

OpenEnterprise Alarm View Reference Guide (V2.83)

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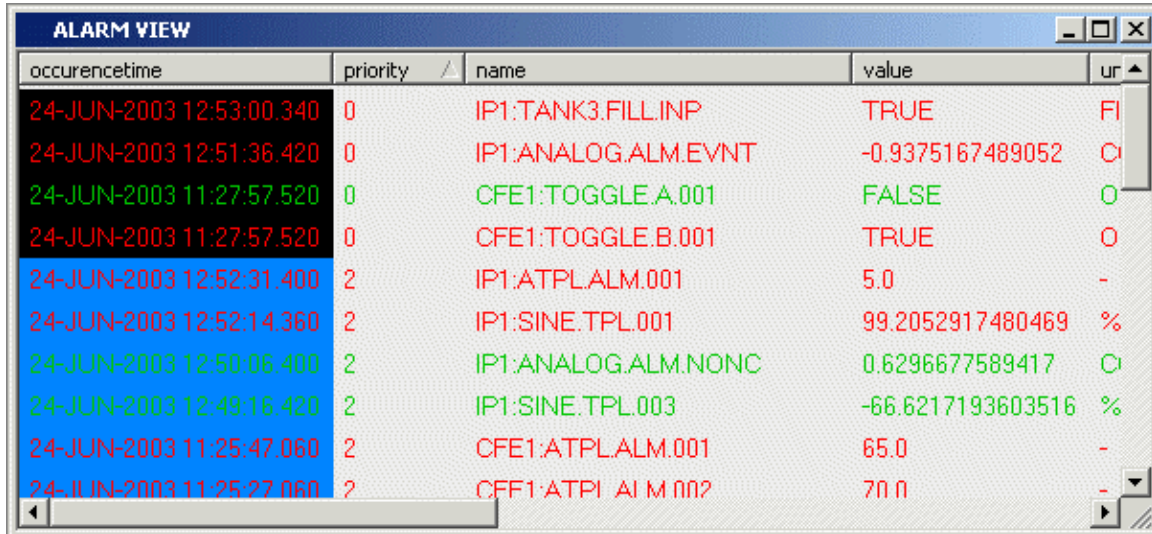
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1 Alarm View

The OpenEnterprise Alarm View component can be configured to display process alarm or event information. It is normally configured to run as a child window within the OpenEnterprise Desktop, as shown in the image below. It may also run outside the Desktop environment in its own custom container.



occurrence time	priority	name	value	ur
24-JUN-2003 12:53:00.340	0	IP1:TANK3.FILL.INP	TRUE	FI
24-JUN-2003 12:51:36.420	0	IP1:ANALOG.ALM.EVNT	-0.9375167489052	Cl
24-JUN-2003 11:27:57.520	0	CFE1:TOGGLE.A.001	FALSE	O
24-JUN-2003 11:27:57.520	0	CFE1:TOGGLE.B.001	TRUE	O
24-JUN-2003 12:52:31.400	2	IP1:ATPL.ALM.001	5.0	-
24-JUN-2003 12:52:14.360	2	IP1:SINE.TPL.001	99.2052917480469	%
24-JUN-2003 12:50:06.400	2	IP1:ANALOG.ALM.NONC	0.6296677589417	Cl
24-JUN-2003 12:49:16.420	2	IP1:SINE.TPL.003	-66.6217193603516	%
24-JUN-2003 11:25:47.060	2	CFE1:ATPL.ALM.001	65.0	-
24-JUN-2003 11:25:27.060	2	CFE1:ATPL.ALM.002	70.0	-

The Alarm View provides a rich set of functionality to enable users to configure Alarm and Event windows specific to their own operational needs. User Configurable features that are available include: -

- Timestamp resolution to show milliseconds;
- Alarm presentation - filter, style, blink modes and color;
- Annunciation behaviour - e.g. sound alarms, specify a .WAV file, select priorities for sound;
- Database Sources;
- Historical retrieval.

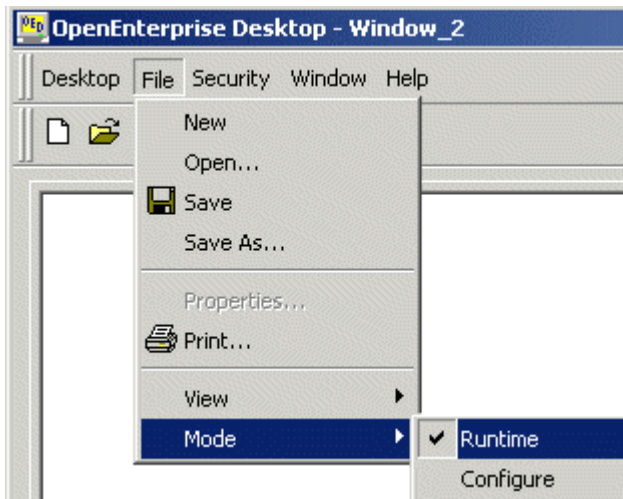
1.1 AlarmView Configuration

OpenEnterprise Views are configured through their Property pages. There are two ways to access the Property pages.

1. From the 'Configure' Menu Item

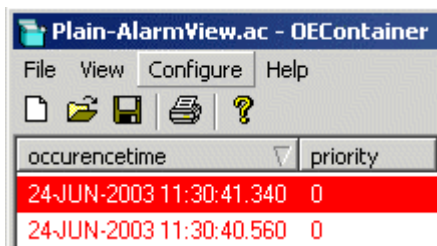
Within the Desktop

If the Alarm View is running in a child window within the Desktop then it can be placed into Configure Mode by selecting the 'File/Mode/Configure' menu option as shown below.



Within the View Container

If the Alarm View is running within its own container, then the Configure option is available directly from the Menu Bar, as shown in the example below.

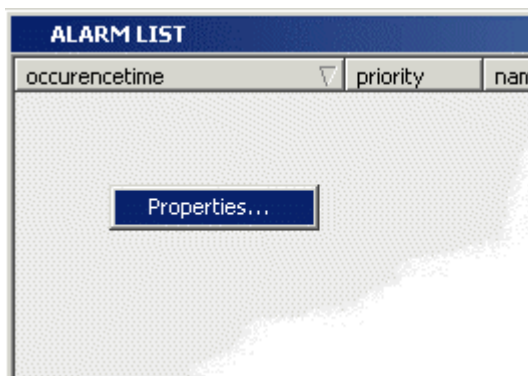


2. Ctrl + M Keyboard Option

The View may be toggled between Runtime and Configure Mode by pressing and holding down the 'Ctrl' and 'M' keys together on the computer's keyboard. When in the Desktop, the View must be the active window (i.e. selected).

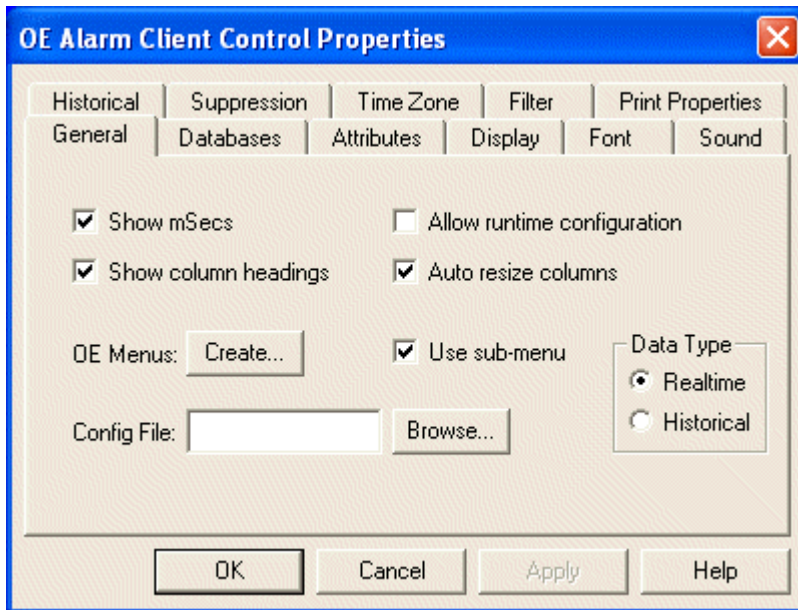
1.1.1 Properties Context Menu

Once in Configure Mode the Property Pages for the Alarm View can be accessed by right-clicking within the Alarm View and then selecting the 'Properties...' context menu, as shown below.



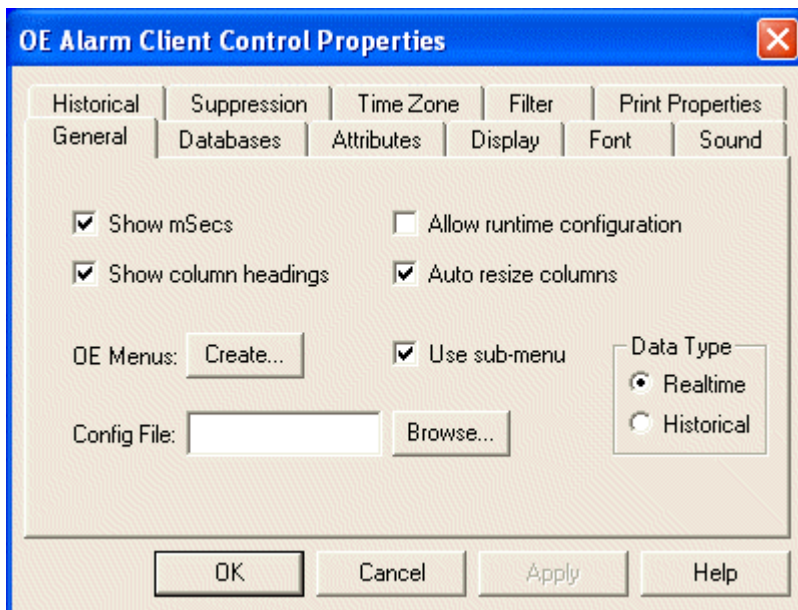
1.2 The Property Pages

The Property Pages provide the user with tabbed dialogs that together allow complete configuration of the Alarm View component. Each Property page contains different sets of configuration options.



1.2.1 The General Page

This page enables the user to perform different types of configuration on the Alarm View component which affect not only how it is displayed but also what type of data (realtime or historical) is displayed. It also provides access to the Menu Editor dialog, so that Custom Menus can be configured for the Alarm View.



1.2.1.1 Show Milliseconds

When checked, date/time fields are displayed with a millisecond resolution.

1.2.1.2 Show Column Headings

When checked, column headings within the Alarm Client are displayed.

1.2.1.3 Allow Runtime Configuration

When checked, the user will be able to access these property pages whilst in Runtime mode with a right click within the Alarm Client.

1.2.1.4 Auto Resize Columns

When checked, the Alarm Client's columns are automatically resized to accommodate the largest data field.

1.2.1.5 Edit Menu Button

This button allows the configuration of a customised Context Menu. If selected, the Menu Editor is displayed from which new context menu items may be defined.

Further details may be found within the Menu Editor Help.

1.2.1.5.1 Custom menu availability

Custom context menus will only be available if the Alarm View is run within the Desktop.

1.2.1.5.2 Context menus and Security

Standard Alarm Client context menu options, as well as Custom context menu options, may be made available or denied to users of the Alarm Client through security tokens. Refer to the User Security Configuration Help for further details.

1.2.1.5.3 OEMenus and Alarm View Filtering

Through OEMenus filters can be passed to an Alarm View based on any attribute in the Alarm Summary table (alarmsummary_table). The filters available on the Filter Page of the Alarm View only apply to the default attributes of the Alarm Summary table, but parameters passed through OEMenus can also filter the Alarm View on custom attributes. See the Filtering on Custom Alarm Summary Attributes topic for instructions on how to do this.

1.2.1.6 Use Sub Menu

If the Use sub-menu option is checked, a separate sub-menu is used for Custom context menu items. See the Menu Editor Help file for further information.

1.2.1.7 Config File Specification

The **[Browse]** button will display a standard Windows™ File Open dialog to allow the User to interactively select a desired pre-configured Alarm Client file.

Configured Alarm Client files are saved with the '.AC' file extension. The edit box displays the name of the (.AC) file the client will use for its configuration. This allows the user to specify a .AC file to load into the container.

Note: If a file name is specified in this field, the Property Pages are disabled until either the **[OK]** or **[Apply]** button is selected and the file loads into the Alarm View instance.

1.2.1.8 Realtime Data

This is Alarm Viewer mode. When checked, the Alarm Client will dynamically retrieve and actively display data from the selected Database(s) Alarm Summary table(s). The Alarm View displays current alarms. It queries the Alarm Summary table in active mode and therefore refreshes itself automatically as the data changes.

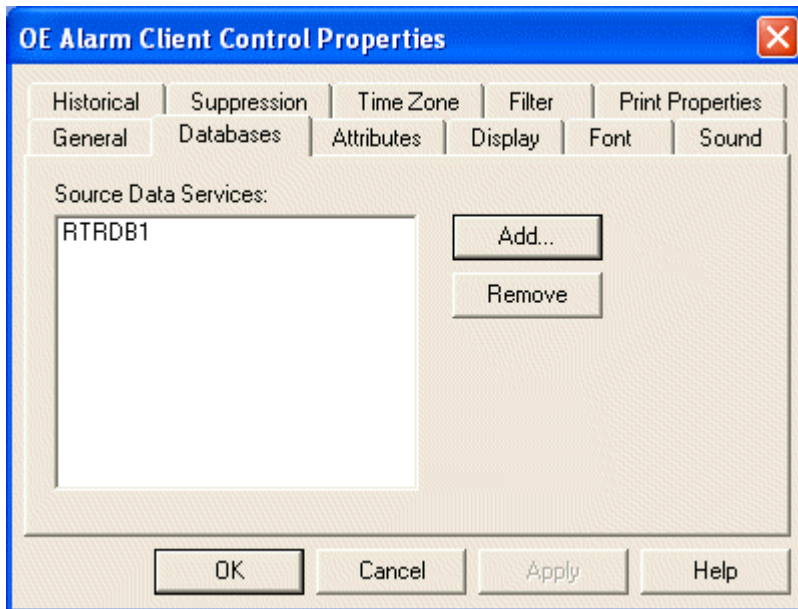
1.2.1.9 Historical Data

This is Event Viewer mode. When checked, the Alarm Client will statically retrieve and display data from the selected Database Event History table. When in Event View mode, the Alarm View displays both alarms and events. The Event History table is queried in static mode. To update the display it must be refreshed manually using the Context menu. The time period for display of alarms and events may be changed to enable the viewing of alarms and events from any past logged time period - see the Runtime section for further details on how this is done.

Note: Realtime and Historical Data Type configurations for the Alarm View are totally independent. So, for example if the Alarm View Data Type is set to Realtime and all the pages are configured, and then the Data Type is changed to Historical by selecting the Historical button, the databases, attributes and filters previously defined are not automatically reassigned.

1.2.2 The Databases Page

This page enables the user to define a list of available databases from which alarms or events will be obtained for display in the Alarm View.



1.2.2.1 Specifying Database Connections

The 'Databases' property page allows the selection of databases that will be used for sourcing alarms or events. The Alarm Client will attempt to connect to each of the specified databases once the property sheet is closed.

Select the [Add] button and enter the name of a valid Alarm Database. If the database is running on the same machine as the Desktop, and with its default name, then the Database can be defined as 'rtrdb1'. Databases distributed over a network, whether in Standalone or Redundant mode are usually defined by the Server's DNS name(s) followed by a colon, followed by 'rtrdb1' (eg OEServer:rtrdb1). If the Database is running in Redundant mode a comma is used to separate the declared Master/Standby Databases (eg Master1:rtrdb1,Master2:rtrdb1). Databases may also be defined by IP addresses (eg 102.10.0.90:rtrdb1,102:10.0.91:rtrdb1). The Server DNS names may be aliased using the Hosts file found in the 'C:\Winnt\System32\Drivers\etc' directory. This allows Databases to be named independently of specific IP addresses or DNS names. A sample Hosts entry is shown below:

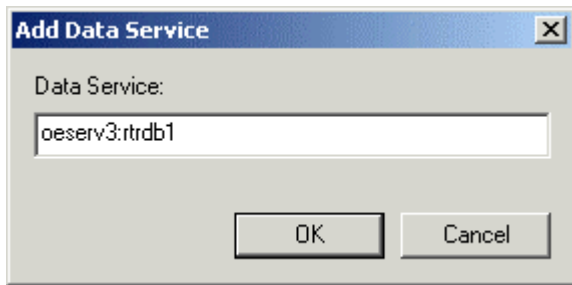
```
-
101.100.0.183 oeserv1 oedwat1 #pserv1
101.100.0.184 oeserv2 oedwat2 #pserv1
```

The IP addresses of the Servers are defined on the left, then after a space or tab each alias name is specified. In the example above there are two alias names defined for each Server. The hash indicates that what follows is a user defined comment.

The 'rtrdb1' part of the database name is an alias for a service defined in the Services file. This can be found in the same directory as the Hosts file. In applications where there is more than one database defined, these aliases may be given more descriptive names such as 'nw3000', 'dynamiclogic' or 'corporate'. Each alias must have a unique service number, and the numbers must be applied consistently across the application.

1.2.2.2 Add DataService Dialog

The name of the DataService is typed into the field using the correct format for Database DataServices.



1.2.2.3 Available DataServices List

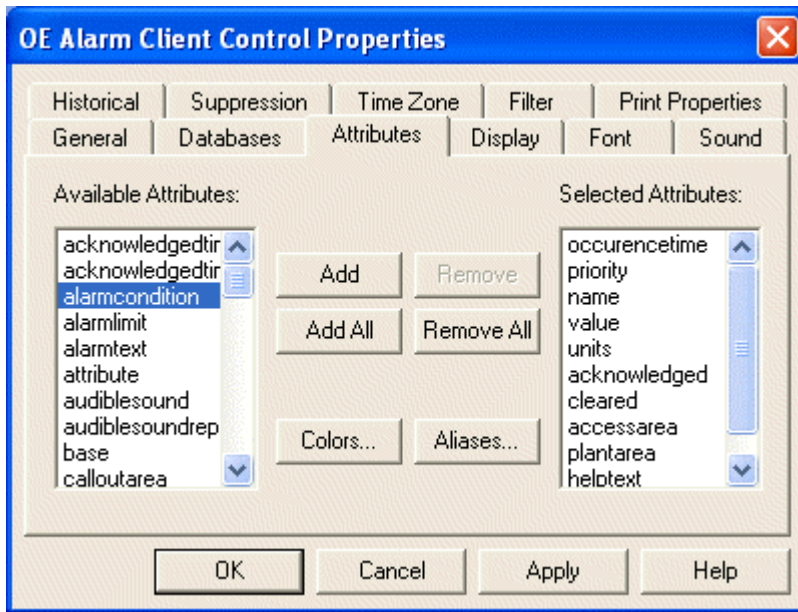
This list displays the DataServices to which the Alarm Client Server will attempt to connect. Should all connections be successful, the Alarm View will display alarms from all the Databases configured here.

1.2.2.4 Remove Button

This button will remove the selected DataService from the DataServices list.

1.2.3 The Attributes Page

This page allows the user to select attributes to be displayed for alarms or events during Runtime, configure text/background/flashing color overrides for the displayed alarms or to assign aliases to the attribute names.



1.2.3.1 Available Attributes

This list on the Attributes Page displays the list of attributes that are available for display within the Alarm View component. As available attributes are placed into the Selected Attributes list, they are removed from this list.

1.2.3.2 Selected Attributes

This is a list of the attributes that have been chosen for display within the Alarm View.

1.2.3.3 The Add Button

When this is selected, the attribute highlighted in the Available Attributes list will be transferred to the Selected Attributes list. The selected attribute will be included when the Alarm View is placed into Runtime mode.

1.2.3.4 The Remove Button

When this button is selected, the highlighted attribute from the Selected Attributes list will be transferred back into the Available Attributes list. The attribute will then not be displayed within the Alarm View when it is placed into Runtime mode.

1.2.3.5 The Add All Button

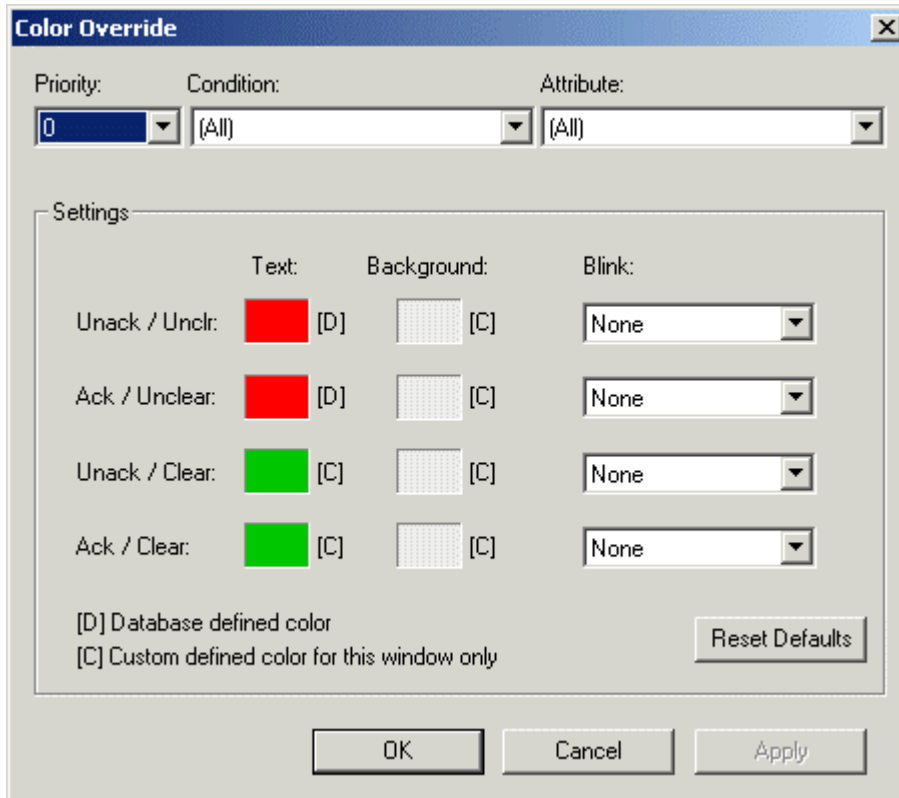
When selected, all of the attributes within the Available Attributes list will be placed into the Selected Attributes list. No prior selection is necessary. All attributes will then be displayed by the Alarm View in Runtime mode.

1.2.3.6 The Remove All Button

When this button is selected all attributes currently within the Selected Attributes list will be transferred to the Available Attributes list. The View will now display no attributes if placed into Runtime mode.

1.2.3.7 Color Override Dialog

The Color Override Dialog enables the user to override the System defaults (which are set in the Database within the AlarmPriorityBlock table) and to specify different text / background colour and blink type combinations. To understand more about how these color overrides work, see the the Color Overrides Overview topic.

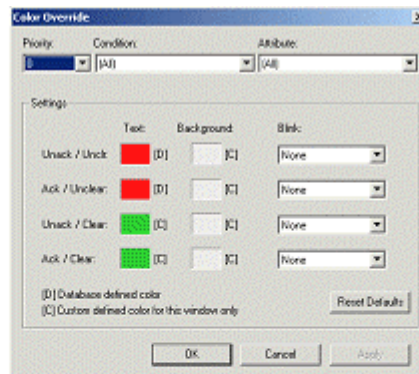


1.2.3.7.1 Color Overrides Overview

Below is a diagram of the relationship between the Color Override Dialog, Display Page and Alarm Priority Configuration Tool in setting alarm colors for a saved Alarm View. Note that the Alarm Priority Config Tool is not part of the Alarm View's configuration pages, but is part of the OpenEnterprise Toolbox suite of configuration tools.

Alarm View Color Overrides Dialog

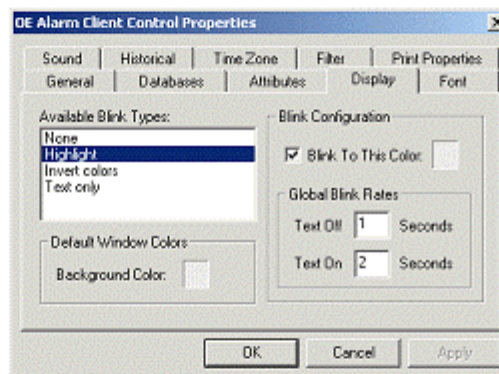
Overrides the Blink Type and Foreground / Background colors set by the Display Page, but does not write to the database.



Override

Alarm View Display Page

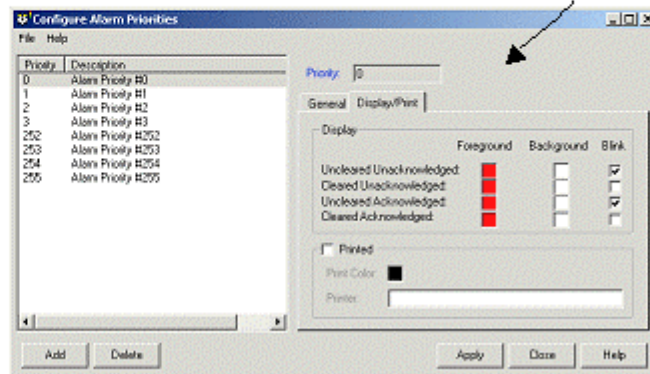
Overrides the System Blink Type and Foreground/Background color settings set in the database, but does not write to the database.



Override

Alarm Priority Config Tool

Modifies the Page Blink Type and the default Foreground/Background color settings for alarms. Writes changes to the AlarmPriorityBlock table in the database.



1.2.3.7.2 Priority, Condition and Attribute Selection

When color overrides are configured, they will apply to alarms which have the Priority and Condition selected in these boxes. The color overrides for the selected Priority/Condition combination will only apply to the column selected in the Attribute list box. [All] is an option for each box.



1.2.3.7.3 Settings

Alarm State Color Overrides

Once a Priority, Condition and Attribute combination has been chosen the Text and Background colour, along with the Blink type for each Alarm State may be specified in this section.

To the right of each colour square (whether text or background) is a **[D]** symbol. This means that the colour is the same one that has been set in the Database. This is also known as the System Default setting. When changes are made to a colour this letter changes to a **[C]**, meaning this is a Custom setting. Custom settings are saved with the Alarm View file and are not recorded in the Database.

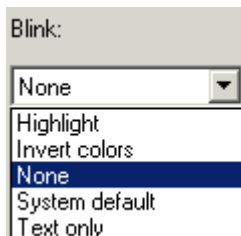
1.2.3.7.4 Text and Background Color Changes

Double clicking on any of the coloured squares will display the colour selection box. Select a colour from the available palette to configure the text or background of the selected alarm state.



1.2.3.7.5 Blink Type

Click on the drop-down list to the right of the Text and Background colour boxes to reveal the Blink Mode selection list: -



Here is an explanation of the possible Blink Modes: -

1.2.3.7.5.1 Highlight

The Alarm background will blink from the 'Blink to' colour defined on the Display Page or the background colour defined in the Alarm Priority Editor to the Background colour defined on the Color Overrides dialog.

1.2.3.7.5.2 Invert colors

The Text colour (as defined here on the Color Overrides dialogue) and the Background colour (as defined here on the Color Overrides dialog), will interchange on blinking.

1.2.3.7.5.3 System Default

The blink behaviour will conform to the settings on the Display tab of the Alarm Priority editor.

1.2.3.7.5.4 Text Only

The Text colour only (as defined here on the Color Overrides dialog) will blink to the colour defined in the 'Blink to' section of the Alarm View Display Page, or if this is not set it will blink to the background colour defined on the Display tab of the Alarm Priority Editor.

1.2.3.7.6 Apply Color Overrides Button

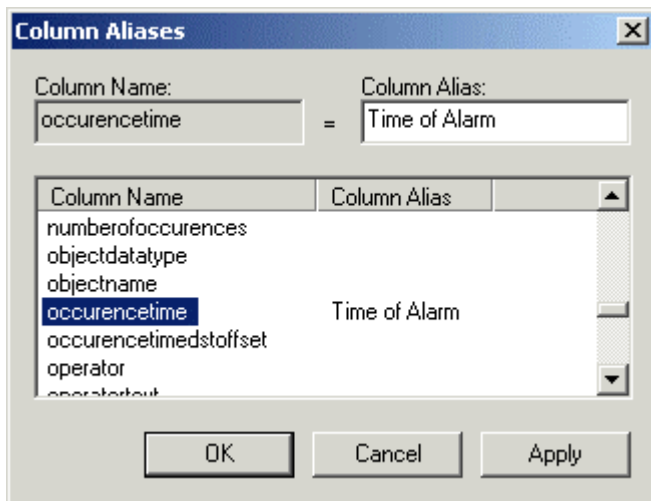
When Colour Setting changes are made the **[Apply]** button becomes enabled. This needs to be selected to commit any new settings. If another priority, condition or attribute is selected before the **[Apply]** button is selected after a change of colours, the user will be prompted by a message box to 'Save these changes first?' Select the **[Yes]** button to keep the changes made, otherwise they will be lost.

1.2.3.7.7 Reset Defaults

The **[Reset Defaults]** button will restore the current display override to the default setting, as defined within the Database - see the ' Schema Reference Manual'.

1.2.3.8 Column Aliases Dialog

The Column Aliases Dialog enables the user to provide more descriptive alias names to the attribute names which appear at the top of the Alarm View. The Column Alias merely replaces the displayed name of the column heading within the Alarm Viewer, and should not be confused with aliases as used by OEMenus.



1.2.3.8.1 Column Name

This field is not editable. It displays the name of the attribute selected within the Column and Aliases list.

1.2.3.8.2 Column Alias

This field is editable. Type an alias name for this column in the field. The alias name will be displayed as the column heading in the Alarm View instead of the actual attribute name.

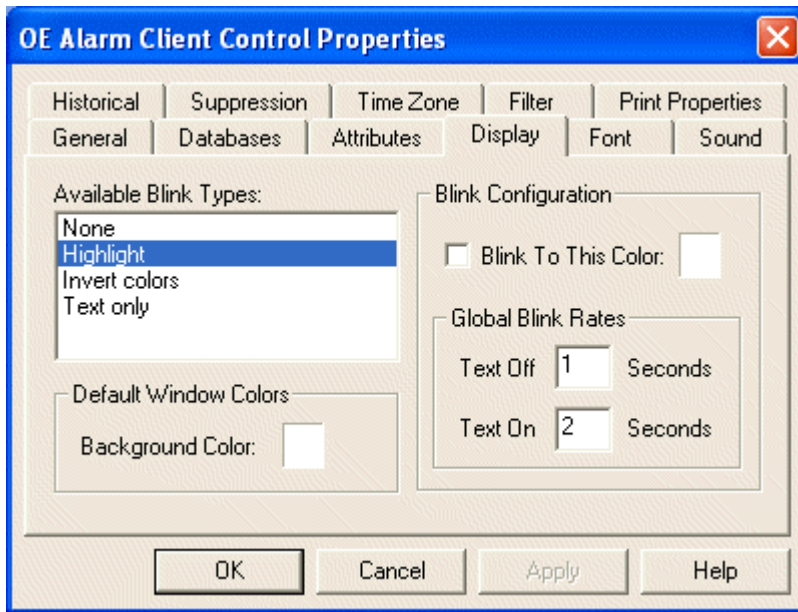
1.2.3.8.3 Column and Alias List

This list displays all of the attributes within the AlarmSummary table and any configured aliases. Select an attribute to give it an alias.

1.2.4 The Display Page

The Display Page enables the user to specify a Background color, a Blink Type and Blink rate for the Alarm View.

The 'Invert colors' option here is the same as the System default setting, so the 'Blink To This Color' box becomes disabled if this option is selected.



1.2.4.1 Available Blink Types

This section enables the user to override the default Blink Type setting of 'Invert colors', which is set by the Database. The Alarm View itself is set to the 'Highlight' Blink Type by default. To view the default Blink Type, choose 'Invert colors'.

1.2.4.2 None

If this option is selected, then alarms will not blink at all.

1.2.4.3 Highlight

This causes the background of each Unacknowledged alarm to blink to the color defined in the 'Blink To This Color' color selection box.

1.2.4.4 Invert colors

This is the default System Blink Type, so if selected the 'Blink To This Color' box becomes disabled and the Background and Text colors of any Unacknowledged alarms are switched continuously in time with the 'Global blink Rates' defined on this Page. Text and Background settings can be changed using the Alarm Priority editor or may be overridden by the Color Override dialog, available from the Attributes Page.

1.2.4.5 Text only

This will cause the text to flash from its default System color, or the text color defined on the 'Color Override' Dialog to the color defined in the 'Blink To This Color' color selection box.

1.2.4.6 Window Background Color

This selects the background color of the client window. This color is used for areas that are NOT displaying data and does not refer to the background color of alarms. By default the background color is white. When the colored square is selected this palette is displayed for selection of a new color.

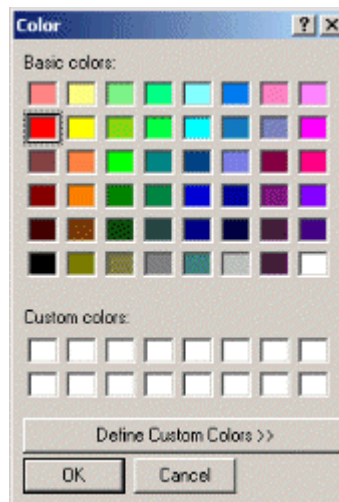


1.2.4.7 Enable Blink To Color

When the tick box is checked, it allows the user to specify which color the chosen Blink Type should blink to. This setting overrides the Database System text/background and on/off settings, found in the AlarmPriorityBlock table. If unchecked, the Alarm View blinks between the settings on the Color Overrides dialog and the System settings.

1.2.4.8 Blink to Color

When the 'Highlight' or 'Text' option is chosen, the 'Blink Configuration' section becomes enabled. Selection of the color square will cause the color palette to be displayed. Select a new color for the blink color. If the Blink type is 'Highlight', then the alarm's background will blink to the new color. If the Blink type is 'Text' then the alarm's text color will blink from the default color to the new color.



1.2.4.9 Blink Rates

1.2.4.9.1 Text Off

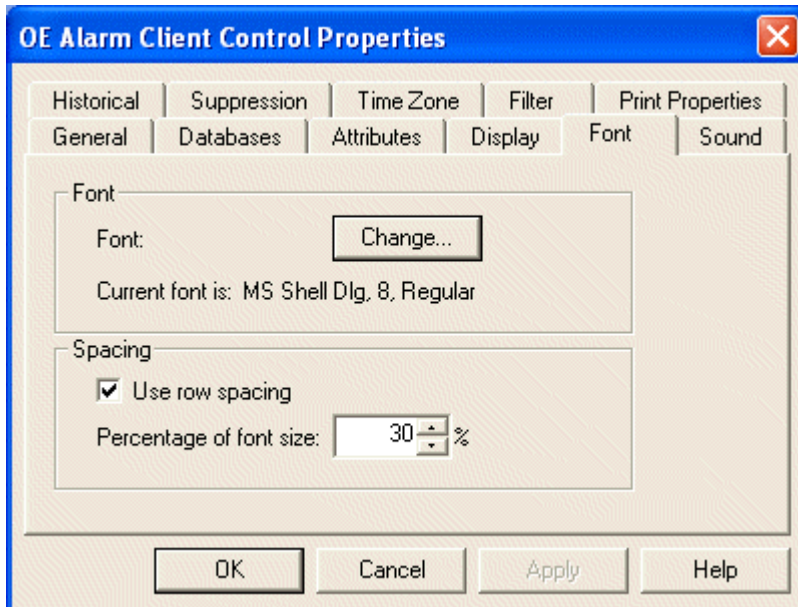
This sets the 'off' duration of the blink. Acceptable values are 1-59 seconds.

1.2.4.9.2 Text On

This sets the 'on' duration of the blink. Acceptable values are 1-59 seconds.

1.2.5 The Font Page

The Font Page enables the user to Change the default font used by the Alarm Client to any available system font, and also to increase or decrease the physical spacing between each alarm.



1.2.5.1 Change Button

Clicking on this button will display the Font Change dialog, which enables the user to select another font from those available to the system.

1.2.5.2 Current Font

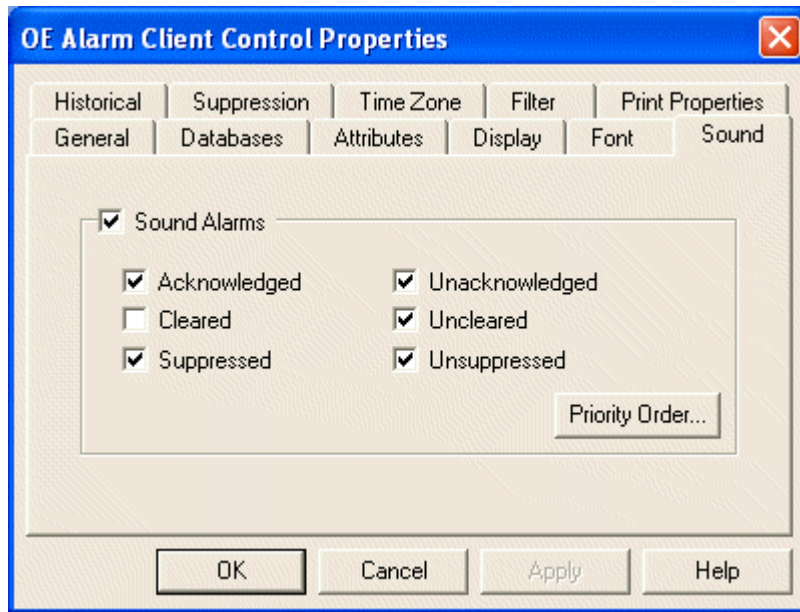
The font being used currently by the Alarm View is displayed here.

1.2.5.3 Spacing

To enable row spacing select the 'Use row spacing' check box. The size of the space between each alarm on the Alarm Client may be changed using the up/down arrows on the 'Percentage of font size:' field. Space between the rows is expressed as a percentage of the font size.

1.2.6 The Sound Page

The Sound Page allows the user to specify what State and Priority alarms should be annunciated or to turn annunciation off.



1.2.6.1 Sound Alarms

If the [Sound Alarms] box is unchecked, annunciation will be turned off. When checked, a group of alarm state attributes becomes available for selection.

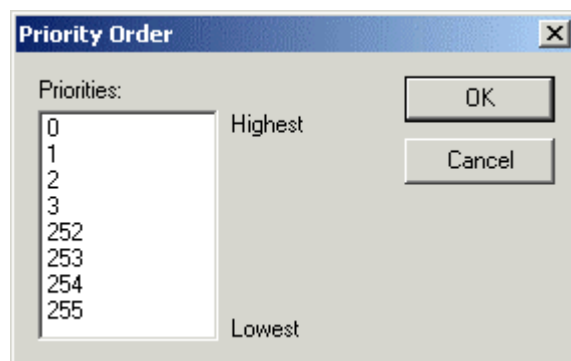
1.2.6.2 Alarm States

Selection of any alarm state attribute will cause an alarm in that state to make a sound. The sound will continue until the state(s) checked here are no longer true, or the alarm has been silenced using the 'Silence' option on the Alarm Client context menu. The Alarm Priority Tool enables the user to assign .WAV files to each priority. The default sound is the PC System Beep.

Note: If the [Sound Alarms] box is checked and all state attributes are left unchecked the application will assume the user wishes to check all state attributes and alarms will be annunciated for every state.

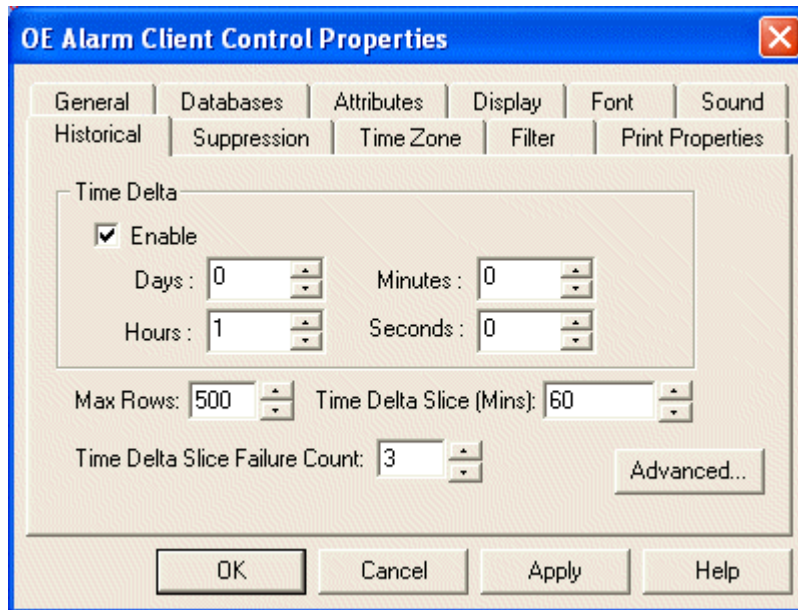
1.2.6.3 Priority Order Dialog

Clicking on the [Priority Order] button will display the Priority Order list. The priorities are listed from highest to lowest. The priority for sounding alarms may be changed by selecting a priority, holding down the left mouse button and moving it up or down the list to its required position.



1.2.7 The Historical Page

This page allows the user to configure the Alarm View when in Historical mode. In Historical mode, the Alarm View reads data from the EventHistory table. In this mode the data is displayed statically, and is not updated until the viewer is manually refreshed.



1.2.7.1 Time Delta

The options on this page are only available when the Alarm View is configured to retrieve historical data. The "Time Delta" restricts the returned data to records whose occurrence time lies in the time period: 'current time minus time delta'

1.2.7.2 Max Rows

The "Max Rows" setting is used to specify the maximum number of records to be retrieved within the configured database. The default value is 500. When a large amount of data may be returned, it is strongly recommended that it is limited using either the "Max Rows" functionality, or more specific filter criteria.

1.2.7.3 Time Delta Slice

In order to optimize historical queries, the Alarm View Server will split any request for historical alarms and events into separate queries using the Time Delta Slice value. It will also take into account the 'Max Rows' setting, being sure to return no more records than specified. The Time Delta Slice value defaults to 60 minutes.

The Alarm View Server will perform the first query based on the Time Delta Slice value. If the number of records does not meet or exceed 'Max Rows', and the 'Time Delta' value is greater than the 'Time Slice Delta' value, another query will be sent using the Time Delta Slice value. The amount of records returned to the Alarm View window will always be governed by the 'Max Rows' setting.

For instance, imagine that 'Max Rows' was set to 500, 'Time Delta' to 2 hours, and 'Time Delta Slice' to 60 minutes. The first query would ask for 60 minutes of data (according to the 'Time Delta Slice' setting). If this query returned 350 records, a second query would be sent (in order to satisfy the 'Time Delta' setting) asking for another 60 minutes of data beginning from the end time of the first query. However, now a 'Max Rows' setting of 150 records would be stipulated.

1.2.7.4 Time Delta Slice Failure Count

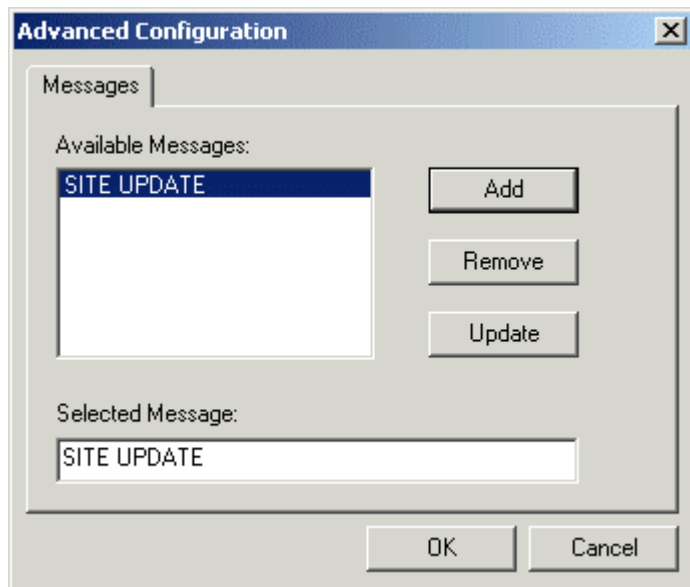
If the Event Viewer is configured (using the Date/Time Filter page) so that it does not specify a Start Time, then there is no constraint on which to limit how many queries are generated in order to satisfy the Event Viewer request, other than the Maximum Rows value. If none, or a limited amount of historical events have been generated on a system prior to the End Time specified, then it would be possible for the Alarm Client Server to loop, continually creating queries without ever hitting the Maximum Rows figure.

In order to address this you are able to specify how many consecutive queries (this is the Time Delta Slice Failure Count), returning no records, will be submitted by the Alarm Client Server before it aborts the historical query request process. The value defaults to 3.

Any records obtained prior to this condition occurring will still be reported to the Event Viewer, and an appropriate message will be displayed within the Event Viewers progress dialog, to indicate the reason for the historical request being aborted.

1.2.7.5 Advanced Configuration Dialog

The Advanced Configuration Dialog enables pre-configured custom strings to be created for insertion into the Event Viewer during Runtime operation.



1.2.7.5.1 Available Messages List

This is a list of the messages already configured for insertion into the Event Viewer.

1.2.7.5.2 Add New Message Button

If a new message is typed into the "Selected Message" text box, then selecting the **[Add]** button will enter it into the "Available Messages List".

1.2.7.5.3 Remove Message Button

Selection of this button will remove any highlighted message from the "Available Messages List".

1.2.7.5.4 Update Message Button

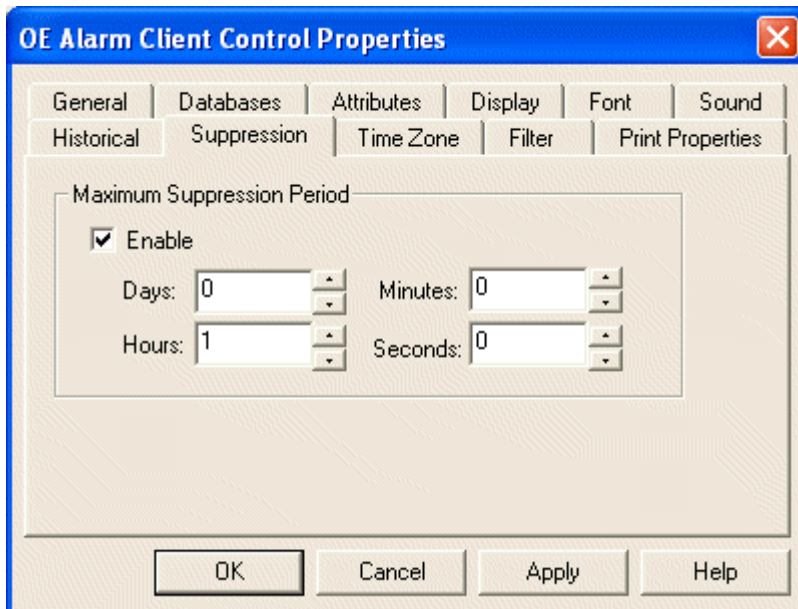
If a selected message is changed while it is in the "Selected Message" text box, then clicking on this button will update the "Available Messages List" with those changes.

1.2.7.5.5 Selected Message Text Box

If a message is selected from the "Available Messages List", it is immediately placed here, where it can be edited.

1.2.8 The Suppression Page

This page enables the Administrative user to configure a Maximum Suppression period for the Alarm View file. When the Alarm View is in runtime mode, unauthorized SCADA users will not be able to cause an alarm to be suppressed for a longer period of time than is defined here.



1.2.8.1 Enable Maximum Suppression

This is unchecked by default. When checked, Maximum Suppression is enabled, and a default value of one hour is selected. It will not be possible, once Maximum Suppression is enabled to enter zero in all four spin controls.

1.2.8.2 Days

The maximum number of days that an alarm can be suppressed for. The control should have a maximum setting of 365 and a minimum setting of 0 (zero).

1.2.8.3 Hours

The maximum number of hours that an alarm can be suppressed for. The control should have a maximum setting of 23 and a minimum setting of 0 (zero).

1.2.8.4 Minutes

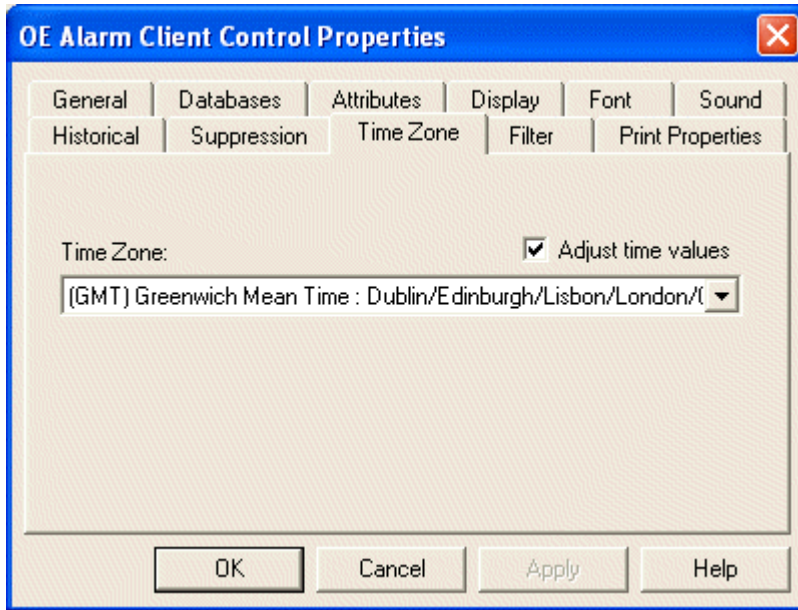
The maximum number of minutes that an alarm can be suppressed for. The control should have a maximum setting of 59 and a minimum setting of 0 (zero).

1.2.8.5 Seconds

The maximum number of seconds that an alarm can be suppressed for. The control should have a maximum setting of 59 and a minimum setting of 0 (zero).

1.2.9 The TimeZone Page

The Time Zone Page allows the user to change the Time Zone Setting for the Alarm View.



1.2.9.1 Adjust Time Values

In order to change the Time Zone for the Alarm View the [Adjust time values] box must be checked.

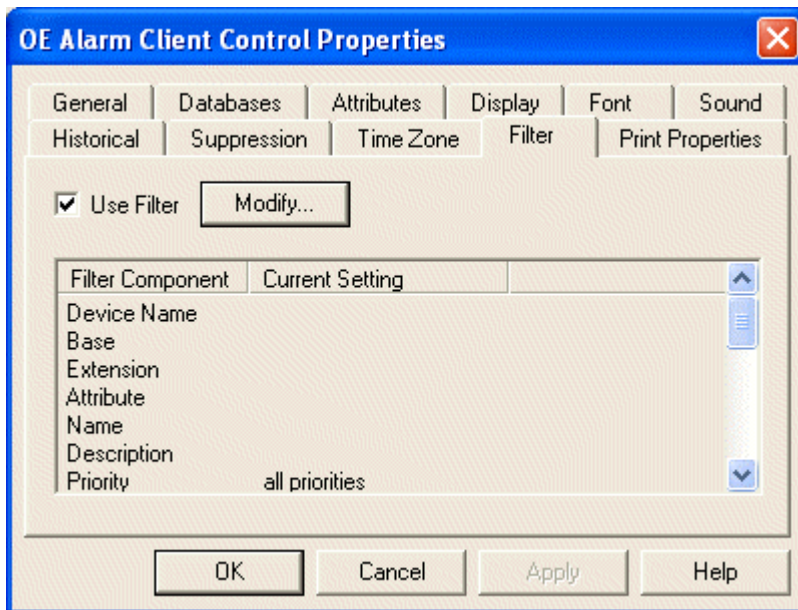
Note: If the [Adjust time values] button is unchecked, then all times displayed in the Alarm Client will be in GMT. There will be NO DST adjustments at all.

1.2.9.2 Time Zone List

The Time Zone list displays a list of all available Time Zones for selection. All times will be displayed within the Alarm Viewer according to the Time Zone selected here.

1.2.10 The Filter Page

The Filter Page enables the user to configure filters for the Alarm View.



1.2.10.1 Filters on Custom Alarm Summary Attributes

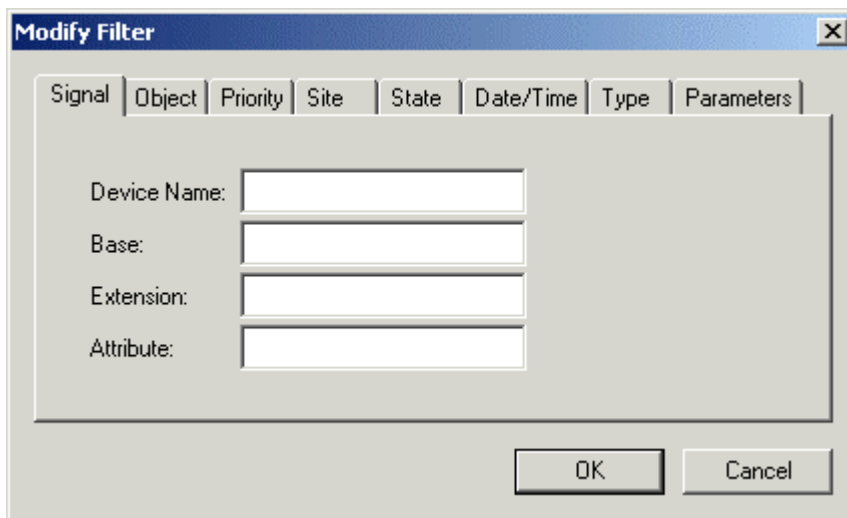
The filters in the Current Filters List do not show attributes from the alarmsummary table that may have been added for specific projects. Should a filter be required for the Alarm View that is based on a custom attribute, this can be done through OEMenus. See the Filtering on Custom Alarm Summary Attributes page for details.

1.2.10.2 Use Filter Check

The sub-pages are not available until the **[Use Filter]** box is checked.

1.2.10.3 Modify Button

The **[Modify Button]** opens the Filter Modification Property pages. Click on the tabs below in order to open the help topic for each page.



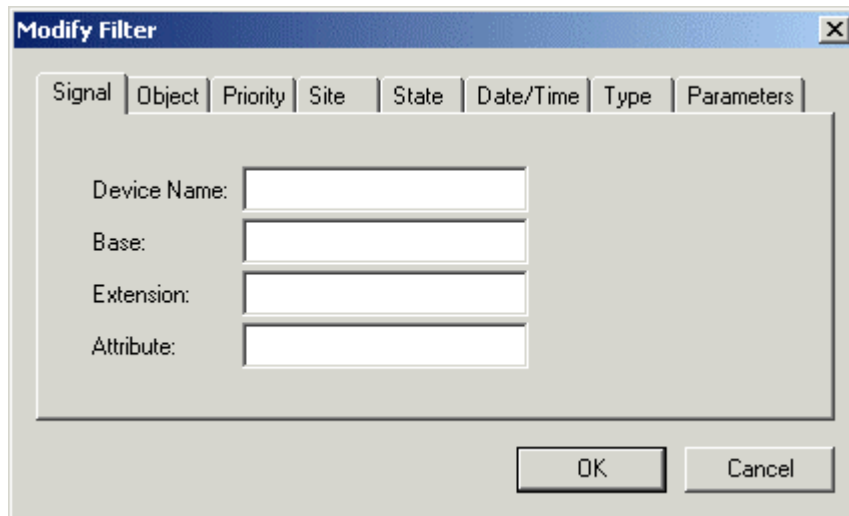
1.2.10.4 Current Filters List

This is a non-editable, scrollable list of the filters currently applied to the Alarm View instance.

The filters in the Current Filters List do not show attributes from the Alarm Summary table that may have been added for specific projects. Should a filter be required for the Alarm View that is based on a custom attribute, this can be done through OEMenus. See the Filtering on Custom Alarm Summary Attributes topic for instructions on how to do this.

1.2.10.5 Signal Page

The Signal Filter page enables the user to filter the Alarm View on attributes that apply to the default components of NW3000 signal names. Fields may contain CSV lists or wildcards (see the Using Wildcards topic).



1.2.10.5.1 Device Name

'Device Name' typically refers to the logging devices (RTU's / PLC's) being used. To specify that the Alarm Client should only display signal alarms from one particular logging device enter the name of that device in this field.

1.2.10.5.2 Base, Extension and Attribute

The 'Base', 'Extension' and 'Attribute' fields refer to the Network 3000 device specific signal naming convention of base.extension.attribute. For example, typing LEVEL into the [Extension] field would restrict alarm display to all signals having LEVEL in the extension part of their name. CSV strings may be entered into the fields to specify more than one filter value per attribute - e.g. LEVEL,TANK. It is also permissible to use wildcards within the attribute fields - e.g. LEV*.

Using Wildcards

1.2.10.5.3 Using Wildcards

Several filter settings allow wildcard characters to be specified. The wildcard characters are the * (asterisk) and ? (questionmark) characters.

The * signifies a match with zero or more characters. Note: any characters specified after an asterisk are ignored. The ? signifies a match with exactly one character.

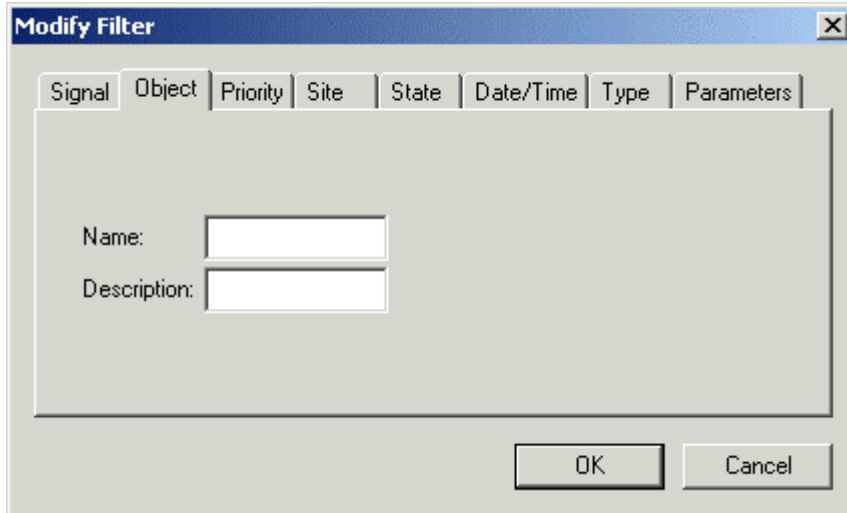
Note: wildcards are supported for historical data, but they cannot be combined with CSV strings. The following examples further define the wildcard operators:

Example	Outcome
Digital	Matches with Digital Alarm, Digital Alarm9, Digital etc
Real?	Matches with Real1, RealX, but does not match Real
Analog*15	Matches with Analog Alarm386, Analog15 etc (remember that the 15 after the asterisk will be ignored)
Int*	Matches with Integer Alarm, Integer Alarm9, Integer etc
Int*,Real?	CSV list. NOT permitted in historical mode.

ANALOG1,ANALOG2	This IS valid however, for real-time mode.
-----------------	--------------------------------------------

1.2.10.6 Object Page

The Object Filter page enables the user to filter the Alarm View on the name and description attributes of signals. Fields may contain CSV lists or wildcards (see the Using Wildcards topic).



1.2.10.6.1 Name

This is the Name attribute of the Alarm or Event from the AlarmSummary or EventHistory table, depending on whether the Alarm View is set up in Realtime or Historical mode.

For example, the 'Name' field of a Network 3000 Signal object would refer to the whole name of the signal (e.g. devicename:base.extension.attribute) - e.g. IP1:TANK5.FILL.INP.

Using Wildcards

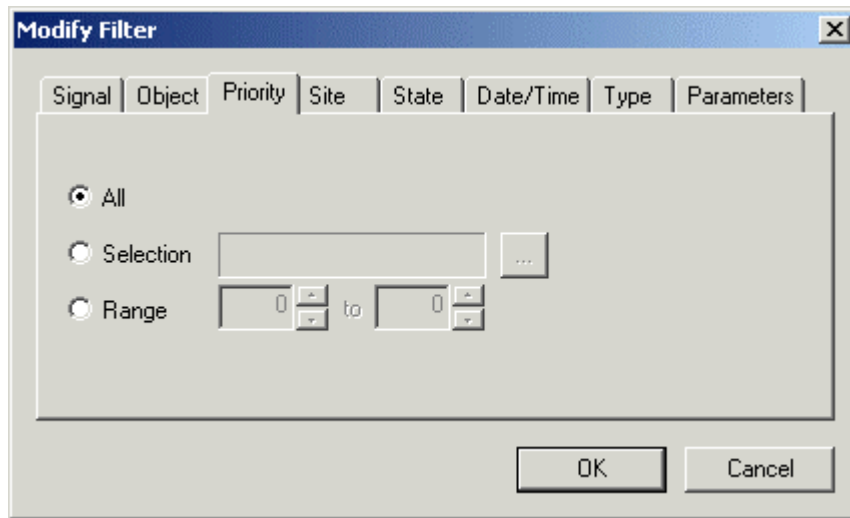
1.2.10.6.2 Description

This is the Description attribute of the Alarm or Event from the AlarmSummary or EventHistory table, depending on whether the Alarm View is set up in Realtime or Historical mode.

Using Wildcards

1.2.10.7 Priority Page

The Priority Filter page enables the user to filter the Alarm View on alarm priorities. Fields may contain CSV lists or wildcards (see the Using Wildcards topic).



1.2.10.7.1 All Priorities

If this option is selected for an Alarm View configured for realtime alarms, then the Alarm View will display all alarm Priorities except those configured to be AutoAcknowledged/AutoCleared, (eg events).

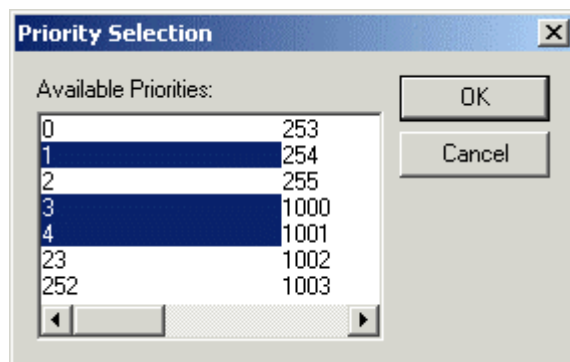
If the Alarm View is configured for historical data, then selecting this option will display all priorities, including both alarm and event priorities.

1.2.10.7.2 Selection of Priorities

The Priority Filter 'Selection' Mode enables a user to configure a selection of alarm priorities to act as filters for the Alarm View. If the **[Selection]** radio button is selected the browse button adjacent to it is enabled. This will display a list of possible priorities for filtering.

1.2.10.7.3 Priority Selection Dialog

The user may select any priority for display in the Alarm View. These can be adjacent or non-adjacent as shown. Holding down the **[Shift]** key will enable the selection of a group of adjacent priorities, whilst holding down the **[Ctrl]** key will enable selection of non-adjacent priorities. When finished select the **[OK]** button.



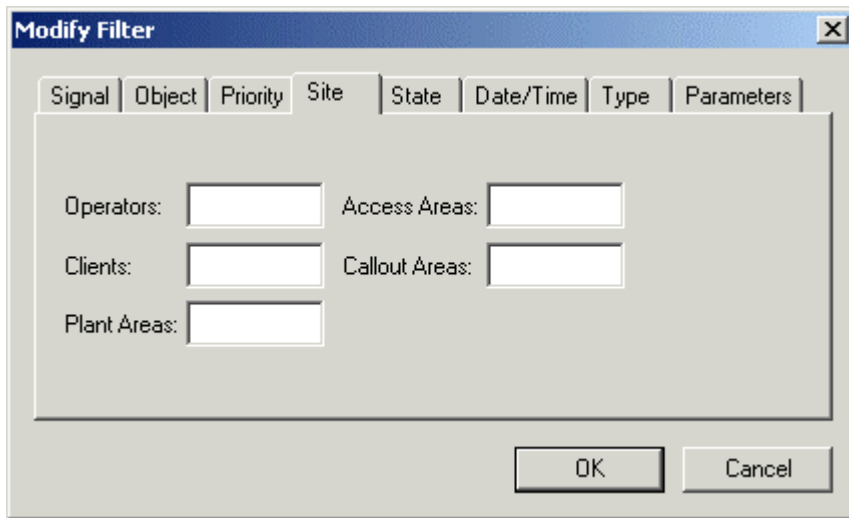
1.2.10.7.4 Range of Priorities

The Priority Filter - Range Mode option enables a user to select a From and To range of priorities as a filter for the Alarm Client. To enter Priority Filter - Range Mode check the 'Range' radio button.

By clicking on the up / down arrows in the two boxes select a From and To range of priorities which you wish the Alarm Viewer to display. When finished select the 'OK' button.

1.2.10.8 Site Page

The Site Filtering Sub-Page enables the user to filter the Alarm View display on the Site related attributes of alarms. Entries made on this sub-page work with AND logic to produce a filter. Fields may contain CSV lists or wildcards (see the Using Wildcards topic).



1.2.10.8.1 Operators

This filter applies to the 'operator' attribute of the AlarmSummary or EventHistory table, depending on whether the Alarm View has been set up for realtime or historical display.

1.2.10.8.2 Clients

This filter applies to the 'clienttype' attribute of the AlarmSummary or EventHistory table, depending on whether the Alarm View has been set up for realtime or historical display.

1.2.10.8.3 Plant Areas

This filter applies to the 'PlantArea' attribute of the AlarmSummary or EventHistory table, depending on whether the Alarm View has been set up for realtime or historical display.

1.2.10.8.4 Access Areas

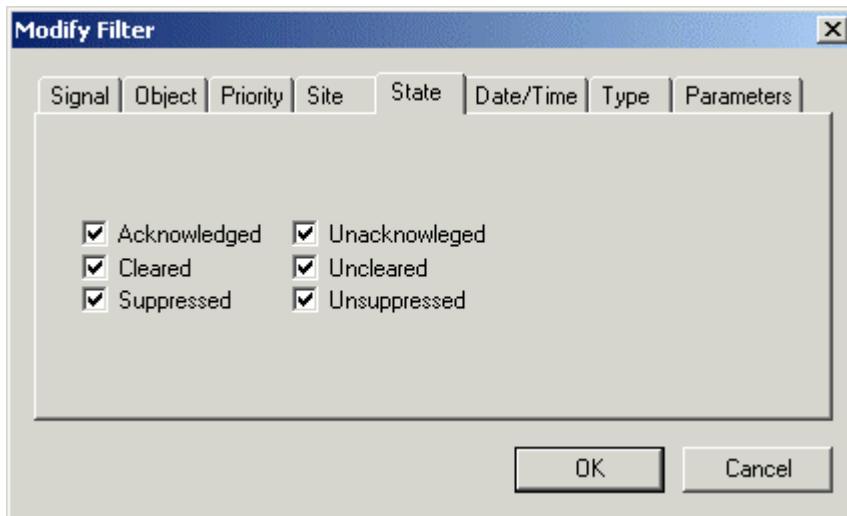
This filter applies to the 'AccessArea' attribute of the AlarmSummary or EventHistory table, depending on whether the Alarm View has been set up for realtime or historical display.

1.2.10.8.5 Callout Areas

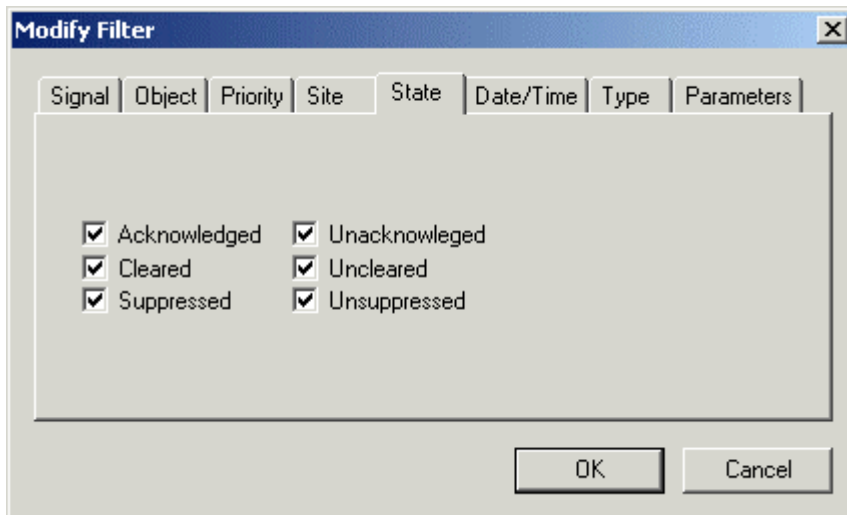
This filter applies to the 'CalloutArea' attribute of the AlarmSummary or EventHistory table, depending on whether the Alarm View has been set up for realtime or historical display.

1.2.10.9 State Page

The State filter page enables the user to filter the Alarm View display on the state of alarms.



The State filter page enables the user to filter the Alarm View display on the state of alarms.

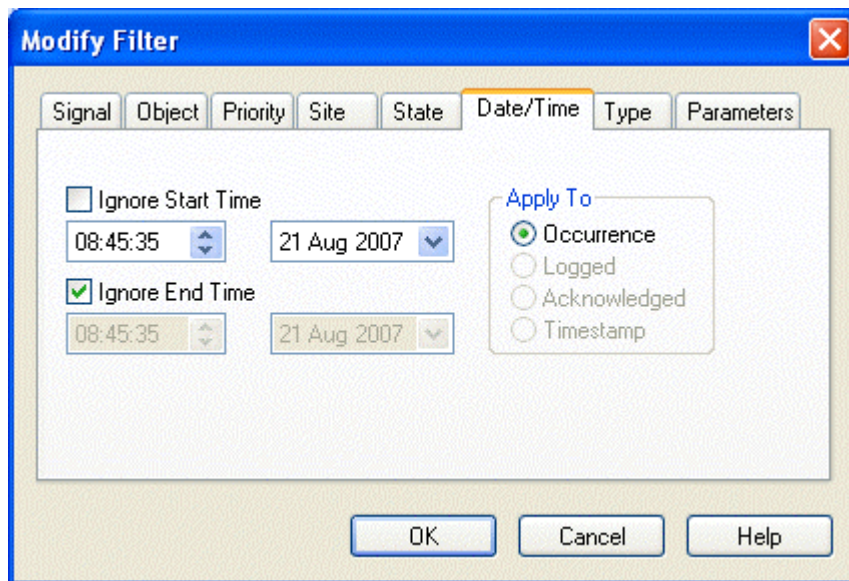


1.2.10.9.1 Note on State Filters

The conditions selected are subject to 'AND' logic vertically and 'OR' logic horizontally. For example, selecting "Acknowledged", "Uncleared" and "Unacknowledged" will result in any alarm that is either Acknowledged OR Unacknowledged AND Uncleared being displayed, although Acknowledged/Cleared alarms will be removed automatically.

1.2.10.10 Date Time Page

The Date/Time filter page enables the user to apply a time range filter to the Alarm View.



1.2.10.10.1 Ignore Start Time

Start date/time value. Alarms / Events generated before this date/time will be ignored unless the "Ignore Start Time" box is unchecked. The default is to ignore Start Time. When unchecked the start time and date values may be changed.

1.2.10.10.2 Ignore End Time

End date/time value. Alarms / Events generated after this date/time will be ignored unless the "Ignore End Time" box is unchecked. The default is to ignore End Time. When unchecked the end time and date values may be changed.

1.2.10.10.3 Apply To

This section specifies the Date - time attribute on which to apply range filtering.

1.2.10.10.4 Occurrence Time

Apply range filtering to Occurrence time. The Occurrence time field records when the alarm was first generated or last updated. Its value will depend on whether the alarm occurrence time is generated by the logging device or by the Application. Realtime alarms can only be filtered on the occurrence time.

1.2.10.10.5 Logged Time

Apply range filtering to Logged time field. The Logged time is when the Application receives notice of the value and sets the alarm flag. This value may be slightly later than the Occurrence time if the alarm is generated in the logging device. Logged time filtering is only available for historical alarms.

1.2.10.10.6 Acknowledged Time

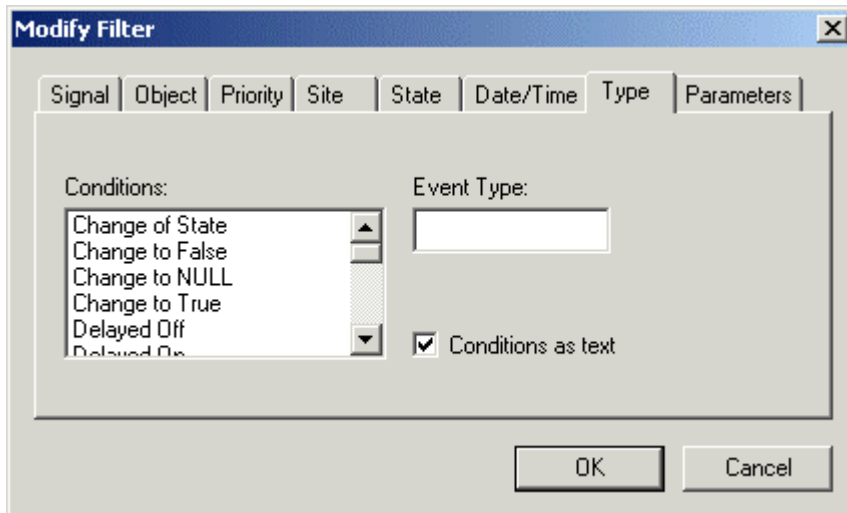
Apply range filtering to Acknowledged time field. This is the time when the alarm was acknowledged by an Operator using the Alarm Client. Acknowledged time filtering is only available for historical alarms.

1.2.10.10.7 Timestamp

Apply range filtering to Timestamp field. This field refers to the time when the Historian received and logged a set of historical values from a logging device into the historical tables. It is to the Event History table what the Logged time is to the Alarm Summary table. Timestamp filtering is only available for historical alarms.

1.2.10.11 Type Page

The Type filter page enables a user to filter the Alarm View by alarm conditions and event type.



1.2.10.11.1 Alarm Conditions List

A list of alarm conditions. Multiple conditions may be selected from the list box. These will have OR logic applied to them (e.g. if 'Change of State' and 'Change to False' were selected this would filter alarms on 'Change of State' OR 'Change to False').

1.2.10.11.2 Event Type

This will filter the Alarm Client by Event Type. Typing a string into the Event Type field will add a further filter to the Conditions. This will operate with AND logic on the Conditions chosen (e.g. 'Change of State' AND <Event Type>).

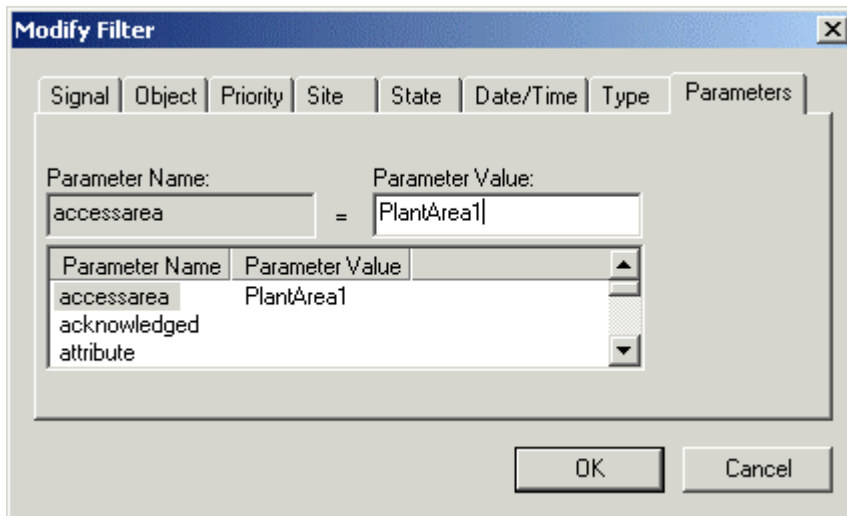
1.2.10.11.3 Conditions as Text

The [Conditions as text] box enables the user to display the 'condition' attribute within the Alarm Client window as text, rather than as a code number. Alarm Conditions are stored in the Database as numbers (e.g. Condition 7 = Change to True).

If the [Conditions as text] box is checked, then the 'conditions' attribute is displayed in the Alarm Client window as the text shown in the 'Conditions' list box. If this box is not checked and the 'conditions' attribute is selected for display, it will be shown in the Alarm Client window as an integer.

1.2.10.12 Parameters Page

This Parameters page allows more experienced users to choose a specific attribute and to apply an alias parameter to act as a filter for the Alarm Client. All of the parameters found on the other filter pages are listed here except for the date/time ones.



1.2.10.12.1 Parameter List

This list displays the full list of all configurable Parameters for the Alarm View. A user can set any Parameter from here, rather than from the Property Pages. Once a parameter has been defined, and the Alarm Client has been placed into Runtime mode, the corresponding filter field is disabled on the Filter Property page on which it appears. It cannot be edited until the parameter value specified on the Parameter Page is deleted.

1.2.10.12.2 Parameter Name

When a filter attribute is selected from the Parameter List, its name is copied here for reference.

1.2.10.12.3 Parameter Value

The value of the Parameter (or filter) should be typed here. Text parameters may be defined using CSV lists and / or wildcards, as on the other sub-pages. Boolean parameters may be expressed as 1 or 0, true or false. To define a value for a parameter, select a parameter name from the displayed list and enter the value into the 'Parameter Value' field.

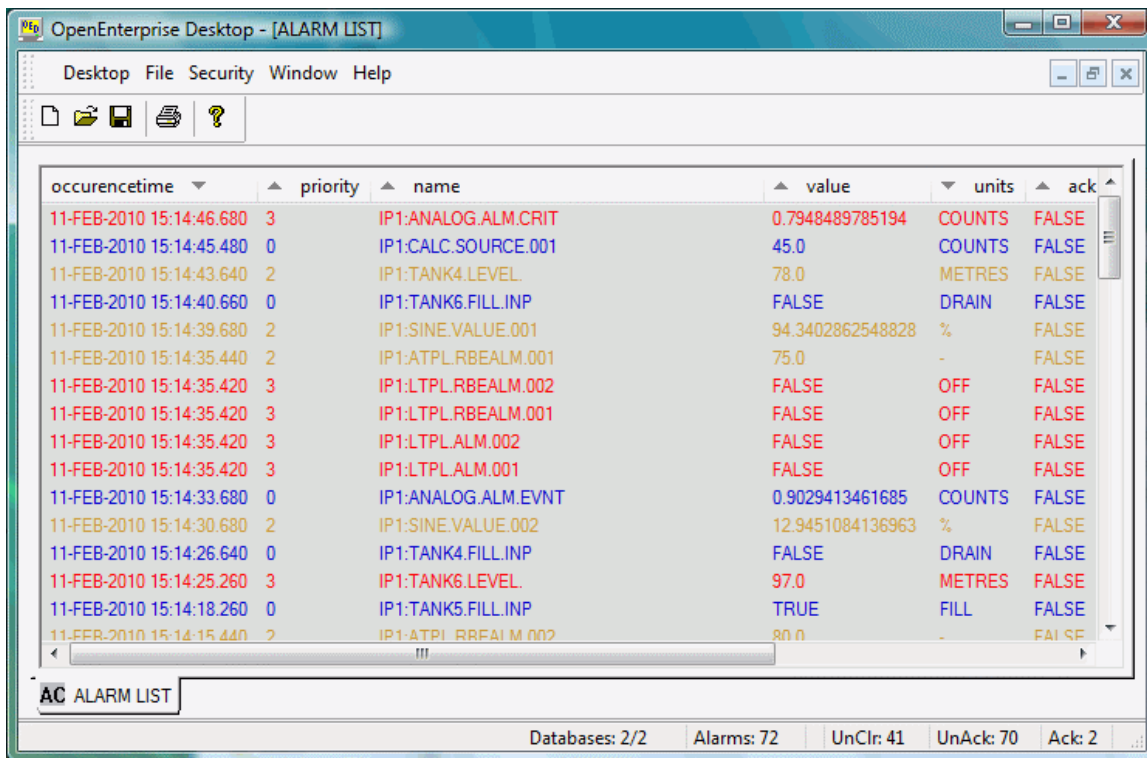
The Priority Parameter

This Parameter may be set in any of the three ways indicated below.

- 1-3,40,42,48,60-75 - (priority selection, multiple values)
- 18-30 - (priority range, min*max)
- 64 - (single priority)

1.3 Alarm View Runtime

The Alarm View shows alarms as a list which may be configured to have any combination of attributes and text / background colours.



1.3.1 Alarm View Status Bar

When the Alarm View (or Alarm Client) is opened within the OEDesktop, the status bar displays at the bottom of the OEDesktop window (not the Alarm View window). When it is opened in its own container, the status bar displays at the bottom of the container window .

It can be enabled or disabled by selecting 'View→Status Bar' from the Alarm View container. From the OEDesktop menu, you can select 'Desktop→ View→Status Bar' or 'File→View→Status Bar'.

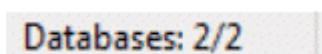
This is how it looks when enabled:



It displays the following statistics, from left to right: -

- **Databases** - the database connection status of the Alarm Client Server
- **Alarms** - the total number of alarms
- **UnClr** - the number of uncleared alarms
- **UnAck** - the number of unacknowledged alarms
- **Ack** - the number of acknowledged alarms

1.3.1.1 Database Connection Status



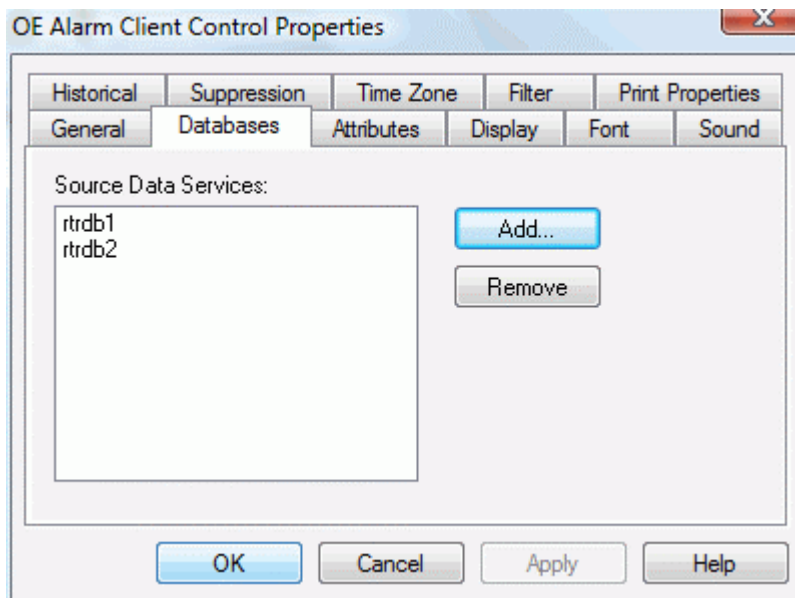
The database connection status requires a little more explanation than the other items on the status bar. The Alarm View indicates loss of connection to the database by a line drawn through its list of alarms like this:

79	-	IP1:TANK6.LEVEL	Single	11-FEB-2010 14:33:01
470	-	IP1:TANK3.LEVEL	Single	11-FEB-2010 14:32:58
65	-	IP1:TANK4.LEVEL	Single	11-FEB-2010 14:32:58
462	-	IP1:CALC.SOURCE.001	Single	11-FEB-2010 14:32:58
466	-	IP1:LTPL.RBEALM.002	Single	11-FEB-2010 14:32:58
465	-	IP1:LTPL.RBEALM.001	Single	11-FEB-2010 14:32:58
464	-	IP1:LTPL.ALM.002	Single	11-FEB-2010 14:32:58
463	-	IP1:LTPL.ALM.001	Single	11-FEB-2010 14:32:58
85	-	IP1:ANALOG.ALM.CRIT	Single	11-FEB-2010 14:32:58

When alarms from only one database are being displayed, there is no problem in identifying the unconnected database. However, when the Alarm View is displaying alarms from more than one database it is not possible to know from the alarm list which database the struck out alarms belong to.

This is where the database connection status box comes to your aid, informing you clearly which database it cannot connect to.

Here is an example of an Alarm Client (or Alarm View) that has been configured to show alarms from two local databases - "rtrdb1" and "rtrdb2".



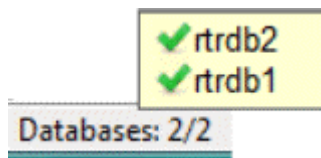
1.3.1.2 Connected Databases

Given the configuration in the example above, when the Alarm Client is placed into Runtime mode, this is what you should see in the database connection status box:

Databases: 2/2

The database connection status tells you how many databases the Alarm Client Server is currently connected to, and which databases they are. In the example above, the number after the slash (/2) tells you that the Alarm Client is configured to display alarms from two databases. The number before the slash (2) tells you how many of these databases the Alarm Client Server is currently connected to. So, here we can see that the Alarm Client is configured to show alarms from two databases and that the Alarm Client Server is currently connected to both.

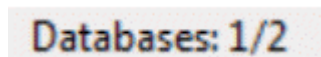
Hold the mouse over the database connection status box. You should see something like this:



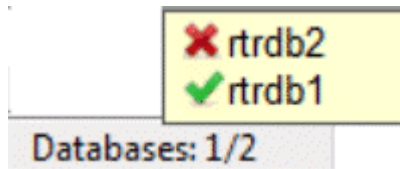
The tool tip shows the two data services that have been defined in the Alarm Client, with a tick beside both to indicate that the Alarm Client Server is currently connected to both databases.

1.3.1.2.1 Unconnected Databases

If the Alarm Client Server cannot connect, or loses connection with one of these databases, you will see the following message in the database connection status box.



This is telling you that out of the two databases that are specified in the Alarm Client, the Alarm Client Server can only establish a connection with one. When you hold the mouse over the database connection status box this time, you see something like this:



The tool tip indicates that of the two configured databases, the Alarm Client Server can only connect with the "rtrdb1" data service. Connected databases have a green tick next to them, unconnected databases have a red cross next to them.

In the Alarm View, alarms from connected databases are not struck out. They are live and can be acknowledged.

12-FEB-2010 13:47:25.220	IP1:CALC.SOURCE.001	45.0	COUNTS	Low	0
12-FEB-2010 13:47:24.000	IP1:TANK6.FILL.INP	TRUE	FILL	Change to True	0
12-FEB-2010 13:47:21.460	IP1:TANK3.LEVEL	93.0	METRES	Low	2
12-FEB-2010 13:47:21.200	IP1:TANK5.FILL.INP	FALSE	DRAIN	Change to True	0
12-FEB-2010 13:47:20.460	IP1:ANALOG.ALM	7393394112587	COUNTS	Low	2
12-FEB-2010 13:47:15.180	IP1:ATPL.RBEAL	0.0	-	Low Low	2
12-FEB-2010 13:47:15.160	IP1:LTPL.RBEAL	FALSE	OFF	Change to False	3
12-FEB-2010 13:47:15.160	IP1:LTPL.RBEAL	FALSE	OFF	Change to False	3
12-FEB-2010 13:47:15.160	IP1:LTPL.ALM.00	FALSE	OFF	Change to False	3
12-FEB-2010 13:47:15.160	IP1:LTPL.ALM.00	FALSE	OFF	Change to False	3
12-FEB-2010 13:47:15.160	IP1:ATPL.ALM.00	5.0	-	High	2
12-FEB-2010 13:47:08.620	IP1:TANK6.LEVE	5	METRES	Low Low	3
12-FEB-2010 13:47:04.460	IP1:TANK4.FILL.I	RUE	FILL	Change to True	0
12-FEB-2010 13:47:04.460	IP1:TANK3.FILL.I	RUE	FILL	Change to True	0
12-FEB-2010 13:46:35.460	IP1:SINE.VALUE	0.2245635986328	%	Low	2
12-FEB-2010 13:46:35.180	IP1:ATPL.RBEAL	5.0	-	High High	3
12-FEB-2010 13:26:35.160	IP1:ATPL.ALM.00	0.0	-	Low Low	2
12-FEB-2010 13:25:32.460	IP1:SINE.VALUE.002	28.498462677002	%	Low	2

1.3.1.2.2 Disconnected Alarms

On the other hand, in our example, the Alarm Client Server cannot connect with the "rtrdb2" data service. If the Alarm Client Server previously had a connection with "rtrdb2", alarms from that database will now be struck out to indicate the loss of connection.

79	-	IP1:TANK6.LEVEL	Single	11-FEB-2010 14:33:01
470	-	IP1:TANK3.LEVEL	Single	11-FEB-2010 14:32:58
65	-	IP1:TANK4.LEVEL	Single	11-FEB-2010 14:32:58
462	-	IP1:CALC.SOURCE.001	Single	11-FEB-2010 14:32:58
466	-	IP1:LTPL.RBEALM.002	Single	11-FEB-2010 14:32:58
465	-	IP1:LTPL.RBEALM.001	Single	11-FEB-2010 14:32:58
464	-	IP1:LTPL.ALM.002	Single	11-FEB-2010 14:32:58
463	-	IP1:LTPL.ALM.001	Single	11-FEB-2010 14:32:58
85	-	IP1:ANALOG.ALM.CRIT	Single	11-FEB-2010 14:32:58

These alarms are not live and cannot be acknowledged.

1.3.1.3 Alarm Client Server Connection Logging

Further diagnostic information regarding database connections and disconnections of the Alarm Client Server can be obtained by setting the "LoggingMode" value on the OpenEnterprise | Tasks | AlarmClientServer key in the Settings Editor to a value of "Daily".

The Alarm Client Server will then write time stamped database connection and disconnection events to a log file. For more details on this option, see the Settings Editor documentation.

1.3.2 Context Menus

Right clicking on any alarm brings up a context menu. The content of the menu is different, depending on whether the Alarm View is configured for historical or realtime data retrieval, but there are common context menu elements for both types.

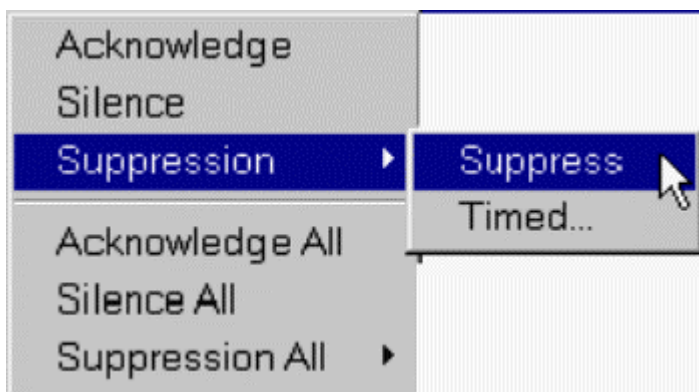
Click on the Related Topics below for more information.

1.3.3 Changing the Sort Order of Alarms

Alarms / Events are ordered by default on the value of the 'occurrencetime' attribute, most recent at the top. Alarms and Events may be sorted on the values in any displayed column. This is achieved by clicking on the relevant column heading. A second click on the same column heading will reverse the sort order.

1.3.4 Alarm View Context Menus

These Context Menu items only apply if the Alarm Client has been configured to display Realtime data.



1.3.4.1 Acknowledge Alarm

This option will acknowledge the selected alarm(s).

1.3.4.2 Silence Alarm

This option will silence the selected alarm(s) if the Alarm Viewer has been set up to announce alarms.

1.3.4.3 Alarm Suppression

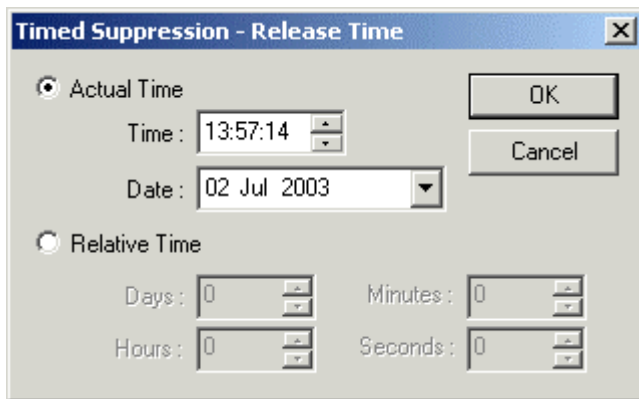
Suppressed alarms are still in alarm, but have a negative 'suppressed' filter applied so they do not show up in the normal Alarm Viewer window. They may be accessed by applying a suppressed filter to the Alarm Viewer (see the 'State Filtering Sub-Page' topic for details) and they may then be unsuppressed manually.

1.3.4.4 Suppress Alarm

Immediately suppress or unsuppress the selected alarm(s).

1.3.4.5 Timed Suppression Dialog

Suppresses the selected alarm(s) for a defined time duration. Once the time limit has been reached, the alarm(s) will be automatically un-suppressed. The Timed Suppression Dialog is displayed in order to configure the time duration.



1.3.4.5.1 Actual Time

To configure an actual time when the alarm should be unsuppressed, select the time spin buttons or type a time directly into the Time: field.

To select another date, click on the Date: field. A calendar will be displayed, enabling you to select another date when the alarm should be unsuppressed.

1.3.4.5.2 Relative Time

When the Relative Time radio button is selected this causes the controls and fields in this section of the dialog to become enabled, and disables the controls and fields in the other section.

Use the spin controls on the Days, Hours, Minutes and Seconds fields or type values directly in to configure a time relative to the suppression of the alarm. For example, to unsuppress an alarm exactly one hour from the time it is suppressed type 1 into the Hours field, leaving the rest of the fields blank.

1.3.4.6 Acknowledge All

This will acknowledge all alarms. A confirmation dialog box will be displayed.

1.3.4.7 Silence All

This will silence all alarms if annunciation has been set. A confirmation dialog box will be displayed.

1.3.4.8 Suppress All

Suppress / Unsuppress all alarms. A confirmation dialog box will be displayed. If all alarms have been suppressed this menu extension will read 'Unsuppress'.

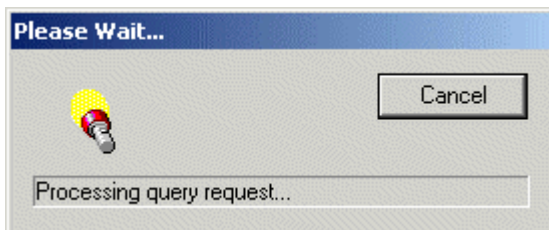
1.3.5 Common Context Menus

These items appear on both Realtime and Historical Alarm Client Context Menus.



1.3.5.1 Please Wait Message

The Alarm View, when configured as an Event Viewer will run a static query on the EventHistory table every time it is refreshed. To provide the operator with notice that it is undertaking a query, the message box below is displayed until the query is completed: -



1.3.5.2 Resize Columns

Forces all columns to be resized so they accommodate all data without it being truncated

1.3.5.3 Export Data

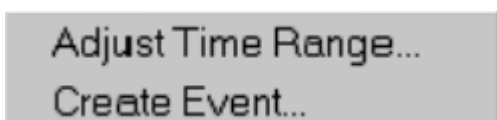
Copies the selected data to the Windows clipboard. If the [Shift] key is held down at the same time, then the data is placed into an Excel worksheet, if Excell is installed.

1.3.5.4 Print

Selection of this option prints the selected alarms or the whole alarm list.

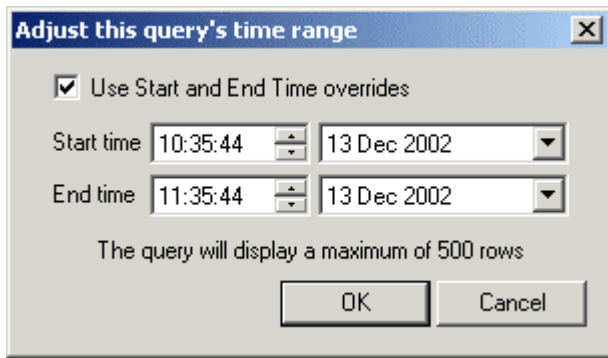
1.3.6 Event View Context Menus

These Context Menu items only apply if the Alarm Client has been configured for Historical data display.



1.3.6.1 Adjust Time Range Dialog

This dialog enables you to change the time range for the events being displayed by the Viewer. When finished, select the [OK] button. The Viewer will re-query the database and display the results with the new time overrides.



1.3.6.1.1 Enable Time Range Adjustmet

Click on the 'Use Start and End Time overrides' tick box to enable the time adjustment fields.

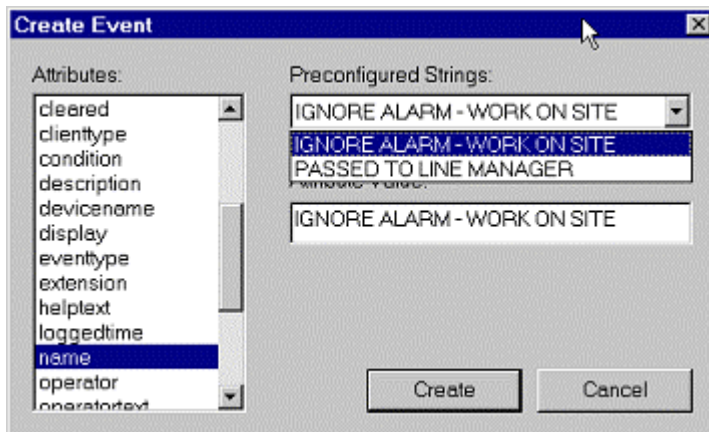
1.3.6.1.2 Time Range Adjustment Fields

Clicking on the arrows on the time fields will scroll the time up or down. Clicking on the date fields will show a drop-down calendar from which a different date may be chosen for queries which stretch back more than a day.



1.3.6.2 Create Event Dialog

When the 'Create Event' option is chosen, the 'Create Event' dialog appears.



1.3.6.2.1 Attribute List

This is the list of attributes available for overwriting. When an attribute is selected from the list its current value is immediately copied to the 'Attribute List' text box, where it can be changed to display the intended message.

1.3.6.2.2 Preconfigured Strings

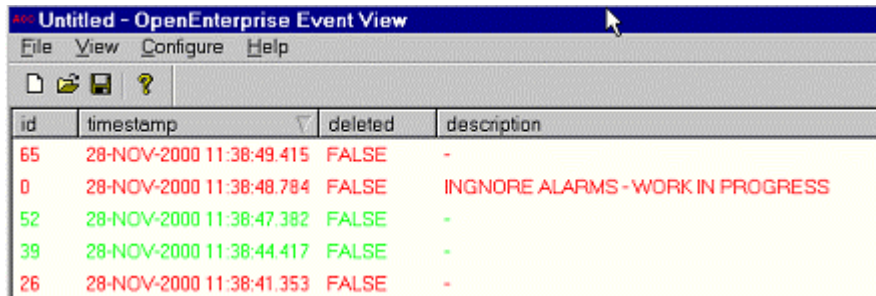
Preconfigured message strings will be available here if they have been configured on the Advanced Configuration Dialog. When a preconfigured string has been selected it will be copied immediately to the Attribute Value text box, overwriting the current value of the selected attribute. This will be the message that will appear in the Created Event.

1.3.6.2.3 Attribute Value

This text box displays the selected attribute's value, and is overwritten when a preconfigured string is selected, or can be overwritten by typing in a new value. This becomes the message for the Created Event.

1.3.6.2.4 Example Created Event

When the Alarm Client is refreshed the Created Event is shown just under the event which was used as a template. It has the same date/time and priority.



The screenshot shows a window titled "Untitled - OpenEnterprise Event View" with a menu bar (File, View, Configure, Help) and a toolbar. Below is a table with the following data:

id	timestamp	deleted	description
65	28-NOV-2000 11:38:49.415	FALSE	-
0	28-NOV-2000 11:38:48.784	FALSE	INGNORE ALARMS - WORK IN PROGRESS
52	28-NOV-2000 11:38:47.382	FALSE	-
39	28-NOV-2000 11:38:44.417	FALSE	-
26	28-NOV-2000 11:38:41.353	FALSE	-

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