Using ET2xx Terminals with TAW32

Introduction
The ET2xx Ethernet terminals can be used with the data collection software (DCENET.EXE) to capture employee time & attendance data into an ASCII file. The captured ASCII time stamp data can then be used to update the Time and Attendance for Windows (TAW32.EXE) application program database. This application note will discuss the concepts for how to set up these programs to create a time and attendance application. It is assumed that both programs are installed on the Windows based host computer and that the operator is familiar with their use (see individual program documentation for details).

DCENET Setup
The DCENET program must be set up to capture employee time data from the ET2xx terminal device(s) and store it in an ASCII file for processing by the TAW32 program. A DCENET configuration file (CLOCK.CFG) is provided as an example of a time clock application using the ET215 terminal. The DCENET software should be configured to store the captured time stamp records in a common ASCII file. Typically, this file is stored in the subdirectory of the TAW32 application program. For example, "C:\TAW32\DOWNLOAD.DAT" would be a typical value.

TAW32 Setup
The TAW32 program "Download" function is normally used to create an ASCII time stamp file. It then automatically starts the "Update" function to process the time stamp records into the time and attendance program database. If the ASCII time stamp file is stored in the TAW32 application program subdirectory then the "Download" function is not used and only the "Update" function is required.

The "Download" function can be used to execute a batch command file if desired. For example, if the ASCII time stamp file is stored remotely and needs to be copied to the TAW32 subdirectory a batch file could be used to copy the file and delete the original copy. If a batch file is to be used then the TAW32 program must be configured to execute it from the "Download" function. From the "Options" menu select "Configuration" to display the program options dialog box. Select the "Download" tab and check the "User Program" box. In the "User defined download program" box enter the path\filename of the batch file to execute. For example, "C:\TAW32\DOWNLOAD.BAT" would be a typical value.

The TAW32 program must be configured to use the ASCII time stamp file for the update function. From the "Options" menu select "Configuration" to display the program options dialog box. Select the "Update" tab and set the path\filename of the ASCII file created by the user program. For example, "C:\TAW32\DOWNLOAD.DAT" would be a typical value.

(For more information on using the TAW32 program see the TAW32.HLP help file.)

TAW32 Operation
Once the DCENET program is functioning and the TAW32 program has been configured the TAW32 program should periodically update the time and attendance database. If the a Download batch file is being used click "Download Time Stamp Data" from the "Update" menu on the main form of the TAW32 program. Otherwise, select the "Update from ASCII file" function from the "Update" menu to process the ASCII time stamp data. The update status information window will be displayed and will provide the "Update Complete" message when finished.