

This example demonstrates the various ways the Link button on the Diagram tool bar can be used. The Link button capability is provided in the Professional version.

After selecting a Link button from the Diagram window toolbar, right-click on it to display its properties. The Properties dialog will appear as follows. Each radio button provides a different type of link. Many of these are demonstrated in this example.

The screenshot shows the 'Link Button Properties' dialog box. It has a title bar with a question mark and a close button. The dialog is divided into several sections. At the top, there are fields for 'Caption' (set to 'Excel'), 'Location' (Left: 57, Top: 117), 'Size' (Width: 68, Height: 25), and 'Name'. Below these is a 'Button with standard icon' dropdown and a small icon. The main section contains six radio buttons: 'Start External Program' (selected), 'Open EES File', 'Open Distributable File', 'Open Child Window', 'Play Macro (adapted)', and 'Open Lookup File'. Each radio button has a corresponding text field. The 'Start External Program' field contains 'excel'. The 'Open EES File' field contains '*.EES'. The 'Open Distributable File' field contains '1'. The 'Open Child Window' field contains 'Main Diagram Window'. The 'Play Macro (adapted)' field contains '*.EMF : Par1, Par2,'. The 'Open Lookup File' field contains 'Prompt for *.LKT files'. There are 'Browse' buttons next to the 'Start External Program', 'Open EES File', and 'Play Macro (adapted)' fields. At the bottom, there are three buttons: 'OK' (with a green checkmark), 'Delete' (with a trash can icon), and 'Cancel' (with a red X).

1. Link to Other Applications.

The Start External Program can be used to start any .exe program by providing the path and executable name. Programs that have been installed, like EXCEL, WORD and EES, can be started by supplying application file name with the recognized file name extension, e.g., .XLS, .DOC, or .EES.

2. Link to other EES Program

A Link button can start another EES file directly by providing the file name in the edit space following the Open EES File radio button. Be sure to save your existing file before starting the new file.

3. Link to a Help Program

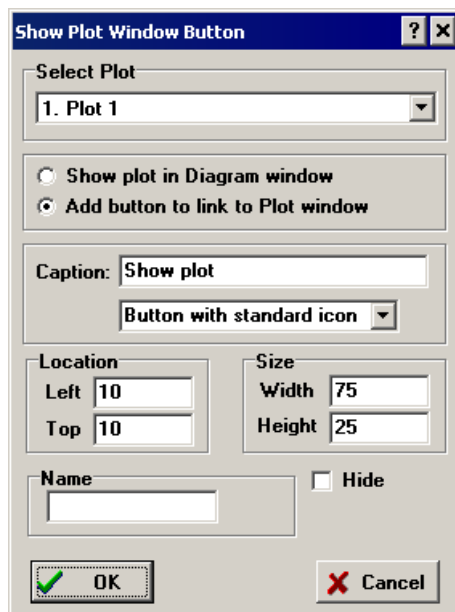
The EES Help button in the example uses a Help button shown in the Diagram tool bar with a yellow circle and a ? This command will open .pdf, .htm, .chm, and .txt files. Right clicking on the button while in Development mode will bring up the Properties dialog where the name of the help file is entered.

The screenshot shows the 'Help Button Information' dialog box. It has a title bar with a question mark and a close button. The dialog is divided into several sections. At the top, there are fields for 'Caption' (set to 'EES Help'), 'Location' (Left: 100, Top: 191), 'Size' (Width: 91, Height: 25), and 'Name'. Below these is a 'Button with standard icon' dropdown and a small icon. The main section contains a 'Help File Name' field with the text 'C:\EES32\ees.chm'. There is a 'Browse' button next to the 'Help File Name' field. At the bottom, there are three buttons: 'OK' (with a green checkmark), 'Delete' (with a trash can icon), and 'Cancel' (with a red X).

The file are you viewing was likely opened with a Help button.

4. Link to Plot Windows

Clicking a button can open a plot window, as demonstrated by the Contours button. The Add plot access button on the Diagram window tool bar was used here. Right click on this button in Development mode to select the plot that you wish to display.



5. Link to a Child Diagram Window

Use a Link button with the Open Child Window radio button. The control to the right of the Open Child Window provides a pull-down list showing all of the defined child diagram window.

6. Link to a Programmable Macro


This link will start a macro and pass it parameters that are EES variable. In this case, the macro named. bTest.emf is started. A listing of this macro file (which is in the Examples folder) is as follows.

```
PropPlot %1 PH 2 %2 %3 0 DoQLines
```

This macro simply creates a Property plot with the PropPlot macro command. However, the parameters to the PropPlot command, which are \$+%1, %2, and %3 are the three EES variables that are shown following the name of the macro file to the right of the Play Macro (adapted) button, as shown.

Link Button Properties

Caption:

Button with standard icon 

Location
Left
Top

Size
Width
Height

Name

☐ Hide

☐ Start External Program

☐ Open EES File

☐ Open Distributable File

☐ Open Child Window

☒ Play Macro (adapted)

☐ Open Lookup File