GUARDIAN

'Visual Designer'

FEATURES

Enables Step-by-Step Design of Guardian Applications
Easy Origination and Managing of Display Mimics
Simplified Database Configuration
Multiple Hierarchy Options
Automatic Verification Checks for Errors and Omissions

What is 'Visual Designer'

Guardian 'Visual Designer' is a software tool that enables Guardian users to generate mimic-based applications to suit the plant that they wish to monitor.
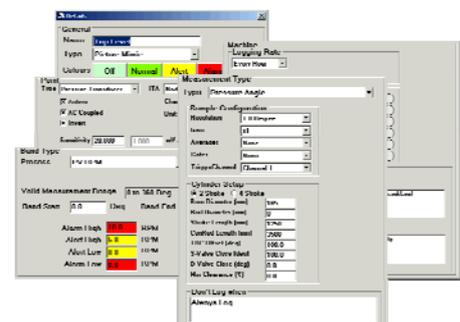
It provides a step-by-step pathway for:

- Generation of mimics;
- Configuration of database;
- Configuration of network and data acquisition intervals;
- Setting up of options for email transmission, relay control and Modbus interfaces;
- Automatic setup of web server facility.

'Visual Designer' enables users with basic computer knowledge to produce a complete Guardian application without the need for specialist programming or database knowledge. For example, the mimic hierarchies are manipulated using "File Manager" controls with which any computer user will be familiar, and the mimics themselves are edited using graphic-editor style controls. Network scan rates are easily adjusted to control network loading and to prioritise the scanning of critical machines. Web functions are updated automatically. At the end of the design process, a "Verify" function checks for any inconsistencies or omissions in the generated application, thus providing a virtually fault-free implementation first time!

The facility to view and edit multiple windows simultaneously on-screen provides a flexible design path for experimentation and fine-tuning. 'Visual Designer' is equally suitable for the origination of a Guardian plant monitoring system, or the adjustment and expansion of an existing system. The example windows below indicate some of the powerful generation and editing facilities available.
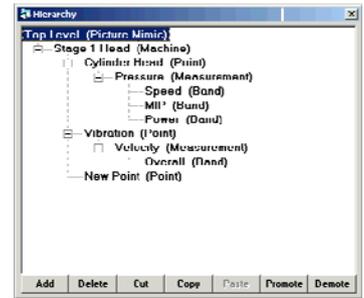
Windows Environment

All design and editing facilities are brought up within individual windows that may be displayed singularly or simultaneously depending on the requirements of the designer.
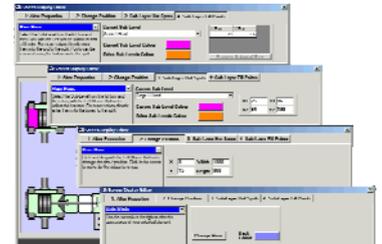
System Hierarchy

Depicting the system hierarchy in the same manner as folders on a computer allows for easy system creation. The Cut & Paste facility reduces tedious replication for systems with identical or similar machinery. Context sensitive displays are made available depending on the current selection in the hierarchy.
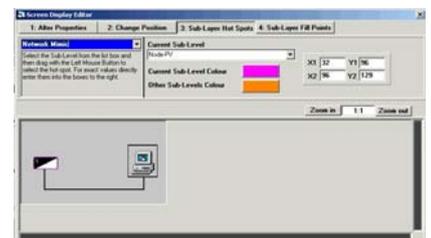

Picture Mimic Designer

The graphical editor uses the actual images that will be used with Guardian. Layout and display styles are controlled using traditional mouse click and dragging operations. The mimic picture generated can be animated exactly as it will appear within the Guardian application when it is monitoring plant machinery.

Network Configuration

All aspects of the Guardian ITA sampling nodes can be altered to allow fine-tuning of network performance. The network mimic can be designed to reflect layout of the network as it is installed in the plant.

Full Configuration Tool

In addition to the expected configurations for sample points, the environment into which the system is to be deployed can be configured. Options for the Email, Relay and MODBUS interfaces are all configured within the same tool. Regional and user preference options can also be selected.

Web Support

A single click registration process allows the system to be loaded onto the current computer, and also creates a portable configuration file to allow it to be deployed elsewhere. Web server support is built in using the settings identical to those in the Guardian application.

Automated Verification

Either at completion, or at partial intervals in the design, the current configuration may be verified for correctness and consistency. Selective tests check the configuration to ensure that the design will be accepted by the Guardian system. Design errors and warning notices detail discrepancies and takes the designer to the relevant section within Visual Designer to fix the problem.