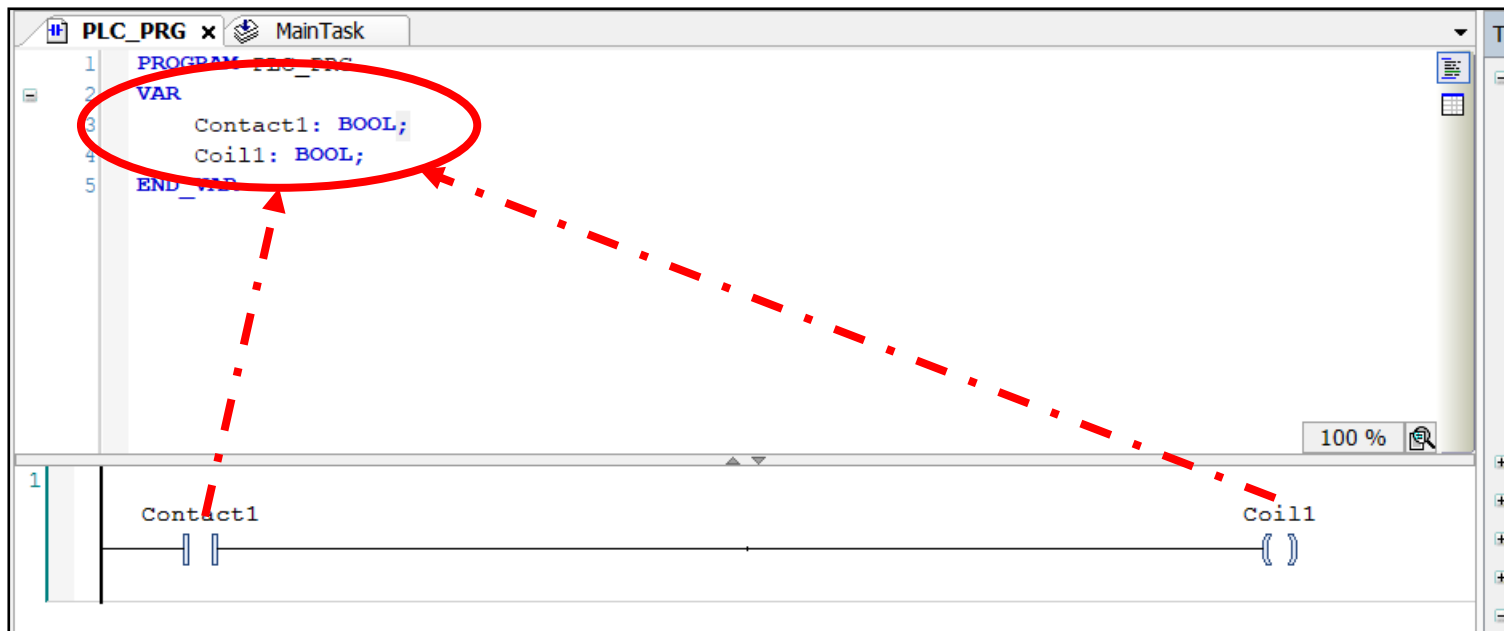
- › You can create Ladder diagrams using drag/drop from the toolbox





# Adding a contact + coil

- › Two global variables are automatically created in the variable definition window always in ST lang), both of `bool` type, as specified by us
- › Here, we want a switch that turns on a lamp, hence we need a NO contact and a coil
- › PS here you don't see the right power rail as it's implicit



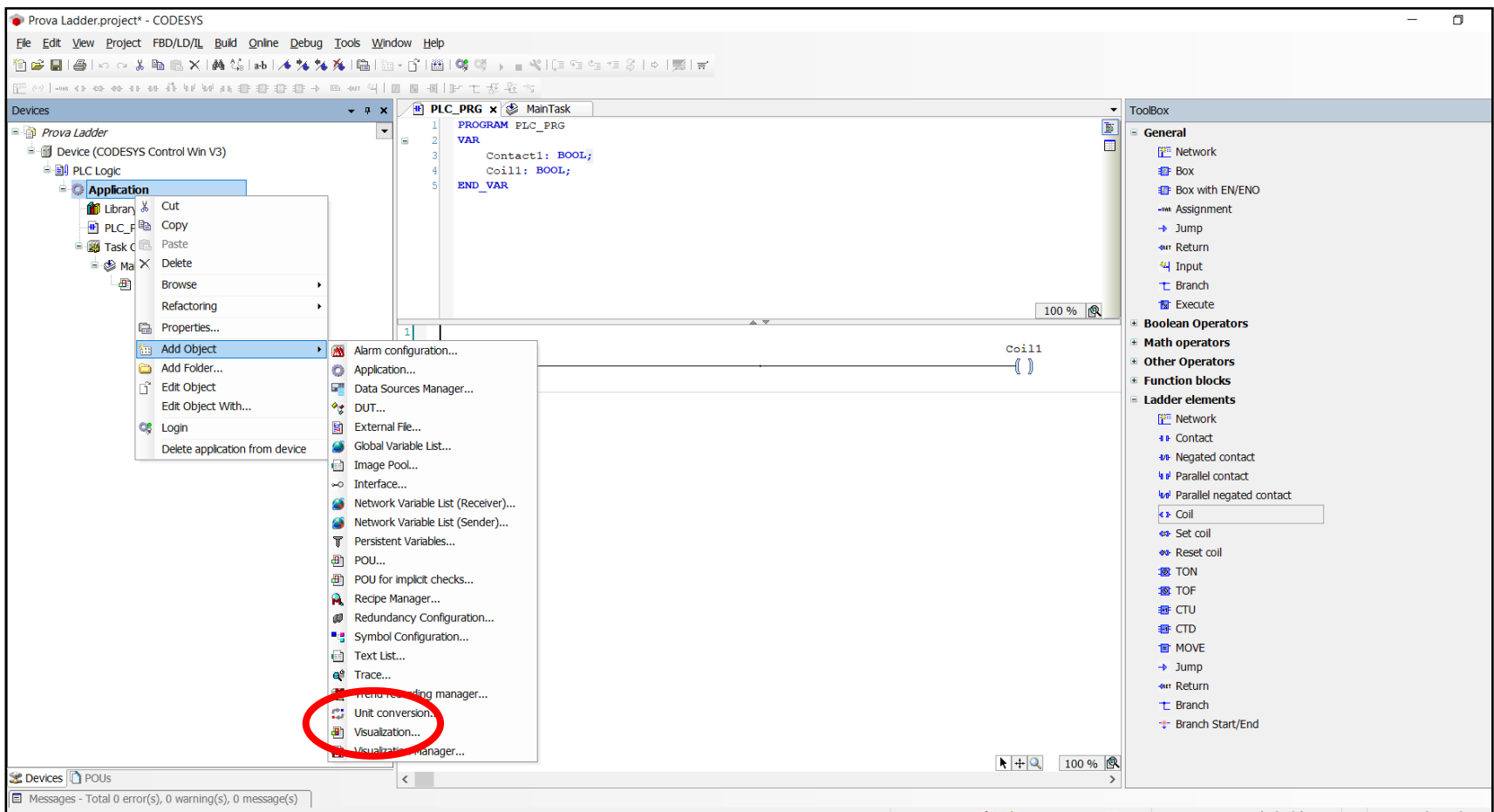




# View the simulated system

Add a Visualization object

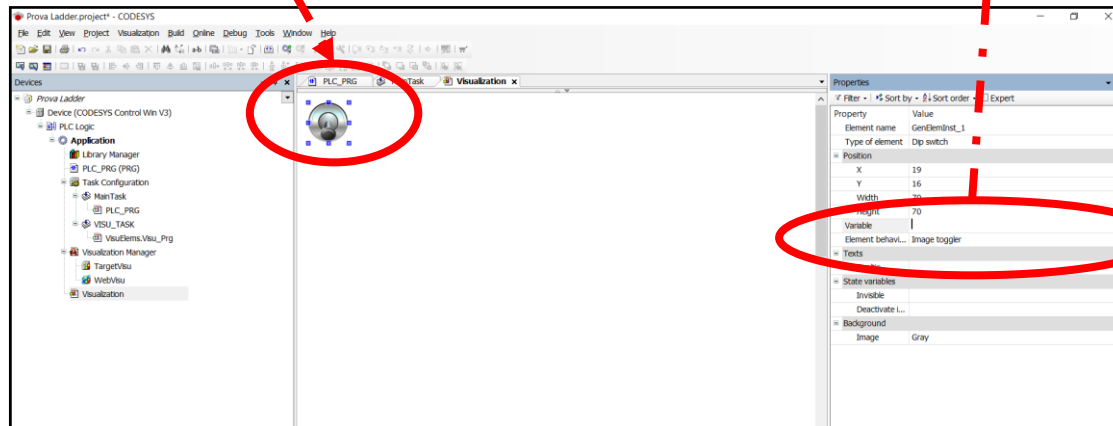
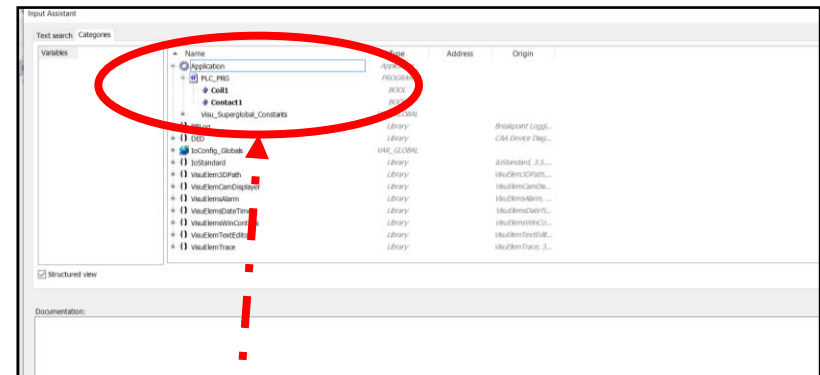
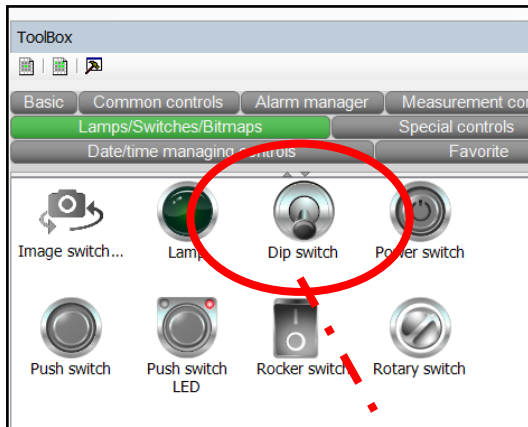
› Application -> Add Object -> Visualization





# Add elements, and link to variables

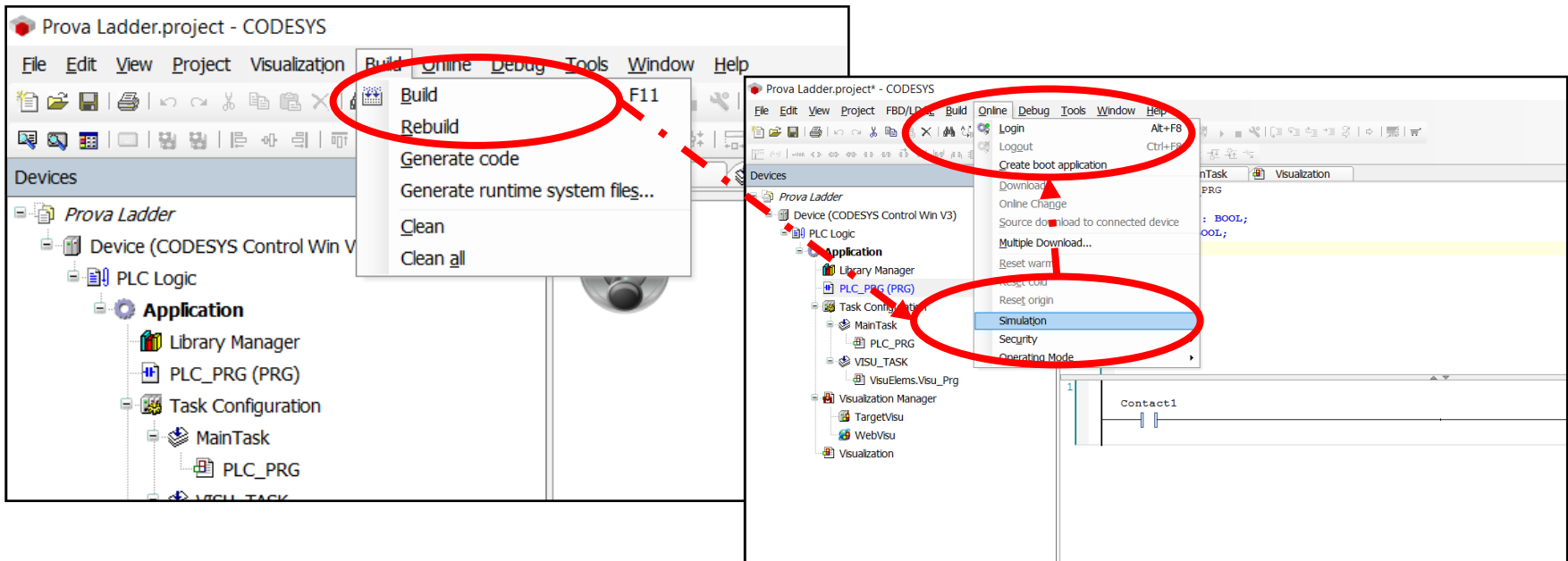
- › Here, we added a dip switch from the toolbox, and we select the `Contact1` var from the Properties window
- › Now, add a lamp and bind it to `Coil1`





# Compile and set up simulator

- › Build the system, from the menu or with F11
- › Login from the Online menu to download the required run libs
  - Before..make sure you ticked “Simulation”!
- › Now, we're ready to go





# Run workbench

- › After a while, simulator/simulation is set up
- › Click on Debug -> Start to go
- › Nothing happens

The screenshot shows the CODESYS Prova Ladder project interface. The left sidebar displays the project tree with 'Prova Ladder' as the root. Under 'Prova Ladder', there is a 'Device [connected] (CODESYS Control Win V3)' folder. Inside this folder, 'PLC Logic' is expanded, showing 'Application [stop]'. Below 'Application [stop]', there are several sub-items: 'Library Manager', 'PLC\_PRG (PRG)', 'Task Configuration', 'MainTask', 'PLC\_PRG', 'VISU\_TASK', 'VisuElems.Visu\_Prg', 'Visualization Manager', 'TargetVisu', 'WebVisu', and 'Visualization'. The main workspace is divided into two panes. The top pane, titled 'Device.Application.PLC\_PRG', contains a table with the following data:

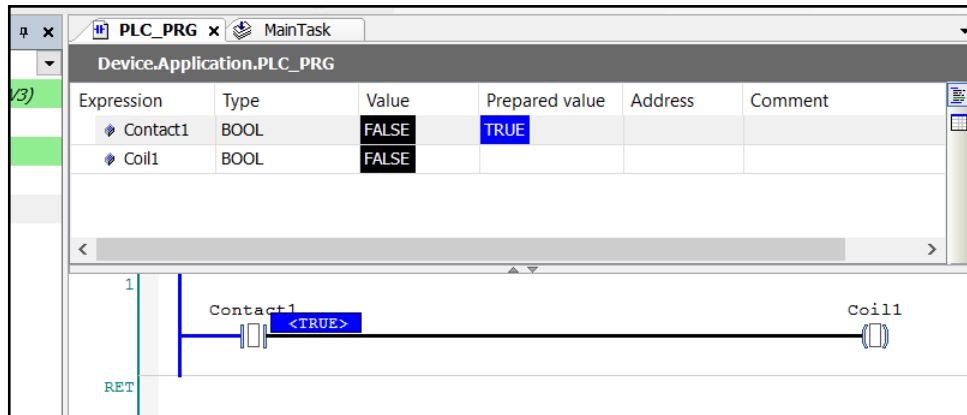
Expression	Type	Value	Pre
Contact1	BOOL	FALSE	
Coil1	BOOL	FALSE	

The bottom pane shows a ladder logic diagram with a single rung. The rung starts with a 'Contact1' input and is connected to a 'Coil1' output. The rung is labeled '1' and 'RET'. The rightmost pane, titled 'Visualization', displays the message: 'The online visualization is waiting for a connection. Please start the application.'



# Modify values

- › Via the “watch expression” window, use the “Prepared value”
- › Then, apply the value with the Debug -> Write value menu item (or CTRL+F7)



- › In this case, in our example, we can also manually acting on the switch

Remember to log out after you're done! 😊



# Sequential contacts vs. parallel contacts

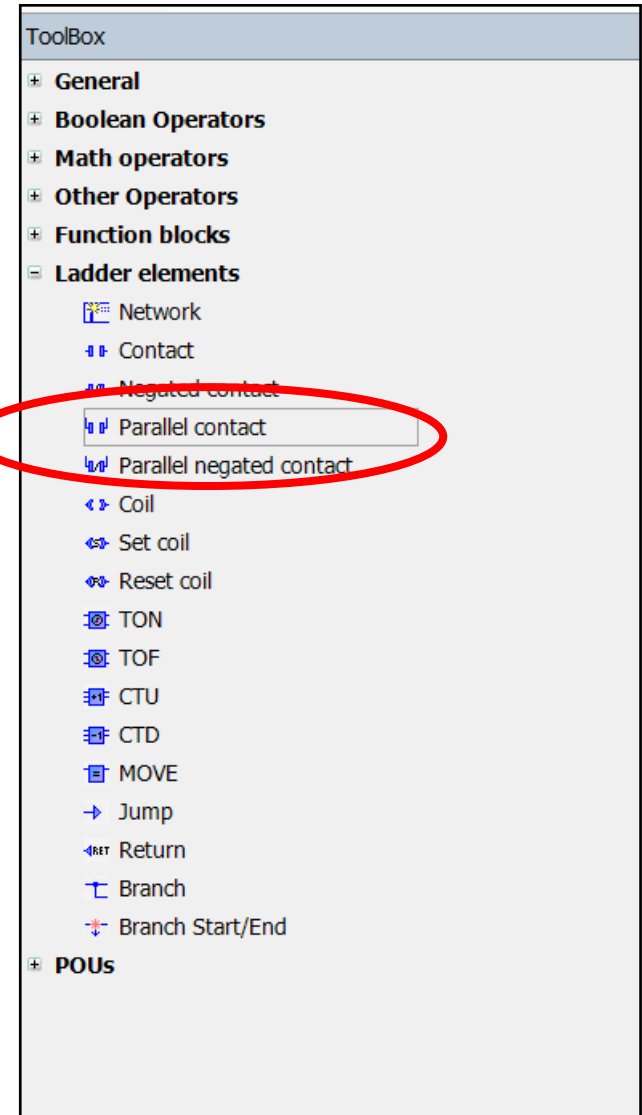
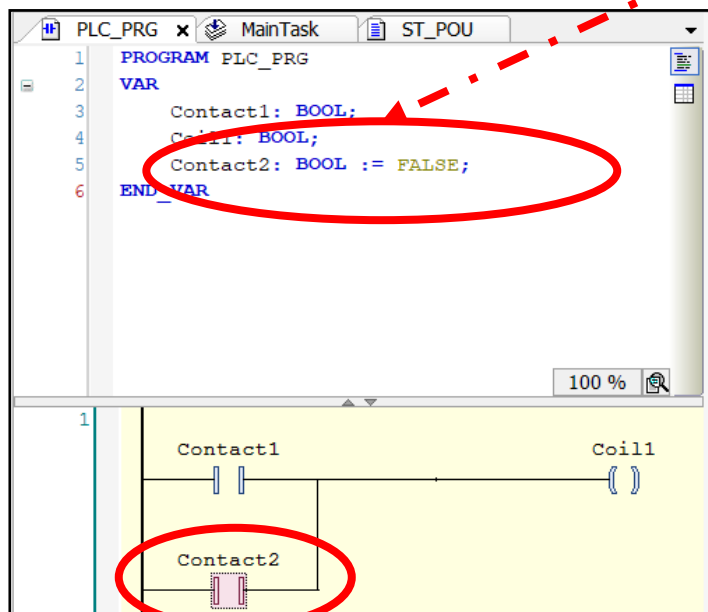
Logical "AND"



- › ..easy, simply drag&drop

Logical "OR"

- › "Parallel contact" components from toolbox
- › IDE helps us to insert it...

PS good programmers remember to initialize vars ;)





Structured  
Text

# Add new ST POU

- › Program Organization Unit let you add logics in the same application, using different languages
- › We now add a **Program POU**

IEC 61131 does not allow spaces in names

The name must be a valid identifier according to the IEC 61131-3 standard.

Return type:

Implementation language:  
Structured Text (ST)

Devices

Prova Ladder - CODESYS

Device (CODESYS Control Win V3)

PLC Logic

Application

PLC\_PRG (PRG)

ST\_POU (PRG)

MainTask

PLC\_PRG

VISU\_TASK

VisuElem.Visu\_Prog

Visualization Manager

TargetVisu

WebVisu

Visualization





# Write the ST code

Prova Ladder.project\* - CODESYS

File Edit View Project Build Online Debug Tools Window Help

Devices

- Prova Ladder
  - Device (CODESYS Control Win V3)
    - PLC Logic
      - Application
        - Library Manager
        - PLC\_PRG (PRG)
        - ST\_POU (PRG)
        - Task Configuration
          - MainTask
            - PLC\_PRG
            - ST\_POU
            - VISU\_TASK
              - VisuElems.Visu\_Prg
      - Visualization Manager
        - TargetVisu
        - WebVisu
        - Visualization

PLC\_PRG MainTask ST\_POU x

```
1 PROGRAM ST_POU
2 VAR
3     Contact1: BOOL;
4     Coill: BOOL;
5 END_VAR
6
```

100 %

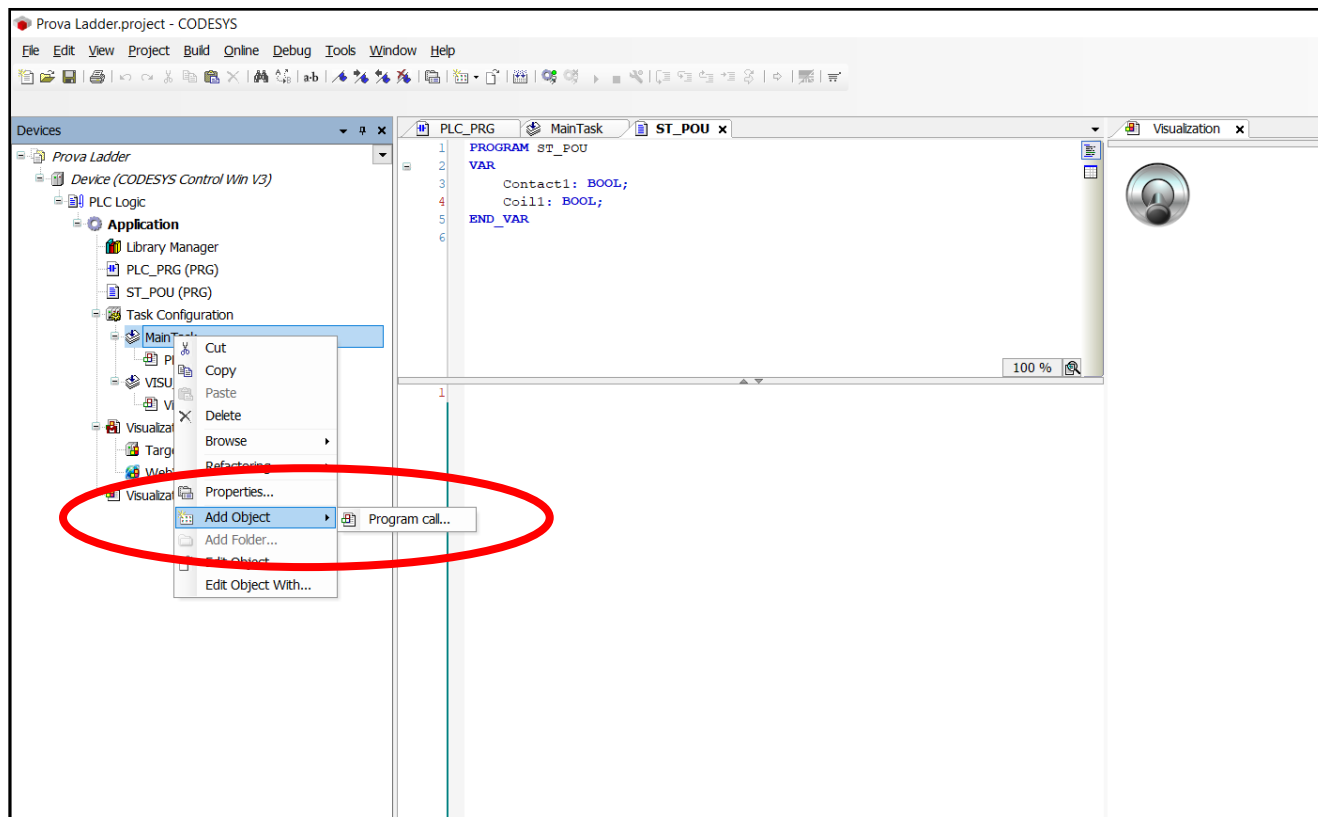
```
1 IF contact1 = TRUE THEN;
2     Coill:=TRUE;
3 ELSE;
4     Coill:=FALSE;
5 END_IF;
```

Visualization x



# Are we done? Not yet...

- › We created a POU Program, but we haven't called it yet from within the MainTask...





# Run and set values

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- › If you set `Contact1` to `TRUE`, then `Coil1` goes to `TRUE`
- › ..but the simulated Light & Switch don't turn on!

Why?

- › Because they are **not** attached to **those** `Contact1` and `Coil1` vars you think...
- › Look out when you write names...

Should we attach those vars to the two simulated objects?

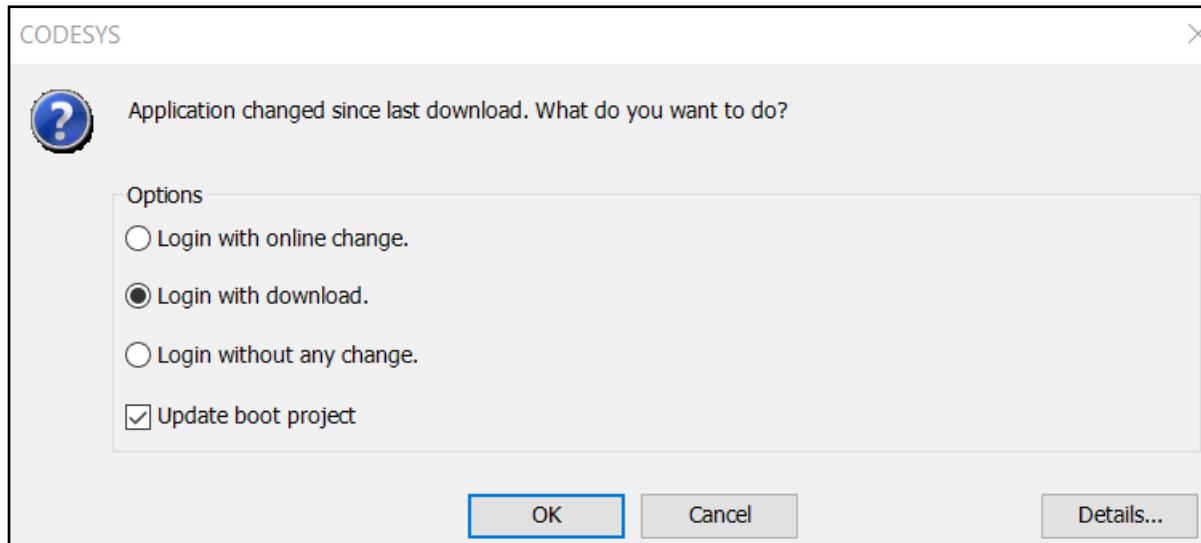
- › (recommendation) Only if requested by the application specs
- › In this case, I use them for debugging/teaching purposes, so my specs say "no" 😊





# Compile & Login again

We added a ST block, so the simulation engine might require some components

› Codesys will prompt us

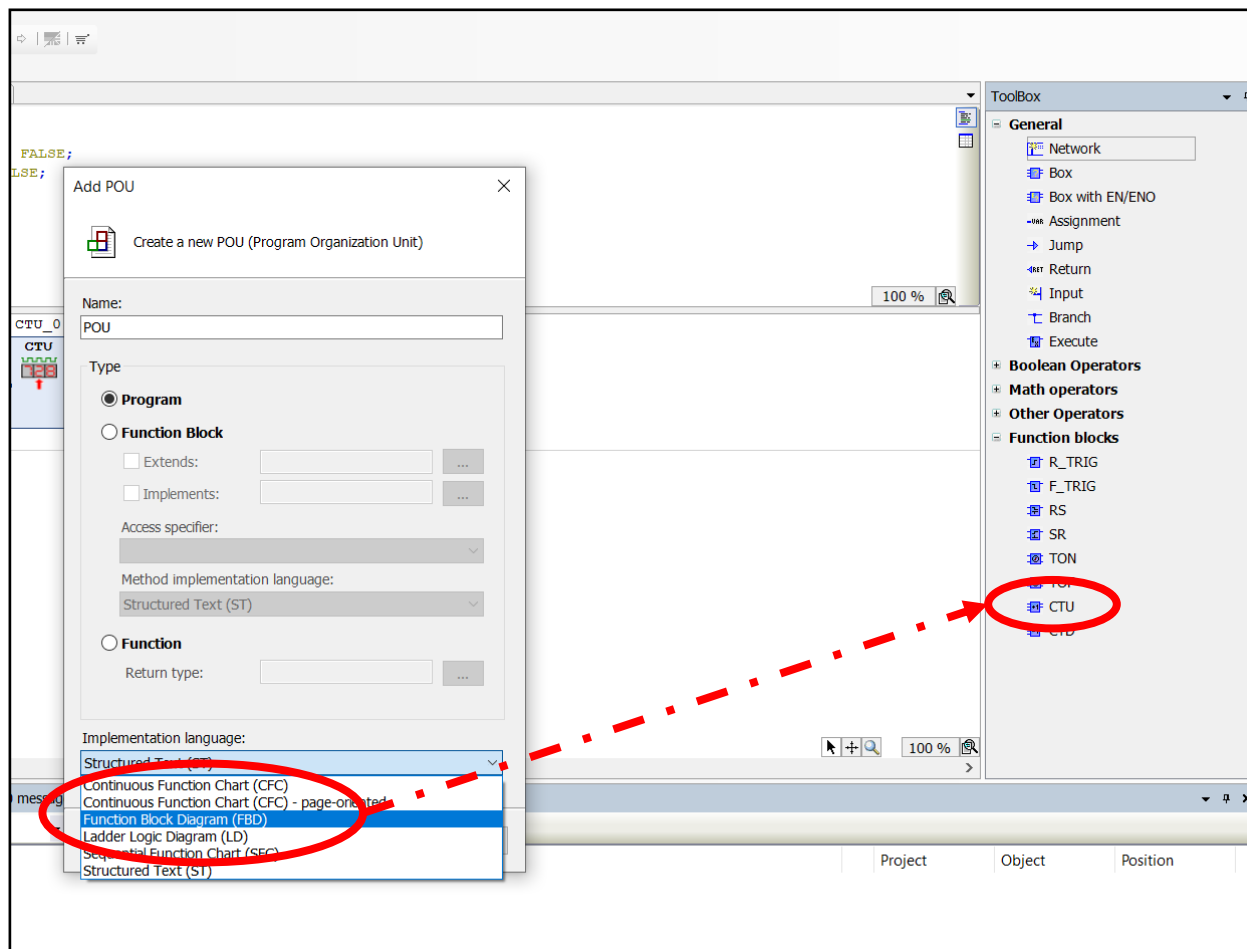




# Programming with Function Blocks

# Counters - CTU

- › Create a program, or add a POU of type "FBD"
- › Then, drag a Counter (CTU) in the workbench

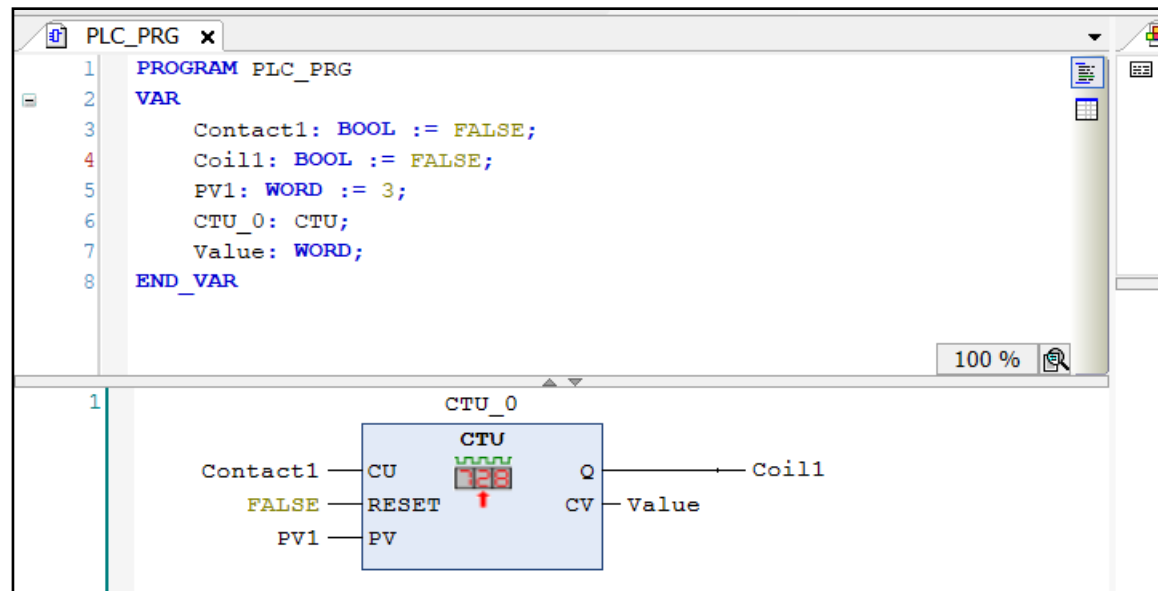




# Bind the CTU

Connect CTU in&outs to vars

- › CU to a contact (press&hold button)
- › Here, RESET is false (just for this example)..might use a button/contact?
- › PV1 is a WORD
- › Q to a coil (we want to turn on a lamp)
- › CV to a WORD variable, to monitor the status





# Add visualization

- › Attach a “simple” press&hold button to `Contact1`
- › Add a lamp and attach to `Coil1`
- › ..or, can also attach it directly to CTU out `PLC_PRG.CTU_0.Q`

The screenshot displays the software interface for a PLC program. The left pane shows the ladder logic for `PLC_PRG`, featuring a CTU (Counter Up) block with inputs `Contact1` (CU), `FALSE` (RESET), and `PV1` (PV). The output `Q` is connected to `Coil1`, and the `CV` output is labeled `Value`. The middle pane shows the `Visualization` editor with a `Press me` button and a lamp icon. The right pane shows the `Properties` panel for the selected lamp element.

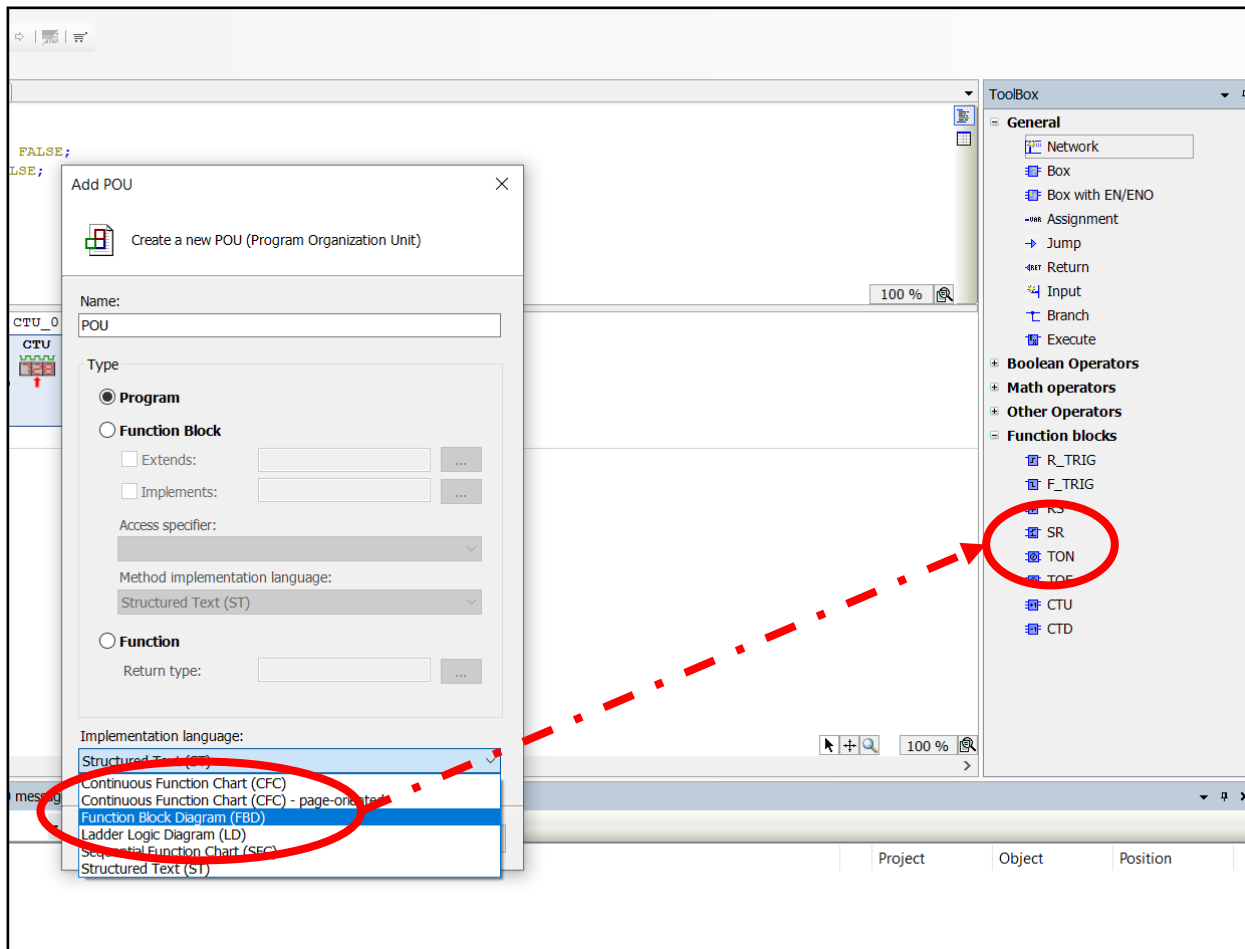
**Properties Panel:**

Property	Value
Element name	GenElemInst_1
Type of element	Lamp
Position	
X	295
Y	18
Width	70
Height	70
Variable	PLC_PRG.CTU_0.Q
Texts	
Tooltip	
State variables	
Visible	



# Timers – TON

- › Create a program, or add a POU of type “FBD”
- › Then, drag a Timer On (TON) in the workbench





# Bind the TON

- › IN to a contact (press&hold/standard button)
- › Remember, IN starts timer @its rising edge, and resets @its falling edge
- › PT1 is a TIME
- › Q to a coil (we want to turn on a lamp) using the **assignment** operator
- › ET to a TIME variable, to monitor the status

The screenshot displays a PLC programming environment with the following components:

- PLC\_PRG x**: A text editor window showing the following code:

```
1 PROGRAM PLC_PRG
2 VAR
3   Contact1: BOOL := FALSE;
4   Coill1: BOOL := FALSE;
5   PT1: TIME;
6   Value: TIME;
7   TON_0: TON;
8 END_VAR
```
- Visualization x**: A window with tabs for "Interface Editor", "Hotkeys Configuration", and "Elementlist". The "Interface Editor" tab shows a ladder logic diagram with a "Press me" button connected to a "TON\_0" timer block. The timer block has inputs for "IN" (Contact1), "PT" (PT1), and "Q" (Coill1). The "Elementlist" tab shows a variable declaration:

```
1 VAR_IN_OUT
2
3 END_VAR
```
- ToolBox**: A sidebar on the right containing various function blocks. The "General" section is expanded, and the "Box with EN/ENO" and "Assignment" blocks are circled in red. A red dashed arrow points from the "Assignment" block to the "Q" output of the "TON\_0" block in the ladder logic diagram.



# Defining Function Blocks

Create a new POU of type Function Blocks

› (of course, in ST)

Add POU

Create a new POU (Program Organization Unit)

Name:  
MyFB

Type

☐ Program

☒ **Function Block**

☐ Extends:  ...

☐ Implements:  ...

Access specifier:  
Public

Method implementation language:  
Structured Text (ST)

☐ Function

Return type:  ...

Implementation language:  
Structured Text (ST)

Add Cancel



# Implement the Function Block

Add in/out vars

- › num1, num2 as ins, SumResult and SubResult as outs, all REAL numbers

Add FB logics

- › In ST workbench

```
1 FUNCTION_BLOCK MyFB
2 VAR_INPUT
3     num1: REAL;
4     num2: REAL;
5 END_VAR
6 VAR_OUTPUT
7     AddResult: REAL;
8     SubResult: REAL;
9 END_VAR
10 VAR
11 END_VAR
12
13 1 AddResult := num1 + num2;
14 2 SubResult := num1 - num2;
```



# Use it in the Application

In the main POU, create vars

- › A and B are assigned, respectively, 11 and 5
- › Also, instantiate the FB

The screenshot shows a software interface with a project tree on the left and a code editor on the right. The project tree includes 'SYS Control Win', 'ion', 'y Manager', '(FB)', 'PRG (PRG)', 'Configuration', 'ainTask', and 'PLC\_PRG'. The code editor has two tabs: 'MyFB' and 'PLC\_PRG x'. The 'PLC\_PRG x' tab is active and contains the following code:

```
1 PROGRAM PLC_PRG
2 VAR
3     A: REAL := 11;
4     B: REAL := 5;
5     Sum: REAL;
6     Subtr: REAL;
7     SumAndSubtract: MyFB;
8 END_VAR
```

Below the code editor, there is a ladder logic editor with a single rungs highlighted in yellow, containing a coil (represented by a vertical bar) and the number '1'.



# Call the FB from application

Need to explicitly bind FB input vars to main POU the vars

- › E.g., A to num1
- › Can use dot notation to fetch output values, after calling

Slightly different than in “traditional” programming languages

- › Why?

RG)	8	END_VAR
ration		
RG	1	SumAndSubtract(num1 := A, num2 := B);
	2	
	3	Sum := SumAndSubtract.AddResult;
	4	Subtr := SumAndSubtract.SubResult;





# Simulate..and enjoy! 😊

MyFB PLC\_PRG x

Device.Application.PLC\_PRG

Expression	Type	Value
A	REAL	11
B	REAL	5
Sum	REAL	16
Subtr	REAL	6
SumAndSubtract	MyFB	

```
1 SumAndSubtract (num1 11 := A 11, num2 5 := B 5);  
2  
3 Sum 16 := SumAndSubtract.AddResult 16;  
4 Subtr 6 := SumAndSubtract.SubResult 6; RETURN
```



# Call from another POU

Now, your amazing FB can be used in another POU!

- › Instantiate a FBD POU
- › Find MyFB in the toolbox
- › Instantiate and try it!

The screenshot shows a PLC programming environment. The main window displays a POU (Program Organization Unit) being edited. The code in the POU is as follows:

```
1 PROGRAM POU
2 VAR
3     SumAndSub: MyFB;
4 END_VAR
5
```

The function block call is shown in a ladder logic network. It is a function block call to 'MyFB' (labeled 'SumAndSub'). The inputs are 'num1' and 'num2', and the outputs are 'AddResult' and 'SubResult'. The inputs are connected to '???' (representing variables). The function block is titled 'SumAndSub' and 'MyFB'.

The 'ToolBox' on the right side of the screen shows various components. The 'POUs' section is expanded, showing 'PLC\_PRG' and 'MyFB'. A red circle highlights the 'MyFB' entry in the 'ToolBox', and a dashed red arrow points from it to the function block call in the main window.





# Exercise

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Let's  
code!

Implement any of the automatas that we saw so far using an FSM written using ST CASE-SWITCH

- › Base automata

*"Identify even sequences of a (even empty),  
followed by one, or more, or no, b, ended by c"*

- › The traffic light

- › Whatever you want!

You might want to use Function blocks to separate and test different functionalities using different POUs



# How to run the examples

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Let's  
code!

- › Find them in `Code/` folder from the course website

To download Codesys, ask the teacher, or open an issue in our GitHub page



## Course website

- › [http://hipert.unimore.it/people/paolob/pub/Industrial\\_Informatics/index.html](http://hipert.unimore.it/people/paolob/pub/Industrial_Informatics/index.html)

## My contacts

- › [paolo.burgio@unimore.it](mailto:paolo.burgio@unimore.it)
- › <http://hipert.mat.unimore.it/people/paolob/>

## Resources

- › Brian Hobby, Codesys tutorials (a must to learn the tool in 5 mins)
- › A small blog
  - [www.google.com](http://www.google.com)