BNCS

Atos IT Solutions and Services

Autohost

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1   Description

The purpose of this application "autohost.exe" is to host V4.5 panel components when they are used for automatic processes (aka BNCS Automatics) on a BNCS V4.5 system.

There can be multiple instances of this application so that multiple groups of automatic processes can be run on a single machine.

This application is meant to run pre-configured groups of panels (a bit like panelman runs panels from panesets) – if you want to just run a single V4.5 panel use bncs_v45_host.exe

2   Configuration

Configuration is held in autohost.xml which can be found in the config directory of the current V4.5 system

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" ?>

<autohost>

   <host id="Autos_One" >

      <app name="Test Automatic" panel="test" />

      <app name="R2" panel="Alarms\caa\Tx_Chain_panels\tx_chain_view3" instance="R2" />

      <app name="R3" panel="Alarms\caa\Tx_Chain_panels\tx_chain_view3" instance="R3" />

   </host>

   <host id="Autos_Two" >

      <app name="Test Automatic One" panel="test1" />

      <app name="Test Automatic Two" panel="test2" />

   </host>

</autohost>
```
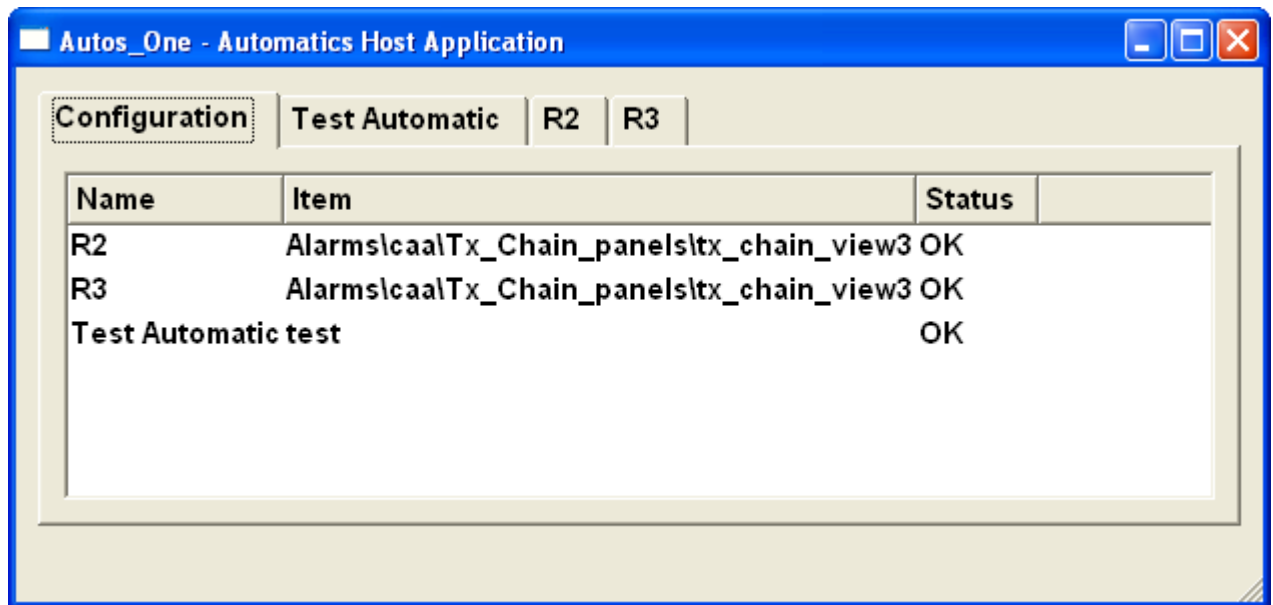
This configuration shows two different configurations – which <host name="…"> entry used is taken from the command line parameter

e.g.

```
autohost.exe Autos_One
```

The first tab always shows the configuration information for this autohost – the title bar contains the name of the configuration in use.

Using the example information above 3 panels will be created on 3 different tabs of the application – all three run concurrently and diagnostic information can be viewed by selecting the tab for that app – noting that it's entirely developer dependent what information is provided.

Note that the "panel" information should be the relative path to the directory containing the panel DLL (not the full path).

From version 4.5.2 autohost will also accept UI-only (.bncs_ui) files – not just DLLs and uses the same priority as panelman for what to load (i.e. if there's a DLL with the same name as the directory it'll use that first, otherwise it'll look for a .bncs_ui file with the same name as the directory).

It is possible to have multiple instances of the same DLL and give them different identities by providing an instance parameter. If this value is NULL or missing then the panel is not targeted.

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3   Document Version Control

Version	Date	Author	Comments
0.1		David Yates	Initial document
0.2	19/12/2011	Andrew Prince	Re formatted and branded