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SIM-ACE User's Guide

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1 About This Document

This document covers placing the ACE FB in simulation and other procedures for interacting with the ACE simulation functionality.

Revision history

Revision	Date	Description
A	February 2015	Initial release of the document.

2 SIM-ACE Purpose

SIM-ACE is the off-process ACE application in simulation mode. It does not support simulation of an on-process ACE application due to potential safety concerns. You can use the SIM-ACE to capture a debug version of a CAB program in an ACE controller for editing and debugging. You can save the edited CAB to the ERDB and use it as a CAB instance in Control Builder.

Related topics

“Performance capability” on page 8

2.1 Performance capability

2.1.1 Common features of SIM-ACE and ACE

ACE and SIM-ACE controller contain the following features:

- SIM-ACE and ACE use the same system template and executable.
- Upgrade of the ACE software also upgrades SIM-ACE.
- SIM-ACE support for inter-cluster peer-peer communication is similar to ACE.
- SIM-ACE supports peer-to-peer communication with non-CEE controllers such as PMD and Safety Manager, and Experion server points such as SCADA and TPS. The peer-to-peer communication between CEE and the Experion server points are licensed using "Experion server Peer Responder" feature.
- SIM-ACE has the same performance specifications as ACE. See the CEE-base Controller Specification and Technical Data for details.

2.1.2 SIM-ACE and Experion integration considerations

Consider the following requirements when integrating a SIM-ACE with an Experion system.

- SIM-ACE and ACE require separate licenses.
- You determine the mode of the CEEACE block through the Simulation Enable (SIMENABLE) parameter on its Properties form in the Control Builder as follows:

If you set...	Then, ACE is in...
SIMENABLE = FALSE (Off)	On-process mode
SIMENABLE = TRUE (On)	Simulation mode

- You confirm the simulation state of the CEEACE block through the simulation state (SIMSTATE) parameter on its Properties form in the Control Builder as follows:

If SIMSTATE is...	Then this means it is...
SIMNONE	An on-process ACE, no simulation
SIMRUN	SIM-ACE is running
SIMFREEZE	SIM-ACE execution is frozen

- SIM-ACE requires Experion-PKS Server and Station to support Operator Interface, History, and other functions, similar to the ACE.
- Using more SIM-ACE's than shown below, can deteriorate the performance of the system and is not advisable.

If processor system is...	Then, recommended quantity of SIM-ACE's should not exceed...
Single	2
Dual	4

- SIM-ACE establishes peer-to-peer communication with other SIM-ACE's on the same node and on other nodes, as long as theory is associated with the same server.

- Peer-to-Peer communication between simulation and non-simulation environment is restricted such that the Non-Simulation environments never consume data from the Simulation environments. (OPC is an exception).
- SIM-ACE can be connected to ControlNet to facilitate peer-to-peer communication with a C200 controller on a ControlNet supervisory network. With R410, SIM-ACE can also be connected to ControlNet to facilitate peer-to-peer communication with the non-CEE points such as PMD, SCADA, TPS, and Safety Manager points. The peer-to-peer communication between CEE and the Experion server points are licensed using "Experion server Peer Responder" feature.
- CEE notifications displayed in the station's Alarm display can be optionally disabled at CEE level either during configuration or when the CEE is idle.
- CAB instances (supported by SIM-ACE) are source level debugged using Visual Studio 7.0. Only one Visual Studio debug session at a time can be attached to a SIM-ACE for CAB.
- All the blocks that are executing in SIM-ACE supports Dynamic Snapshot Save/Restore (CAB instances are the exception).

3 SIM-ACE Planning and Design

Related topics

“SIM-ACE network connections” on page 12

“Reviewing SIM-ACE licensing” on page 13

“Reviewing peer-to-peer communications” on page 14

3.1 SIM-ACE network connections

Related topics

“SIM-ACE Ethernet connection types” on page 12

“Connecting to a network” on page 12

“Connecting to ControlNet supervisory network” on page 12

3.1.1 SIM-ACE Ethernet connection types

SIM-ACE can be connected to:

- FTE
- Experion redundant Ethernet
- Experion non-redundant Ethernet

Experion redundant Ethernet connections are automatically utilized between the Experion server and a SIM-ACE. This connection is similar to the Experion server's connection to the C200 and is used for the following:

- Operator display
- Notification, and
- History access

3.1.2 Connecting to a network

Refer to the *Fault Tolerant Ethernet Bridge Implementation Guide* for more information about FTE network connections.

Refer to the *Ethernet Implementation Guide* for more information on Ethernet connection.

3.1.3 Connecting to ControlNet supervisory network

SIM-ACE can be connected to ControlNet. This allows peer-to-peer communication to C200 and other environments on ControlNet. This option is invoked in the ACE function block and is used to configure the MACID of the PCIC interface card and is a common function for both ACE and SIM-ACE.

Prerequisites

The following state should exist, representing a fully functional, active ACE node running in simulation (SIM-ACE):

- ACE node is running in simulation (SIM-ACE).
- CEEACE function blocks are loaded.
- CM/SCM with strategies built are loaded and active.

To invoke the ControlNet connection for ACE in simulation mode

- 1 From the **Project** tab, double-click the **CEEACE** icon. The CEEACEFB Configuration form appears with the **Main** tab forward.
- 2 In the **ACE Location** field, configure the following:
 - The supervisory node IP address.
 - The ControlNet Connection by selecting the checkbox, and
 - The ACE MAC Address (MACID).

3.2 Reviewing SIM-ACE licensing

3.2.1 Licensing check

With the Experion R210 release, ACE/SIM-ACE has its own license. Configuration and loading of ACE/SIM-ACE is based on the available quantity licenses.

Refer to the following table for impact on configuration and loading when insufficient license quantities exist.

Activity	Result
Configure more ACE/SIM-ACE than the available licenses.	Warning is issued, stating you are using more features than current quantity of licenses permit.
Load more ACE/SIM-ACE than the available licenses.	Error is issued, stating you are using more features than current quantity of licenses permit.

Note: It is possible to have a simulation only environment, for example, no ACEs and 2 SIM-ACEs.

3.2.2 Licensing information on displays

There is licensing information on both the Control Builder and the Station displays. The following table defines the information available.

Location	License information
Controller Builder - Engineering Tools License Display	Limit - amount available Configured - amount configured Loaded - amount loaded
Station - System License Options Display	Amount available

3.3 Reviewing peer-to-peer communications

3.3.1 Communication rules for peer-to-peer

The following table provides the rules for peer-to-peer and simulation/non-simulation communications.

Type	Peer-to-peer communication	
ACE	Can write to another ACE	Can write to SIM-ACE
	Can read from another ACE	Cannot read from SIM-ACE
SIM-ACE	Can write to another SIM-ACE	Cannot write to ACE
	Can read from SIM-ACE	Can read from ACE

Notes:

- On a given node, only SIM-ACEs associated with the same engineering database must be configured.
- SIM-ACEs communicate with other SIM-ACEs over FTE or Ethernet provided that both must be in the same domain.
- Peer-to-peer between SIM-ACE and IOLIM/SIOLIM cannot be configured.

3.3.2 Subscription periods for SIM-ACE

You can configure different subscription periods which can be defined for each peer. If you configure an invalid subscription period, you are notified at the load of the ACE function block and the load fails.

4 SIM-ACE Installation and Upgrades

Refer to the latest *Experion Software Installation and User's Guide* for further details. This document is accessed either as:

- a printed document with the Experion release package,
- or in the PDF Collection DVD as a pdf file.

5 SIM-ACE Configuration

Related topics

“Activating SIM-ACE” on page 18

“Defining simulation command SIMCOMMAND settings” on page 24

“Defining simulation state (SIMSTATE) settings” on page 25

“Defining simulation levels using SIMMODE” on page 26

5.1 Activating SIM-ACE

Related topics

- “Creating and configuring SIM-ACE” on page 18
- “Loading SIM-ACE” on page 20
- “Successful load of SIM-ACE” on page 21
- “Load fails for SIM-ACE” on page 21
- “Reloading SIM-ACE” on page 21
- “Creating and loading OPC Server FB” on page 21
- “Creating and loading Control Module FB” on page 22

5.1.1 Creating and configuring SIM-ACE

The following two procedures provides information for the following:

- Create the ACE controller.
- Configure the ACE controller as SIM-ACE.

The following procedure describes the steps to place the ACE in simulation mode (create the SIM-ACE):

Creating the ACE controller

- 1 Click **File -> New -> Controllers -> ACE - Application Control Environment**.

The ACE Block configuration form with the Tag Name field highlighted appears.

SYSTEM:ACE Block, ACE_14617 - Properties [Project]

Main | Statistics | Version | Server History | Server Displays | Control Confirmation | Identification

Tag Name: ACE_14617
 Item Name:
 Parent Asset:
 Image Version:
 Execution Order in CM:
 ACE Location:
 Host IP Address:
 Host Name:
☐ ControlNet Connection
 ACE Mac Address:
 Command/State:
 ACE Command:
 ACE State:
 CEE Command:
 CEE State:
 SIM Command:
 Simulation State:
 In-Alarm Flag:
☒ Alarming Enabled
 Time Info:
 Time Zone:
☐ Daylight Savings Time
 Year Format:
 Weekday Format:
☐ Show Parameter Names

OK Cancel Help

- 2 Enter the **Tag Name** of up to 16 characters or accept the default. Press <Tab>. The cursor moves to the Item Name field.
- 3 Enter the **Item Name**. Press <Tab>. The cursor moves to the Execution Order in CM field.
- 4 Enter the **Execution Order in CM** value. Press <Tab>. The cursor moves to the Host IP Address field.

Host IP Address

**Tip**

Host name and Host IP Address are interactive entries. The recommendation is to enter the Host IP Address first and let the system determine the Host Name automatically. This is especially true if you are configuring the ACE block with the ACE node offline. In this case, entering the:

- Host IP address first generates a Warning message, but
- entering the Host Name first generates an error message.

When keying in an IP address, use the mouse or the left and right arrow keys to move the cursor to locations within the field. Do not press the <Tab> key until the complete address is keyed in.

- 5 Key in the host pc IP address for the ACE node. Press <Tab>. Or, press <Tab> to skip this field and enter Host Name instead. Acknowledge any error message prompts. System automatically determines the Host Name, when ACE node is online, and moves cursor to Host Name field.

Host Name

(Valid IP address entry results in system automatically determining the Host Name, when ACE node is online.)

- 6 If Host Name has been automatically determined, press <Tab>. Or, Key in name assigned to the host pc for the ACE node. There is a 255-character limit on this field. Press <Tab>.
(Valid Host Name entry results in system automatically determining the Host IP Address, when ACE node is online.)
Moves cursor to ControlNet Connection field.

☐ ControlNet Connection

- 7 Leave the box unchecked, if ACE is not connected to the ControlNet network. Check the box, if ACE is connected to the ControlNet network. Press <Tab>.
If the ControlNet Connection box is unchecked, cursor moves to Time Zone field, since the preceding fields are unavailable. Go to Step 10.
If the box is checked, cursor moves to ACE Mac Address field.

ACE Mac Address

- 8 Key in the Media Access Control (MAC) address assigned to the PCIC card installed the ACE node for ControlNet connections. Press <Tab>.
Moves cursor to the Time Zone field, since the ACE Command field is unavailable in the Project mode and the ACE State field is read only. Must be configured for each CEE.

Time Zone

**Tip**

The time zone represents the offset value from the Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) based on your geographical location. For example, the time zone value for a CPM located in the Eastern time zone of the United States that is currently not observing daylight savings time would be -05.0 or -5. Always use the offset value that is not adjusted for daylight savings time as the entry for the Time Zone field. For example, the adjusted offset value for the Eastern time zone of the United States is -04.0, but use the unadjusted value of -5 instead.

You may want to visit the <http://www.worldtimeserver.com> website, if you have a question about the appropriate offset value for your given location.

- 9 Key in the appropriate time zone offset value for the location where the ACE is installed. Press <Tab>. Moves cursor to Daylight Savings Time check box. Must be configured for each CEE.

 A checkbox labeled "Daylight Savings Time" with an unchecked box.

- 10 Leave box unchecked, if Daylight Savings Time is not currently being observed at your location. Or, Check the box, if Daylight Savings time is currently being observed at your location.

Press <Tab>.

Moves cursor to Year Format field.

 A dropdown menu labeled "Year Format" showing "YYYY" as the selected option.

- 11 Accept default or click ▾ down-arrow button and select desired format from the list. Press <Tab>. Moves cursor to Weekday Format field.

 A dropdown menu labeled "Weekday Format:" showing "1SUNDAY" as the selected option.

- 12 Accept default or click ▾ down-arrow button and select desired format from the list. Click the Server History tab.

Calls up the Server History configuration form.

Continue defining other tabs. Refer to the *Control Building User's Guide* for additional tab configuration information.

The following procedure describes the steps to place the ACE in simulation mode (create the SIM-ACE):

Configuring the ACE controller as SIM-ACE

- From the Project tab, double-click the CEEACE FB and the **Main** tab appears forward. Select **Simulation Enable** by checking the checkbox (SIMENABLE = TRUE).

Select **Inhibit Notifications - CEE and Contents** to inhibit notifications. Refer to "Inhibiting SIM-ACE notifications" on page 29 for additional information.

Note: To switch between simulation and non-simulation modes, the ACE FB execution needs to:

- shutdown and loaded, toggling the **SIMENABLE** parameter

5.1.2 Loading SIM-ACE

Prerequisites

- This procedure assumes that the ACE controller software is installed and the ACE node is capable of communicating with the Server.

To load the ACE block

- Click the desired SIM-ACE block icon in the Project tab.
- From the **Load/Upload** menu, select **Load** or click the Load button in the toolbar.

- 3 The **Load Dialog** appears, click **OK**. This initiates the load and calls up the load progress dialog.

NOTE: After loading, the icon color is blue. After the CEERUN command is run, the icon is the color green.

5.1.3 Successful load of SIM-ACE

Use the following procedure to check for a successful load of SIM-ACE:

- From the **Monitoring** tab, double-click the **CEEACE** icon. The CEEACEFB Configuration form appears with the **Main** tab forward and
 - CPMSTATE = CEEIDLE
 - CEESTATE = IDLE

5.1.4 Load fails for SIM-ACE

If the SIM-ACE Host computer (HOST) configuration does not identify an accessible computer with ACE software already installed, the ACE/CEEACE FBs load fails. The ACE and CEEACE blocks do not appear in the Monitoring tab of Control Builder.

Use the following procedure to correct the SIM-ACE load failure:

1. SIM-ACE node software installation must be completed, refer to the *Software Installation User's Guide*.
2. The SIM-ACE Host computer configuration must be corrected and the load should be re-attempted. Refer to "Reloading SIM-ACE" on page 21.

NOTE: A new ACE block does not have to be created in order to make the SIM-ACE Host computer correction. The previously configured ACE template is used to make the correction.

If the ACE host m/c configuration changes, then the CM/SCM's assigned to this ACE, needs to be re-loaded. This is necessary because the SIM-ACE communication path was changed, which causes the relative communication paths from other peers to SIM-ACE, to also change. The relative communication path is computed at load-time; therefore, the re-load is required.

5.1.5 Reloading SIM-ACE

Prerequisites

- To reload ACE/CEEACE FBs, the CEEACE must be in an Idle state.

To reload the SIM-ACE

- 1 From the **Monitoring** tab, double-click the **CEEACE** icon. The CEEACEFB Configuration form appears with the **Main** tab forward.
- 2 Change the CEE State to **Idle**. This is for both the ACE and SIM-ACE controller.
- 3 ACE/CEEACE FBs must be reloaded. The CM/SCM's assigned to this ACE or SIM-ACE must also be reloaded
Refer to "Loading SIM-ACE" on page 20.

5.1.6 Creating and loading OPC Server FB

Following are considerations to create and load the OPC Server FB:

- The OPC Server FB should be loaded prior to loading any strategies that contain references to the OPC Server FB. If the OPC Server FB is not loaded before strategies that reference OPC Server data, then:
 - Control strategies can not communicate with the OPC Server.
 - Fail-safe values are substituted for Gets of OPC Server data.

- Attempted Stores to the OPC Server fails.

Note: The field Host IP Address, Host name, and the OPC Server PROGID of the OPC FB in the OPC Server FB system template are grayed, when the OPC FB instance is in the monitoring part of the database and the system template is opened in the project side. To change any of the above-mentioned fields, the OPC FB must be deleted from the monitoring side of the database. This also applies to ACE for HOSTIPPRI, HOSTNAMEPRI, and CNETCONNECT.

Figure 1: OPC -Server configuration form with grayed out boxes

Prerequisites

- The OPC Server FB should be loaded prior to loading any strategies that contain references to the OPC Server FB.

To create and load an OPC Server

- 1 From the **File** menu, select **New**, **External Servers**, and **OPC - Server**. The OPC configuration form appears with the **Main** tab forward.
- 2 On the **Main** tab of the OPC FB configuration form, define the following fields:
 - Tag Name - default name is displayed
 - Item Name
 - Parent Asset
 - Description - default description is displayed
 - Host IP Address
 - Host name
 - OPC Server PROGID

5.1.7 Creating and loading Control Module FB

The scenario described below applies for both standard FBs and CCL FBs.

- An unassigned Control Module is assigned to a CEEACE, and
- if an already assigned CM is changed and saved,

CM contents are checked to see if any of the contained basic blocks are not supported by the SIM-ACE or ACE platform.

For example, it can be attempted to assign a CM with an AI Channel FB to a CEEACE that is associated with an ACE FB. When this mismatch is discovered, the assignment or save operation is not completed.

If the above build-time validation does not catch this error, the load of a CM that contains basic blocks, not supported by the SIM-ACE or ACE platform fails.

To create and load an CM FB

- 1 From the **File** menu, select **New**, and **Control Module**.
- 2 From the **Projects Tab**, right-click the Control Module, selecting **Module Properties...** from the pull-down menu. On the **Main** tab of the CM FB configuration form, define the following fields:
 - Tag Name - default name is displayed
 - Description - default description is displayed

5.2 Defining simulation command SIMCOMMAND settings

**Attention**

To access SIMCOMMAND requires the ShadowPlant application. This is a licensed application.

5.2.1 SIMCOMMAND considerations

Shadow Plant or Engineer can issue SIMCOMMAND only when the SIMENABLE is TRUE. SIMCOMMAND has PointBuild and Engineer access lock.

If SIMCOMMAND is	Then
SIMFREEZE	This commands a freeze of CEEACE and simulation is stopped. This command is issued for a save/restore, dynamic data snapshot, or for Single/Multi-Step execution.
SIMRUN	This commands a start of CEEACE and simulation begins from where it previously stopped.
SIMDISABLE	The Engineer uses this command to unfreeze the simulation. On receiving this command SIMSTATE = SIMRUN.
NONE	The engineer has not commanded CEEACE, or the SIMCOMMAND has not been processed.

5.3 Defining simulation state (SIMSTATE) settings

5.3.1 SIMSTATE considerations

SIMSTATE parameter is used within the Experion to identify whether an execution environment is in simulation or not.

The following are the SIMSTATE settings and descriptions.

If SIMSTATE is	Then
SIMFREEZE	Indicates that ACE had finished executing single or multiple step or a commanded FREEZE to Save/Restore snapshot was issued.
SIMRUN	Indicates that ACE is in Simulation mode and the blocks are being executed.
SIMNONE	Indicates that ACE is not running in simulation mode

5.3.2 Use case scenario

The following table reflects user actions, the required setting, and the link to accomplish the action.

1. User needs to Save/Restore a dynamic snapshot - SIM-ACE execution needs to stop

SIMFREEZE

“Freezing simulation” on page 32

2. User needs to restart simulation - SIM-ACE execution needs to run

SIMRUN

“Successful load of SIM-ACE” on page 21

If SIMFREEZE command is issued, then the Engineer can command SIMDISABLE to unfreeze the execution resulting in SIMSTATE being set to SIMRUN.

Note: In SIM-ACE the SIMSTATE is never SIMNONE, and in on-process ACE, SIMSTATE = SIMNONE.

5.3.3 SIMSTATE transitions in CEEACE

The table shown below depicts what happens when Shadow Plant issues SIMCOMMAND and how it affects the SIMSTATE.

SIMCOMMAND	Command issued by	Previous SIMSTATE	SIMSTATE after issuing SIMCOMMAND
SIMFREEZE	ShadowPlant	SIMRUN or SIMFREEZE	SIMSTATE = SIMFREEZE All the blocks stop executing their algorithms. But the parameter requests continue to be processed.
SIMRUN	ShadowPlant	SIMFREEZE	SIMSTATE = SIMRUN All the blocks start executing their algorithms based on the CEESTATE. The parameter requests continue to be processed.
SIMRUN	ShadowPlant	SIMRUN	No change since SIMSTATE = SIMRUN already.
SIMDISABLE	ShadowPlant or Engineer	SIMRUN or SIMFREEZE	SIMSTATE = SIMRUN SIMDISABLE is used when ShadowPlant exits, leaving SIMSTATE in SIMFREEZE. If SIMSTATE = SIMRUN then there is no change.


5.4 Defining simulation levels using SIMMODE

5.4.1 SIMMODE and SIMSTATE interdependencies

SIMMODE is available in the interface blocks UCNOUT, EHGOUT and HIWAYOUT FB. SIMMODE's settings are dependent on the setting of SIMSTATE, refer to following table.

If	Then
SIMSTATE = SIMNONE	SIMMODE is always NONE.
SIMSTATE is not SIMNONE	SIMMODE can take the value NONE, INITDISABLE and DIRECTSUB. Refer to ATTENTION below.

Refer to the following table for impact of the SIMMODE setting.

If SIMMODE setting is	Then the impact of this setting is	
NONE	SIMMODE = NONE, then OUT blocks are communicating with substitute or real OPC Server as usual.	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> OUT block can initiate read/write through OPC server FB. If SIMENABLE = FALSE then only real OPC is configured If SIMENABLE = TRUE then only substitute OPC Server is configured. 	<div>  Attention </div> <p>Real and substitute OPC servers cannot be distinguished. If the real OPC Server is configured with SIM-ACE, then Read and Write is possible. This can lead to simulation environment writing to the Real environment.</p> <p>You should be careful that SIM-ACE (with untested strategies possibly) is not used with real OPC Server to control real devices.</p>
INITDISABLE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> OUT Blocks are prevented from initializing the primary block. Operator can directly write to the parameters EULO and EUSPAN100 in the SECDATA side of OUT blocks, which are passed to the primary block. The Primary generates the value, regardless of the status of the OUT block. There is no need for OPC Function block or external simulators. Simulation is done in the Control Strategy within the ACE environment. 	
DIRECTSUB	When the SIMMODE = DIRECTSUB Shadow Plant reads and writes directly to SECDATA through Control Data Access since ShadowPlant is a CDA client. In this case OPC Function Block is not needed. ShadowPlant initiates read and write.	

5.4.2 SIMMODE in on-process ACE

SIMMODE parameter is available in case of on-process ACE also. But it is not enabled. SIMMODE = NONE and its value cannot be changed.

6 SIM-ACE Operations

Related topics

- “Startup of a SIM-ACE node” on page 28
- “Inhibiting SIM-ACE notifications” on page 29
- “Switching between SIM-ACE and ACE environment” on page 30
- “Freezing simulation” on page 32
- “Shutdown a SIM-ACE” on page 33
- “Deleting a SIM-ACE” on page 34
- “Debugging CAB programs in SIM-ACE” on page 38
- “Saving non-structural data” on page 40
- “Restoring non-structural data” on page 41

6.1 Startup of a SIM-ACE node

The SIM-ACE node needs to be powered on and booted up for use. The SIM-ACE does not support any startup functions.

6.2 Inhibiting SIM-ACE notifications

Related topics

“Active SIM-ACE and ACE notification” on page 29

6.2.1 Active SIM-ACE and ACE notification

If ACE and SIM-ACE controllers exist as different nodes and are connected to the same Experion server, notifications from both SIM-ACE and ACE are displayed in Station's Alarm Display page. Allowing SIM-ACE to generate alarms in this environment, could lead to confusion. The NOTIFINHIBIT option in the SIM-ACE prevents the notifications from the SIM-ACE environment from being displayed in the station's alarm display page.

- On selecting NOTIFINHIBIT, the notifications generated by the execution environment will not be reported in the stations alarm display.
- NOTIFINHIBIT parameter will not affect the events and INALAM indication.

Prerequisites

- You defined a SIM-ACE controller. In on-process ACE, the NOTIFINHIBIT option is disabled. NOTIFINHIBIT parameter is not exposed in the CEEACE FB template when SIMENABLE is FALSE.
- The CEEACE icon appears in the Monitoring tab.
- The NOTIFINHIBIT parameter has an access lock of Engineer.
- NOTIFINHIBIT is configured in the project side.

To inhibit the displaying of alarm notifications

- 1 From the **Monitoring** tab, double-click the **CEEACE** icon. The CEEACEFB Configuration form appears with the **Main** tab forward.
- 2 From the **Command/State** field, select **Inhibit Notifications - CEE and Contents** to inhibit notifications.
NOTE: From the monitoring side, NOTIFINHIBIT can only be set/reset when the CEESTATE is IDLE. This is enforced because notifications are regenerated when the CEESTATE transition from IDLE to RUN.

6.3 Switching between SIM-ACE and ACE environment

- ACE01's host name and IP address need to be reconfigured in addition to setting SIMENABLE = FALSE.

Prerequisites

- ACE FB (ACE01 and ACE02) is loaded successfully in a simulation mode (SIMENABLE = TRUE) and both executing in the same hardware node.
- Suppose ACE01 needs to be switched to non-Simulation mode, then it needs to run on a different Hardware node. This needs to be done because SIM-ACE and ACE cannot run on the same node.

Assume that you change the Hostname and IP Address and save the new configuration without deleting the loaded instance. The new configuration is updated in the ERDB. ERDB at this instance is inconsistent with ACE01 because ACE01 is executing in the host, rather than the host details in ERDB.


To avoid the inconsistency between the ERDB and the ACE01 process Host IP Address, Host name field and ControlNet connection option needs to be grayed in the ACE FB configuration form until the ACE01 is deleted in the monitoring part of the database.

This applies even when the ACE FB is in Shutdown state in the monitoring view in the Control Builder. In this case static/structural snapshot file is holding the inconsistent data. So irrespective of the state of ACE01 FB in the monitoring part of the database, ACE01 needs to be deleted in order to edit the Host info fields.

To change the host IP address

1. From the **Monitoring** tab, double-click the **ACE FB** icon. The **Main** tab appears forward.
2. In the **ACE Location** group, change the Host IP Address.
3. On the CEEACE FB Main Tab, ensure **Simulation Enable** and **Inhibit Notifications - CEE and Contents** are unchecked.

Implications of changing a simulation controller to an on-process controller

Active simulation controllers	Required activity	
ACE01 ACE02 Both executing in same hardware node	1. ACE01 needs to be switched to non-simulation mode <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Then ACE01 is required to run on a different hardware node. • ACE01's host name and IP address needs to be reconfigured. • SIMENABLE = FALSE. This is required because SIM-ACE and ACE cannot run on the same node. • ACE02 remains configured as previously defined. 	
	 Attention	ACE01 FB in the monitoring part of the database needs to be deleted in order to edit the Host info fields.

Active simulation controllers	Required activity
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If you change the Hostname and IP Address and save the new configuration without deleting the loaded instance the following occurs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New configuration is updated in the ERDB. • The ERDB at this instance is inconsistent with ACE01, because ACE01 is executing in host other than the host details in ERDB. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – To avoid the inconsistency between the ERDB and the ACE01 process Host IP Address, Host name field and ControlNet connection option needs to be grayed in the ACE FB configuration form till the ACE01 is deleted in the monitoring part of the database. – This applies even when the ACE FB is in Shutdown state in the monitoring view in the Control Builder. In this case static/structural snapshot file is holding the inconsistent data. So irrespective of the state of ACE01 FB in the monitoring part of the database ACE01 needs to be deleted in order to edit the Host info fields.

Related topics

“Scenario - Switching ACE and SIM-ACE” on page 31

6.3.1 Scenario - Switching ACE and SIM-ACE

Use the following procedure to switch from ACE on-process to SIM-ACE:

- 1 From the **Project** tab, double-click the **CEEACE** icon. The CEEACEFB Configuration form appears with the **Main** tab forward.
- 2 From the **Command/State** group, check **Simulation Enable** in its checkbox
 - This sets SIMENABLE = TRUE Note: On-process setting is SIMENABLE = FALSE
- 3 Shutdown and load the ACE FB.
 - Refer to the following sections: “Shutdown a SIM-ACE” on page 33 and “Loading SIM-ACE” on page 20
 - The shutting down and reloading of the ACE FB sets:

ACE FB to : CPMSTATE is CEEIDLE

CEEACE FB to: CEESTATE is IDLE
 - If an attempt is made to switch between ACE & SIM-ACE online (that is, when ACE FB is loaded) then load fails and CPMSTATE of the ACE FB is set to NOCEE.
- 4 Set SIMCOMMAND - only ShadowPlant and an Engineer (access privilege) can write to this parameter and command start and stop of execution. Once this parameter's value is accepted - it goes back to NONE. SIMCOMMAND selections - refer to “Defining simulation command SIMCOMMAND settings” on page 24 for detailed information.
 - NONE no change
 - SIMFREEZE stops simulation
 - SIMRUN simulation starts (from previous location if it was in a SIMFREEZE state)
 - SIMDISABLE unfreezes simulation

Note: Commands SIMRUN and SIMFREEZE can only be issued by Shadow Plant.
- 5 Set SIMSTATE is a read-only parameter.

6.4 Freezing simulation

Related topics

“SIM-ACE freezing simulation considerations” on page 32

6.4.1 SIM-ACE freezing simulation considerations

SIM-ACE can be placed in a freeze state by issuing a SIMFREEZE command.

A request to initiate a SIMFREEZE is made to the CEEACE FB SIMCOMMAND parameter and status checks are performed (prior to placing SIM-ACE in SIMFREEZE). These checks include:

- parameter value range checks
- access level range checks

Use the following procedure to place SIM-ACE in a freeze state:

- 1 Only the ShadowPlant application can freeze the simulation.
- 2 From the ShadowPlant menu select the **Freeze/Unfreeze** icon. This issues a SIMFREEZE/SIMRUN SIMCOMMAND based on the previous state.
- 3 The SIMSTATE changes to SIMFREEZE, if the previous state was SIMRUN.

Use the following table to validate a successful SIMFREEZE configuration:

Store status	SIMSTATE status	Result
Successful	SIMSTATE changes to SIMFREEZE	When block execution resumes, scheduler stops execution of all blocks
Unsuccessful	SIMSTATE stays at previous state	Error messages appear.

6.5 Shutdown a SIM-ACE

Related topics

“SIM-ACE shutdown considerations” on page 33

6.5.1 SIM-ACE shutdown considerations

To place a SIM-ACE in shutdown requires the CEESTATE is set to Idle. Follow the procedure in the table below.

1. On the SIM-ACE FB, select the **CEESTATE** checkbox, setting the state to **Idle**. After the shutdown the following occurs:
 - Processing is stopped on the SIM-ACE node
 - CDA-sp service continues to run
 - If the ACE FB still is displayed on the Monitoring tab, the following errors are indicated for the blocks associated with SIM-ACE:
 - ACE FB is yellow
 - CEEACE and CM/SCM are red
2. These indicators are activated because communications with the FBs have been lost.

6.6 Deleting a SIM-ACE

Related topics

“Deleting SIM-ACE from the Project side” on page 34

“Deleting SIM-ACE from the Monitor tab” on page 34

6.6.1 Deleting SIM-ACE from the Project side

Prerequisites

The SIM-ACE can be deleted from the Project side when it:

- Does not exist on the Monitor tab.
- The ACE FB (in simulation) has no control strategies assigned to the CEEACE FB.

To delete a SIM-ACE from the Project side

- 1 From the **Project** tab, select the **ACE FB** to be deleted.
- 2 From the **Edit** menu, select **Execution Environment Assignment**. The Execution Environment Assignment dialog appears.
- 3 From the **Available Module**:
 - Click **Show All**.
 - Select the module assigned to the CEEACE controller.
- 4 From the **Assigned Modules** area:
 - Select the module that is assigned to your controller.
 - Click **Unassign** at the bottom of the dialog. Note: On the **Project** tab, the module is placed back in the unassigned location.
 - Close the **Execution Environment Assignment** dialog box.
- 5 Select the **ACE** controller on the Project tab.
- 6 From the **Edit** menu, select **Delete**. The **Deleted Selected object(s)** dialog box appears listing the objects to be deleted.
- 7 Click **Deleted Selected object(s)**.
- 8 The ACE controller is deleted from the **Project** tab.

6.6.2 Deleting SIM-ACE from the Monitor tab

Prerequisites

The SIM-ACE can be deleted from the Monitor tab when:


- CEECOMMAND is IDLE then, CEESTATE can be set to Idle.
- The ACE FB (in simulation) has no control strategies assigned to the CEEACE FB.

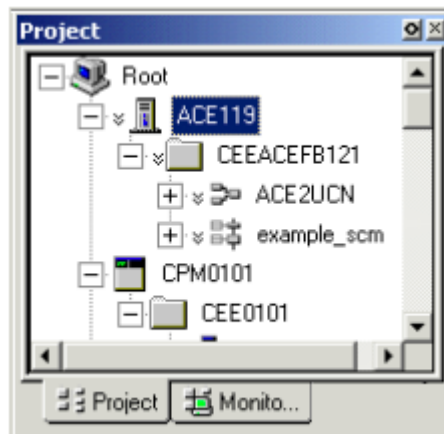
To delete a SIM-ACE from the Monitor tab


- 1 In **Monitor** Mode, open root directory for ACE/CEEACE.
Exposes contents of the CEEACE.
- 2 Right-click the **CEEACE** block and select Inactivate->Selected CEE(s), IOMs, CMs, Applicable Function Blocks from the shortcut menu.
Inactivates all components including the CEEACE. Block icons turn blue.

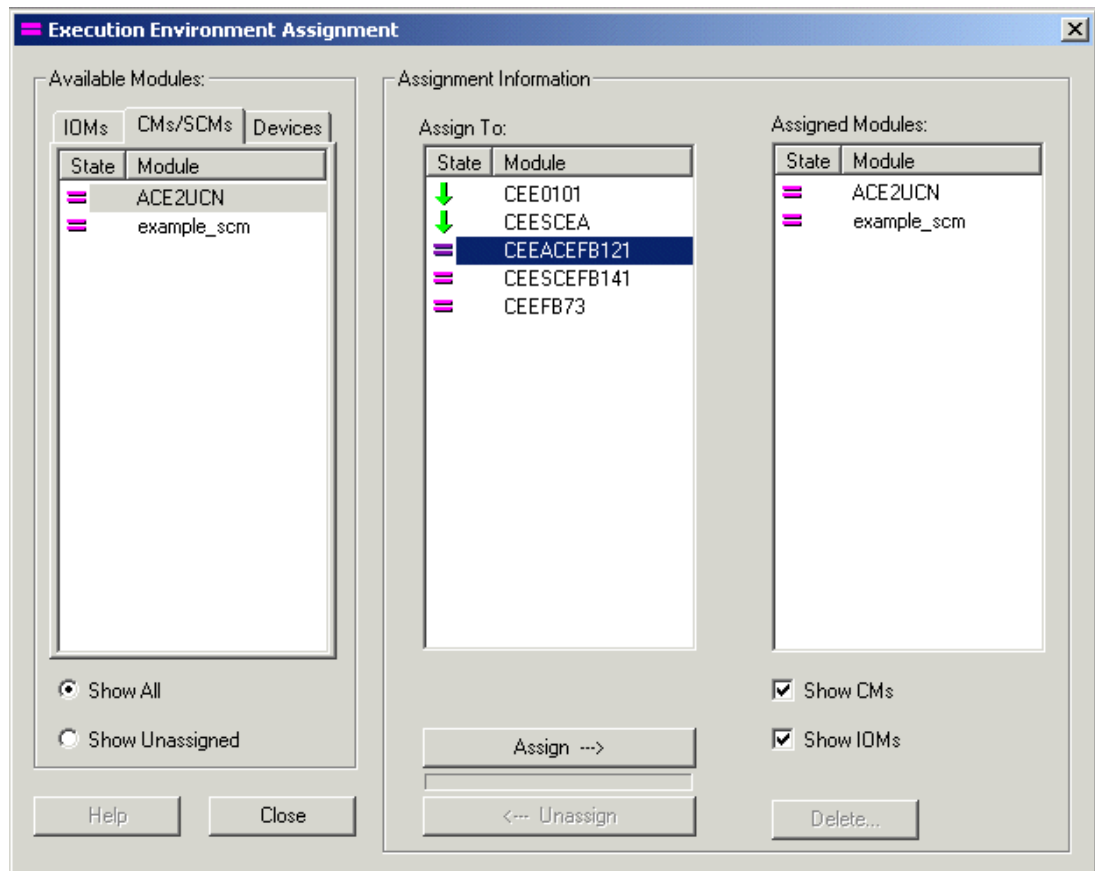
**Tip**


If ACE/CEEACE and its assigned components have been loaded, you must first put the CEEACE in its Idle mode and delete all of its components in the Monitor mode before you can delete them from the Project mode.

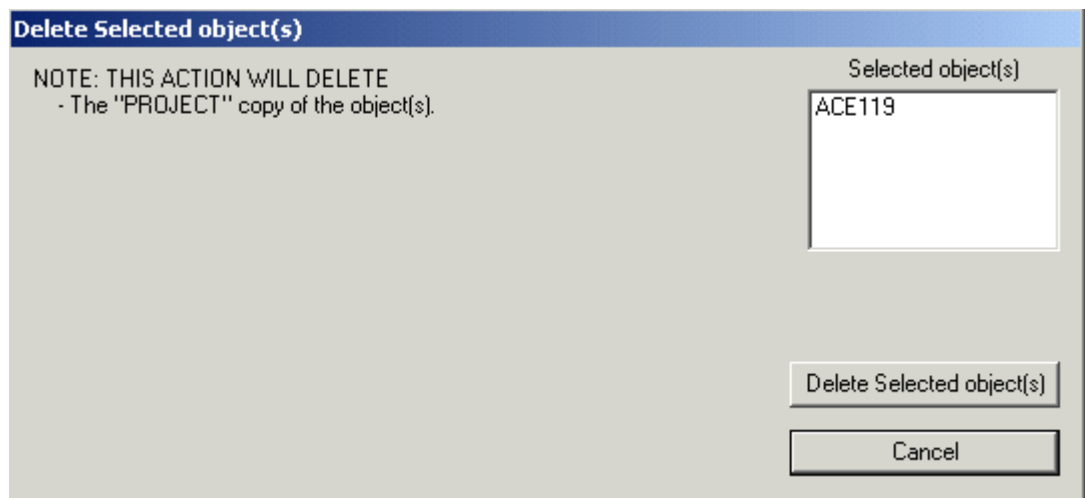
- 3 Select components contained in CEEACE and click  delete button in the tool bar.
Calls up **Delete Selected Objects** dialog box.
- 4 Click **Deleted Selected Object(s)**.
Initiates the delete function and progress dialog tracks status until complete.
- 5 Click the ACE block and click the delete button in the tool bar.
Calls up **Delete Selected Objects** dialog box.
- 6 Click **Delete Selected object(s)**.
Initiates the delete function and progress dialog tracks status until complete.
- 7 Click the **Project** tab.
Calls up the Project view.



- 8 With ACE selected, click  assign button in the tool bar.
Opens the **Execution Environment Assignment** dialog box.



- 9 Click module assigned to ACE in Available Modules list, select CEEACE in **Assign To** list, select all the modules listed in the Assigned Modules list and click **Unassign**.
Unassigns modules from CEEACE.
- 10 Click **Close**.
Closes dialog box and returns to Project view.
- 11 With ACE selected, click  delete button in tool bar.
Calls up **Delete Selected Objects** dialog box.



- 12 Click **Delete Selected object(s)**.
Initiates the delete function and progress dialog tracks status until complete.



- 13** This completes the deleting ACE/CEEACE procedure.
Stops the ace.exe on the ACE node, but the Control Data Access for supervisory platform (CDA-sp) continues to run.

6.7 Debugging CAB programs in SIM-ACE

To find the procedures to debug CAB programs in SIM-ACE, refer to the *Application Control Environment User's Guide*.



Attention

- If the debugger is attached to the on-process ACE, the application shuts down or terminates.

You debug CAB programs in Simulation mode. You utilize the source level debug capabilities of the Microsoft Visual Studio 7.0 that includes:

- single step execution,
- break points that can be set and viewed directly within the source code and
- the ability to examine internal variables during break.

The debug build contains additional information to be used by the source level debugger and is different from the release build.

Site practice must control the services and applications that are allowed on an on-process ACE to ensure debugging does not impact an on-process system.

6.7.1 Local debugging

For complete procedural instructions on debugging CAB programs in SIM-ACE, refer to the CAB section in the *Application Control Environment User's Guide*.

Local debugging activities

- Attaching a MSVS debugger inadvertently to an on-process ACE or any other on-process EPKS subsystem leads to serious user error with loss of control or view.
- To ensure safety, source level debugging can be used with SIM-ACE and ACE with debug build started as a debug console.
- You can set a release build option, to make a final build to the release target. This can be saved to ERDB and maintained as the useable block type.
- The precautionary measure below is taken care in ACE, SIM-ACE and CAB, against inadvertent setting of break points by end-users in on-process controllers.
 - ACE installation supports optional installation of MSVS remote debugging components with the warning that remote debugging components should only be installed on the nodes that are to host SIM-ACE.
- If the Machine Debug Manager (MDM) service is installed and running on a node which hosts on-process ACE, either in a cutover scenario or inadvertently, the ACE process determines the state of the service both at startup and periodically, and prevent the CEE transition to RUN.
 - An urgent priority system diagnostic alarm is generated.
 - The alarm message indicating 'MDM Service running' is displayed in the station.
 - If you try to give the CEECOMMAND as 'RUN' when MDM service is running an error message is thrown indicating 'CEE can't be activated when the MDM service is running'. In this case to activate the CEE, you first stop the MDM service and try the CEECOMMAND 'RUN'.

The following are activities associated with local debugging:

- save the build to ERDB.
- load an instance of a block to SIM-ACE. After loading the block, attach the Microsoft Visual studio debugger to the ACE process in a simulation mode.
- you iterate through as many variations of the block type as needed to eliminate defects.

- once the defects are removed, SIM-ACE debugging is complete.

6.7.2 Remote debugging

To find the procedures to debug CAB programs in SIM-ACE, refer to the *Custom Algorithm Block and Custom Data Block User's Guide*.

Remote debugging considerations

Remote debugging can be done only if MDM service is installed on the ACE node. This service is installed as part of remote debugging components setup during ACE installation, only if the CAB License exists.

Refer to the *Application Control Environment User's Guide* for additional information.

6.8 Saving non-structural data

Saving a non-structural data snapshot translates into a command to all SIM-ACEs. This command is applicable to all SIM-ACE's in the system.

Following are considerations when saving non-structural data.

Action	Result
Control library interface checks if SIMSTATE = SIMFREEZE	<p>If it is not SIMFREEZE, the command is rejected.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Save in this SIMSTATE is not allowed because the simulation database may not have been stopped or frozen. <p>If it is SIMFREEZE, the command is accepted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The control library then reads the latest values of DYNSTATE parameter from the controller. All the loadable parameters, as well as dynamic state variables, are stored in snapshot file on the machine where the Experion server is running.
Save operation is not successful if there is communication failure during save operation.	It is the responsibility of the engineer to restart the save operation.

6.9 Restoring non-structural data

Restoring a non-structural data snapshot translates into a command to all SIM-ACEs. This command is applicable to all SIM-ACE's in the system. Snapshot save location is configurable from the ShadowPlant side.

Following are considerations when restoring non-structural data.

Action	Result
Control library interface checks if SIMSTATE = SIMFREEZE	<p>If it is not SIMFREEZE, the command is rejected.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restore in this SIMSTATE is not allowed because the simulation database may not have been stopped or frozen. <p>If it is SIMFREEZE, the command is accepted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dynamic data snapshot files that were saved previously can be used to restore SIM-ACE. All dynamic state variables are restored to the controller.
Restore operation is not successful if there is communication failure during save operation.	It is the responsibility of the engineer to restart the restore operation.
Events are reported when the non-structural data is restored. This means that the event journal always contains a record of when the snapshot was restored.	

7 SIM-ACE System Administration

Related topics

“Local SIM-ACE Node Administration” on page 44

7.1 Local SIM-ACE Node Administration

SIM-ACE node administration is done locally. Keyboard, mouse, and monitor should be available to connect to the SIM-ACE node, when reviewing/adjusting administration settings. Node administration function includes:

- checking status of node services,
- using node performance tools, or
- starting and stopping other applications on the node

**Attention**

The system does not prevent the user from installing and executing other applications on the same node as SIM-ACE or Experion applications. For robust and reliable SIM-ACE control, it is highly recommended that only SIM-ACE related applications are hosted on the SIM-ACE node.

8 SIM-ACE Troubleshooting and Maintenance

Related topics

“Recovering from SIM-ACE node power failure” on page 46

“Recovering from SIM-ACE application failure” on page 47

“Recovering from OPC Server failure” on page 48

8.1 Recovering from SIM-ACE node power failure

If the SIM-ACE loses power the following occurs:

- Loss of Communications with Controller event is generated.
- Errors are indicated on the Monitoring tab icons for the ACE, CEEACE, and CM/SCM FBs associated with SIM-ACE.
- Lower level strategies dependent on the SIM-ACE for supervisory control sheds to their configured backup modes.

Prerequisites

The following state should exist, representing a fully functional, active ACE node running in simulation (SIM-ACE):

- ACE node is running in simulation (SIM-ACE).
- CEEACE function blocks are loaded.
- CM/SCM with strategies built are loaded and active.

To recover from a SIM-ACE power failure

- 1 Restore power to SIM-ACE node.
- 2 Boot up the SIM-ACE node (all necessary SIM-ACE processes starts automatically).
- 3 Select **ACE FB** from Monitoring tab. From the **Snapshot** menu, select **Restore Controller from Snapshot**.
- 4 Activate CEEACE and CMs/SCMs as required.

8.2 Recovering from SIM-ACE application failure

A SIM-ACE application failure occurs when either the CDA-sp or EE component or both fail). If the SIM-ACE application fails the following occurs:

- Loss of Communications with Controller event is generated.
- Errors are indicated on the Monitoring tab icons for the ACE, CEEACE, and CM/SCM FBs associated with SIM-ACE.

Prerequisites

The following state should exist, representing a fully functional, active ACE node running in simulation (SIM-ACE):

- ACE node is running in simulation (SIM-ACE).
- ACE/CEEACE function blocks are loaded.
- CM/SCM with strategies built are loaded and active.

To recover from a SIM-ACE application failure

- 1 Restore power to SIM-ACE node.
- 2 Boot up the SIM-ACE node (all necessary SIM-ACE processes start automatically)
- 3 Select **ACE FB** from Monitoring tab. From the **Snapshot** menu, select **Restore Controller from Snapshot**.
- 4 Activate CEEACE and CMs/SCMs as required.

8.3 Recovering from OPC Server failure

An OPC Server failure happens if any of the following occurs:

- OPC Server component fails.
- The single Ethernet connection to the OPC Server fails.
- OPC Server loses power.

If OPC Server fails, the following occurs:

- Communication errors from SIM-ACE strategies that reference OPC Server data. Several process alarms can be reported as a result of:
 - fail-safe data substitution for Gets, and
 - failures for Stores

Prerequisites

The following state should exist, representing a fully functional, active ACE node running in simulation (SIM-ACE):

- ACE node is running in simulation (SIM-ACE).
- ACE/CEEACE function blocks are loaded.
- CM/SCM with strategies built are loaded and active.
- OPC Server function block is successfully loaded.
- SIM-ACE contains control strategies that reference the OPC Server.
- Communication between the SIM-ACE and the OPC Server is normal.

To recover from an OPC Server failure

- 1 Restore power to OPC Server node, if power was lost.
- 2 Repair the failure in the communication link, if needed.

9 Notices

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9.2 How to report a security vulnerability

For the purpose of submission, a security vulnerability is defined as a software defect or weakness that can be exploited to reduce the operational or security capabilities of the software.

Honeywell investigates all reports of security vulnerabilities affecting Honeywell products and services.

To report a potential security vulnerability against any Honeywell product, please follow the instructions at:

<https://honeywell.com/pages/vulnerabilityreporting.aspx>

Submit the requested information to Honeywell using one of the following methods:

- Send an email to security@honeywell.com.
- or
- Contact your local Honeywell Process Solutions Customer Contact Center (CCC) or Honeywell Technical Assistance Center (TAC) listed in the “Support and other contacts” section of this document.

9.3 Support

For support, contact your local Honeywell Process Solutions Customer Contact Center (CCC). To find your local CCC visit the website, <https://www.honeywellprocess.com/en-US/contact-us/customer-support-contacts/Pages/default.aspx>.

9.4 Training classes

Honeywell holds technical training classes on Experion PKS. These classes are taught by experts in the field of process control systems. For more information about these classes, contact your Honeywell representative, or see <http://www.automationcollege.com>.

