Integration and Openness for Engineering Productivity

– Reduce risk and save time: Improved integration of Drives, PLC and HMI
– Stay flexible: New features to build your distinct solution and tool chain
– Be productive: Better support for teams and fast-track solution engineering

What is Automation Builder?
ABB Automation Builder is the software for machine builders and system integrators wanting to automate their machines and systems in a unified and efficient way. Automation Builder stands for Integration, Openness and Engineering Productivity.

Integrated engineering is key for letting products, technology and people work seamlessly. Automation Builder connects the engineering tools for PLC, safety, drives, motion, robotics and HMI. Automation Builder integrates products into solutions that create value for your customers. Integration brings you in control of your project, reduces risk and saves time.

Open systems win. They lead to more innovation, value, and freedom of choice for your business. Automation Builder enables you to adapt the tool chain to your needs and workflows. Automation Builder is open for your specific product and communication technology to build your distinct solution.

What is new in Automation Builder 1.2?
Below you can find an overview of the new features we have introduced with Automation Builder 1.2. Please refer to the section “Learn more” for further sources, e.g. the Automation Builder knowledge base or the release notes.

Productive engineering
Automation Builder 1.2 enables Project Version Control for engineering. Project Version Control lets you store Automation Builder projects in Subversion (SVN) repositories. Hold versions of objects or whole projects, track changes and compare versions. This features lets you control the engineering project lifecycle and enables multiple engineers to work collaboratively on the same project.

In addition to EPLAN P8®, Automation Builder’s ECAD interface is extended to Zuken E3®. Perform roundtrip engineering towards both ECAD tools (note: in Zuken E3® there are limitations in exchange of topology information). Further, the ECAD interface was extended to support third party devices. Manage third party device data in a simple view, including bulk configuration via a controlled import/export. By this third party ECAD device data can be easily exchanged between users and computers.

There are many more improvements in user experience. Automation Builder 1.2 introduces device editors with horizontal tabs for better overview, project compare with more streamlined functionality, and revised device information tabs that let you quickly find relevant information. User documentation is now available in a unified help structure across IEC61131 editor and Automation Builder platform.
Drive engineering
With Automation Builder 1.2 we introduce a unique common PLC and Drive configuration: The process data editor allows to choose drive process data and create variable names and descriptions at one place. Automatically create variable names and descriptions, manage variables, and change PPO types without losing variable names and descriptions. Less switching between tabs results in better overview and insight.

Automation Builder’s drive management now supports ACS380 and ACS580, and delivers an improved Drive composer pro and Drive PLC Integration.

For programmable drives Automation Builder now guides users better in setting up the structures for the extension bus (F-series extension IO). Use the add object feature to configure IO modules and map the IO module object as variables to a Drive IEC application easily.

Control Panel engineering
You can access all new software products of Control Panel via the Automation Builder installer: Panel Builder 600 2.0 (PB610), Panel Builder 600 Basic (PB610-B) and Panel Builder 600 PC-Runtime (PB610-R). PB610-B has the same integration level as PB610.

You are now able to access Panel Builder project information from within Automation Builder. Quickly access panel project information without launching Panel Builder itself.

PLC engineering
Automation Builder 1.2 supports the new and updated PM, CM, IO device types: PM585-ETH, CM550-DDCS (Distributed Drive Communication System), CM592-DP (Profibus communication module), PM595 with EtherCAT, DI572, and the Condition Monitoring System (CMS, based on FM502).

It is recommended to use Automation Builder 1.2 with the latest AC500 firmware V2.5 version. With Automation Builder 1.2 you can do a user friendly and reliable firmware update: Identify and update the matching AC500 firmware on PM and CM devices from within the Automation Builder platform.

Automation Builder 1.2 offers advanced IO device handling which lets you reflect modularity of your hardware in the device tree. Generate data structures and global variable lists from IO devices. Re-use configurations of local IOs or remote IOs – including copy/paste across projects. Access these structures in your IEC61131 application easily.

Licensing
In Automation Builder 1.2 the licensing is extended in scope and license types.

Selected libraries are now included to the general Automation Builder licensing mechanism. In a first step we extended the common licensing system to the Water Library and Temperature Control Library (please find order codes in the table below). Activate the library licenses via the existing “Install additional License” feature – available 24/7. The license itself will be checked during compilation of your IEC61131 application.

Project Version Control is available as an additional license to Automation Builder Standard and Premium edition (order codes below).

All Automation Builder editions are now available as Network licenses (also known as concurrent, shared, or floating licenses). Automation Builder Network licenses can be shared amongst engineering PCs. You can realize significant savings from sharing a license:

Network licenses are registered and activated in a similar way as the single licenses (which are bound to a PC or USB-Dongle). As a prerequisite for sharing all engineering PCs and the license server must be part of the same local area network. The Automation Builder licensing mechanism automatically distributes the licenses to those PCs which actually require them. Managing the licenses centrally is more efficient and lets you easily switchover between several engineering PCs.
Delivery and ordering information
Automation Builder 1.2 is available for download from www.abb.com/automationbuilder.

The download contains the Installation Manager that handles all installation and update relevant tasks and ensures the installation of the latest available packages.

Learn more about Automation Builder
Automation Builder 1.2 is available from now on at www.abb.com/automationbuilder.

For detailed information on the features, improvements and limitations please refer to the release notes. The release notes can be found within Automation Builder and in the ABB Library http://inside.abb.com/abblibrary/DownloadCenter/?showresults tab=true&QueryText=9AKK106713A1733

Best Regards,

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