Application Note #9812

Using TTCUP32 with TAW32

Introduction

The TTClock Utility Program (TTCUP32.EXE) can be used to download data into an ASCII file that can be used by the Time and Attendance for Windows (TAW32.EXE) application program. These programs can be run separately and consecutively to create and process the downloaded time stamp data. However, the process can be automated so that the TTCUP32 download function can be performed from within the TAW32 program. This feature is especially useful in applications involving multiple TTClock device(s) where the utility program Address Book can be utilized. This application note will discuss the details on how to set these programs up to operate together. It is assumed that both programs are installed on the host computer and that the operator knows how to use them.

TTCUP32 Setup

The TTCUP32 utility program must be set up to capture data from the TTClock device(s) and store it in an ASCII file for processing by the TAW32 program. A connection entry for each TTClock device must be included in the Address Book.

The "Download File Data" specification must be set to save the data file where the TAW32 program will be expecting to find it. This file can be any name but should be saved in the same directory as the TAW32 application. For example, "C:\TAW32\DOWNLOAD.DAT" would be a typical default value.

(For more information on setting up and using the TTClocks with the TTCUP32.EXE program see the TTCUP32.HLP help file and application notes AN9810 and AN9811.)

TAW32 Setup

The TAW32 program "Download" function is used to create a time stamp in an ASCII file. Then the "Update" function processes the ASCII file records into the time and attendance program. These program functions can be configured to use the TTCUP32 program to capture the time stamp data and create the ASCII file to be processed.

The TTCUP32 program can be executed from a batch command file with a special command line parameter (“DOWNLOAD”) that will download data from all the devices in the Address Book. A single command line in the batch file will execute the program in this mode. For example, a typical command line would be:

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C:\”PROGRAM FILES”\TTCLOCK\TTCUP32.EXE DOWNLOAD
```

The batch file can be created using a standard text editor (for example NOTEPAD.EXE) and can be given an appropriate name (i.e. DOWNLOAD.BAT). The batch file should be stored in the same directory as the TAW32 application program (typically, C:\TAW32).

Once the batch file has been created the TAW32 program must be configured to use it for 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 (the "TTClock Options" are not when a user program is defined). 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.

Select the "Update" tab and set the path\filename of the ASCII file created by the user program. This would be the same name and location of the "Download File Data" parameter set in the TTCUP32 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 both programs have been configured to work together the TTClock data can be downloaded from within the TAW32 program. Click "Download Time Stamp Data" from the "Update" menu on the main form of the TAW32 program. The TTCUP32 program will automatically start and data will be downloaded. Then 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.