

Tech Note 752

Managing Language Switching for Application Server Alarm Comments

All Tech Notes, Tech Alerts and KBCD documents and software are provided "as is" without warranty of any kind. See the [Terms of Use](#) for more information.

Topic#: 002530
Created: March 2011

Introduction

This *Tech Note* explains how to configure and implement Alarm Comment Language Switching for Application Server Alarms.

The Alarm Comment Language Switching feature allows you translate alarm comments by exporting them to external files. The purpose of exporting the alarm comments to external files is to produce InTouch-compatible localized files to support language switching of alarm comments in the InTouch runtime environment. You can then import the alarm comment files back into the Galaxy after translation for convenient updating and re-export.

Note: If you change an alarm comment after exporting the alarm comments, you must re-export the alarm comments. The translated alarm comments imported into InTouch and displayed at run time do not change dynamically when the alarm comment is edited.

Application Versions

- Wonderware Application Server 3.1 SP2 & later
- InTouch 10.1 SP2 & later

Prerequisites

If you will be working with East Asian Languages, and don't have them on the InTouch node, you need to install East Asian Languages using the following steps.

1. Click **Start**, then **Control Panel/Regional and Language Options**.
2. Click the **Languages** tab.
3. Click **Install files for East Asian languages**.

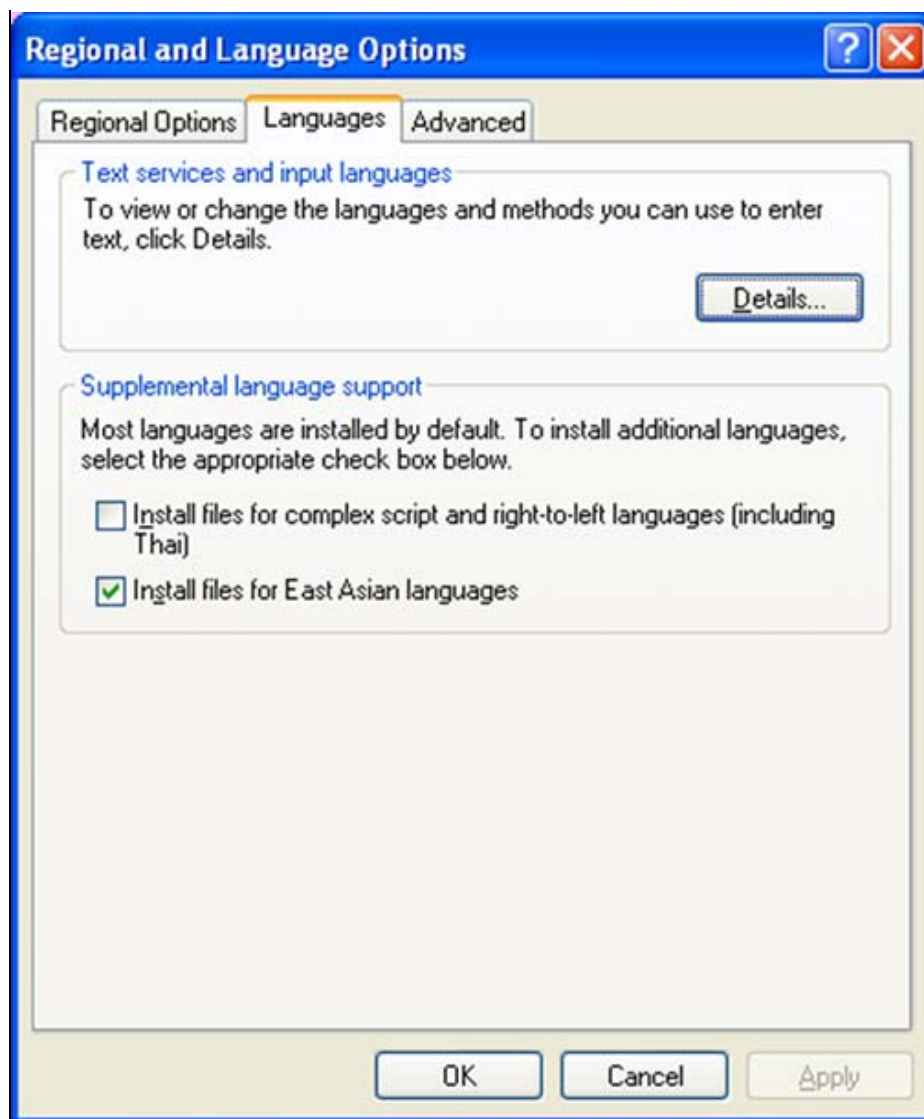


FIGURE 1: EAST ASIAN LANGUAGE INSTALLATION

Guidelines and Recommendations

The following guidelines and recommendations will help you make best use of the alarm comment language switching feature.

Important: The exported file name is generated automatically and must not be changed.

Organizing Your Export

- You can only export the alarm comment text for one language at a time.
- When you export text, you specify a folder for the language files. We recommend that you create a separate folder for each language. For

example, ...Galaxy01\Italian\.

- For large Galaxies, you can improve performance by exporting, translating, and re-importing language files for *each area*. The alarm clients will perform faster when accessing those files.
- For small Galaxies or for InTouch applications, we recommend that you export the entire Galaxy for translation.

Switching Alarm Comment Languages

Switching your alarm comment language is done by exporting the file, then modifying it using Excel and importing it back to the Galaxy. This section provides complete instructions for creating a test that uses the imported language file.

Configure the Alarm Object and Export the Attributes

1. Create a new Galaxy. In this example, it's called **ACLS**.
2. Go to the Graphic Toolbox and create a new ArchestrA Symbol. In this example, it's called **AlarmControl**.
3. Open the **AlarmControl** Symbol and Embed the Alarm Client Control.
4. Double-click on the Embedded AlarmClientControl and on the query under Alarm Mode type **\Galaxy!Area_001** (Figure 2 below).

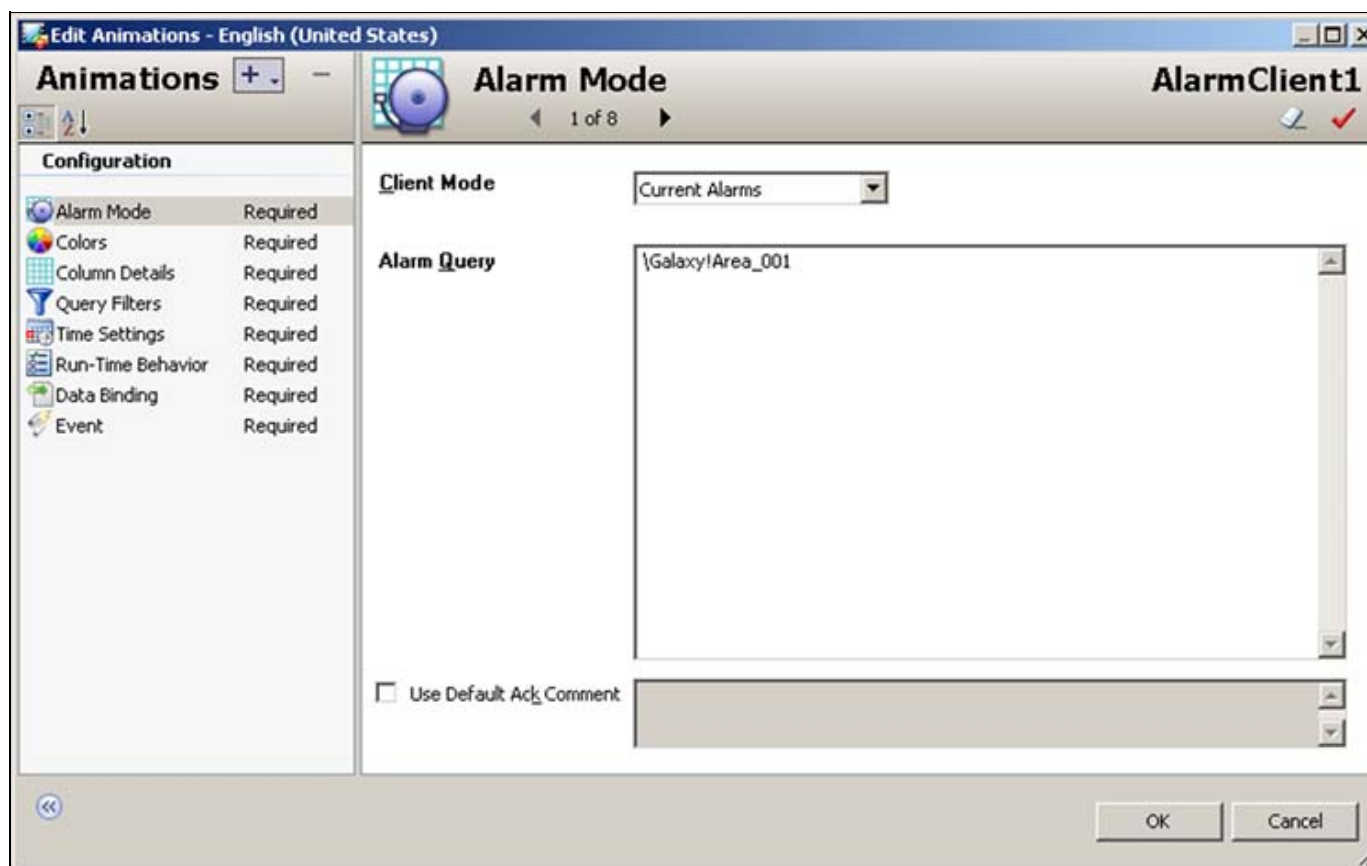


FIGURE 2:

5. Create an instance of UserDefined template. For Example **UserDefined_001**.

Configure it according to the following specifications.

- Add one UDA which is a Bool data type (**UDABool**).
- Add another UDA which is a Integer data type (**UDAInt**).
- Add a Discrete FieldAttribute (**Discrete_001**) and in the InputSource point to **UserDefined_001.UDABool**.
- Enable the State Alarm and in the Alarm message field type **Discrete Alarm**.
- Add an Analog FieldAttribute (**Analog_001**) and in the InputSource point to **UserDefined_001.UDAInt**.
- Enable the limit Alarm and type in anything in the Alarm Message (Figure 3 below).

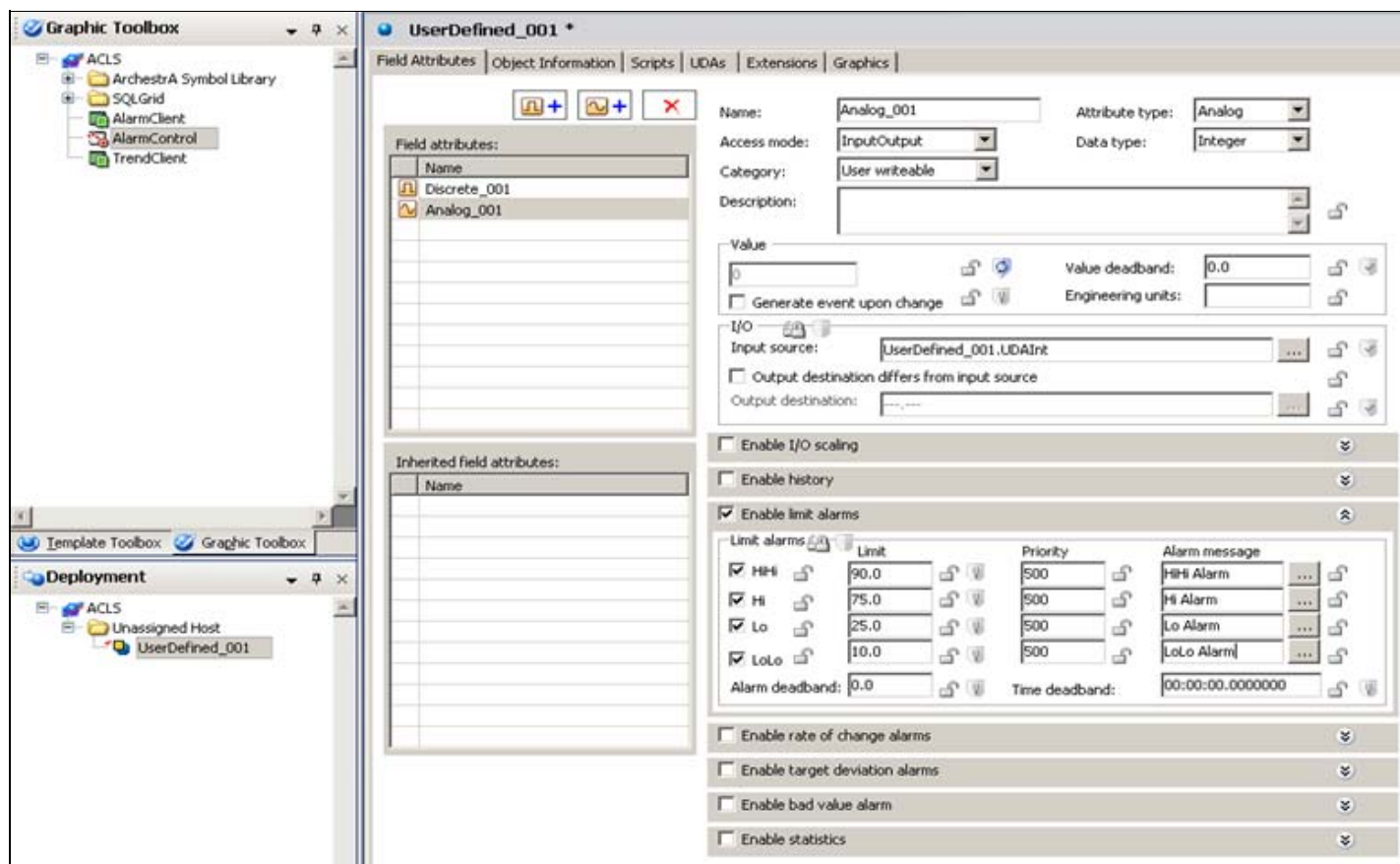


FIGURE 3:

6. Click **Save**.

7. Go to the Graphics Tab and create a new symbol called **EmbedAlarmControl**.

8. Open the **EmbedAlarmControl** symbol and embed the AlarmControl from the graphic toolbox.

9. Check in the object.
10. On the Galaxy menu, select **Configure/Languages**, and add the language you would like to translate. For this example, it is Italian (Figure 4 below).

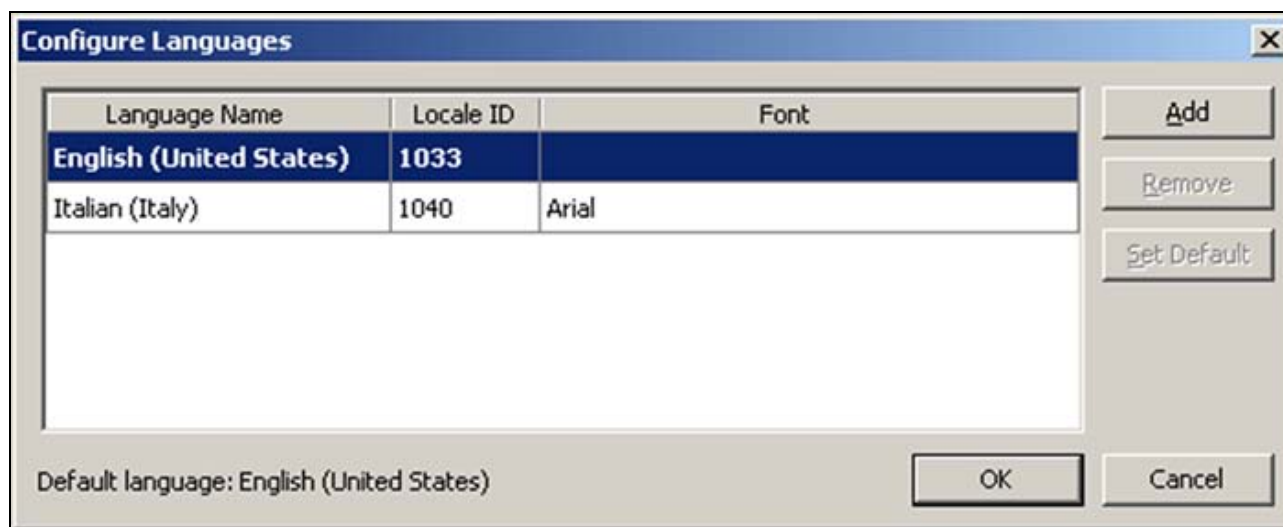


FIGURE 4:

11. On the Galaxy menu, select **Export/Localization**.
12. Click **All Alarm Messages**. The **Export Alarm Messages** dialog box appears.
13. Choose **Italian** from the drop-down list and type a file path in the Select destination folder field. For this example, we export it to a file at ... \Desktop\ACLS.
14. Click **Export** (Figure 5 below).

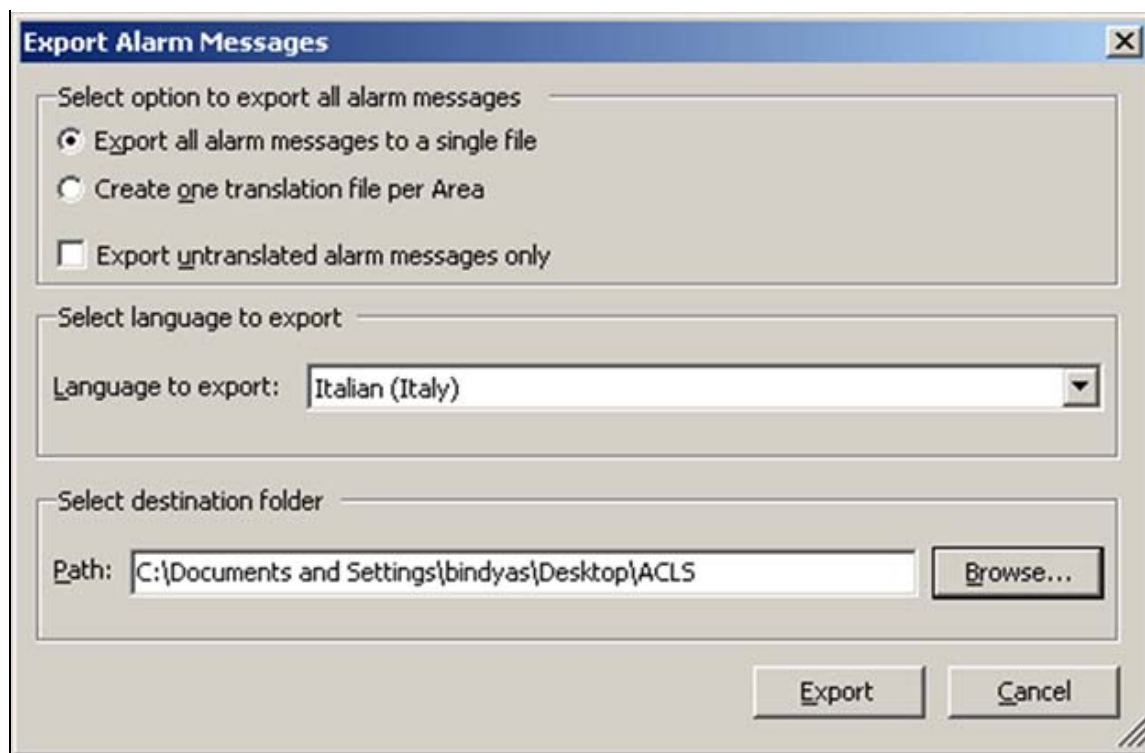


FIGURE 5: EXPORT ALARM MESSAGES

Exported Language File Notes

- All files export as Unicode. We recommend that you save the exported files as Unicode.
- We recommend that you open the .txt file in Microsoft Excel 2003 or later for editing, then saving it as a .txt file.
- The language file name is not user-configurable. The file naming convention for alarm comment export is:

**Galaxy_<GalaxyName>_<localeID>_Alarm_Comments.txt. or
Galaxy_<GalaxyName>_<AreaName>_<localeID>_Alarm_ Comments.txt**

where the locale ID is the selected language decimal identification number.

For example, if the Galaxy name is **ACLS** and the exported language is Italian, the language file name is named **Galaxy_ACLS_1040_Alarm_Comments.txt**.

If the Galaxy name is **ACLS**, the Area name is **Area_001**, and the exported language is German, the language file name is **Galaxy_ACLS_Area001_1031_Alarm_Comments.txt**.

Translating the File using Excel

1. Open the exported file using Microsoft Excel.
2. Add the comment translation in column **C** for the alarm messages (Figure 6 below).

	A	B	C
1	Unique Phrases:		
2			
3	Phraselid (DO NOT EDIT)	Default Message (DO NOT EDIT)	Translated Message (EDIT THIS COLUMN)
4		1 Discrete Alarm	Discreto Alarma
5		2 Hi Alarm	Alto Alarma
6		3 HiHi Alarm	Alto Alto Alarma
7		4 Lo Alarm	Bassa Alarma
8		5 LoLo Alarm	Bassa Bassa Alarma
9			
10	Alarms:		
11			
12	Phraselid (DO NOT EDIT)	Alarm (DO NOT EDIT)	
13		2 UserDefined_001.Analog_001.HI	
14		3 UserDefined_001.Analog_001.HIHI	
15		4 UserDefined_001.Analog_001.Lo	
16		5 UserDefined_001.Analog_001.LoLo	
17		1 UserDefined_001.Discrete_001	
18			

FIGURE 6: MODIFY THE COMMENTS USING EXCEL

3. Save the changes but do not rename this file.

Import the Translated File

1. On the Galaxy menu, click **Import/Localization/All Alarm Messages**. The **Import Alarm Messages** dialog box appears.
2. Select **Italian**, then select the path (Figure 7 below).

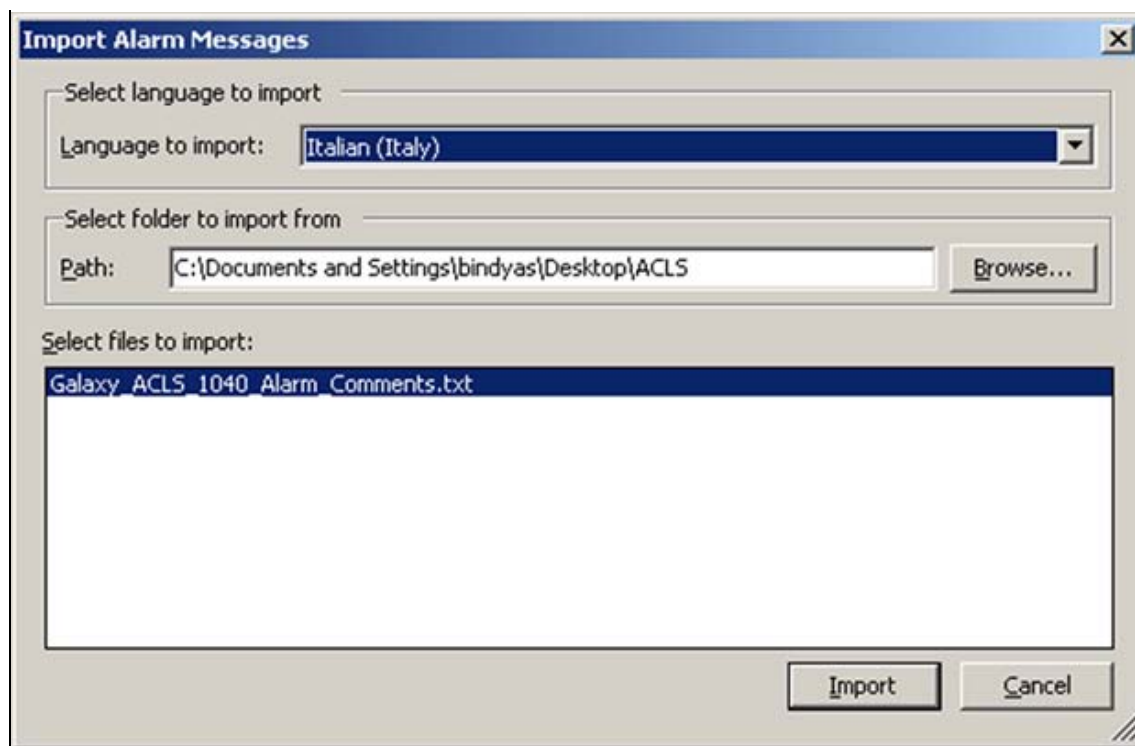


FIGURE 7:

3. Click **Import**.

Create and Configure the Alarm Control Object

1. In the IDE, create an instance of WinPlatform.
2. On the **General** tab click the **Enable InTouch Alarm Provider** option (Figure 8 below).

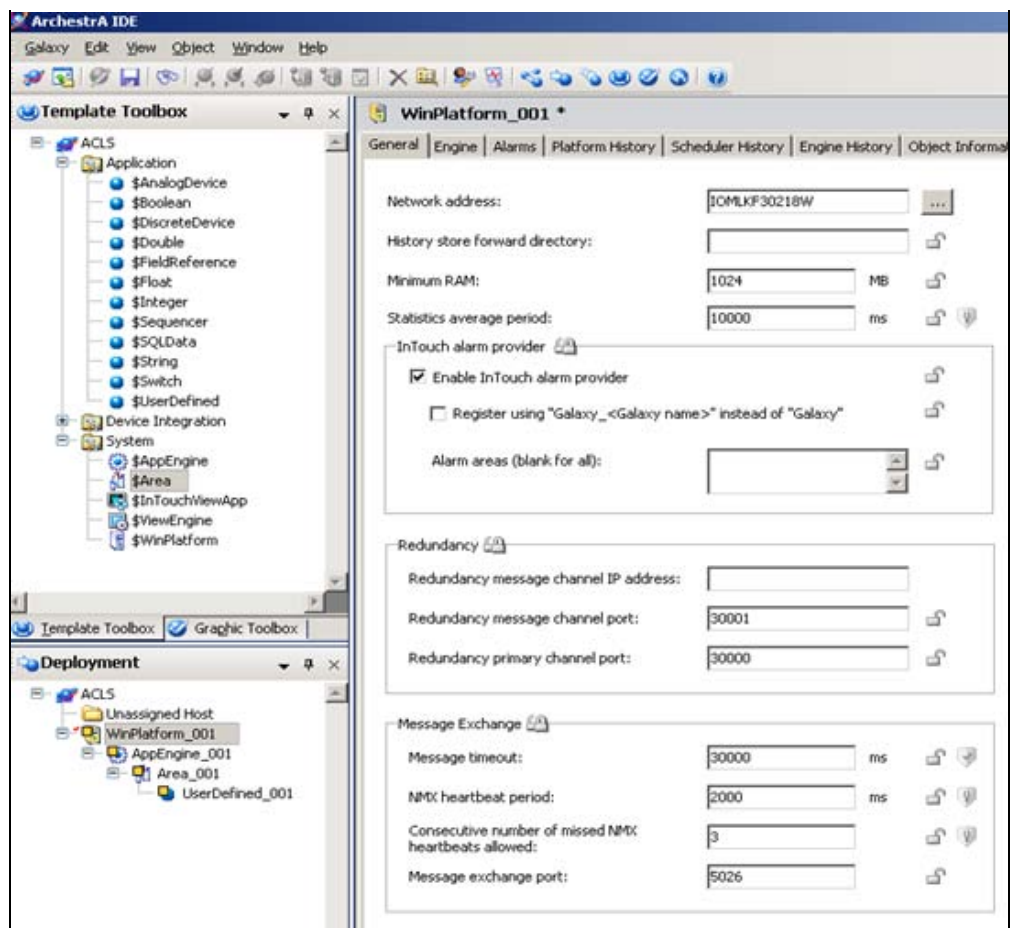


FIGURE 8:

3. Create an instance of an AppEngine (**AppEngine_001**).
4. Create an instance of an Area (**Area_001**).
5. Create a new derived **Manage InTouchViewApp** (Alarm Comment Language Switching).
6. Create a new InTouch Window called **Alarm**.
7. Click **Embed Arcestra Graphic**.
8. Go to the Instances and click **UserDefined_001**
9. Double-click **Embedded Alarm Control** and embed it in the **Alarm** Window.
10. Also to test add an AlarmViewControl from the wizards on an InTouch window.
11. Double-click the **AlarmViewerControl** and click the **Query** Tab.
12. Change the query to **\Galaxy!Area_001**.
13. Save your changes and close the window.

Import the Alarm Files

1. In WindowMaker, click **Special/Languages/Import Alarm Fields**. The **Import alarm fields** dialog box appears.
2. Browse to your file and import it. You should see **Italian** in the list of configured languages (Figure 9 below).

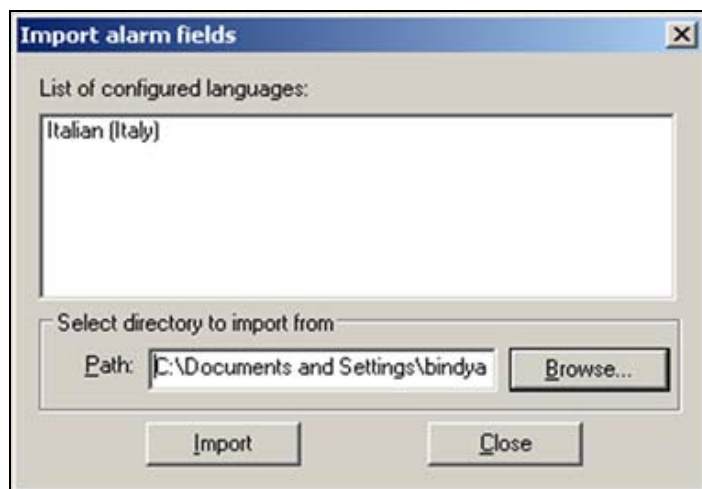


FIGURE 9: IMPORT ALARM FILE

3. Click **Import**.
4. The **Import Successful** dialog box appears (Figure 10 below).



FIGURE 10: SUCCESS

5. Close WindowMaker and check in the InTouchViewApp.

Change the Alarm Comment Language in Runtime

1. Create an instance of the ViewEngine.
2. Create an instance of the InTouchViewApp object.
3. On the IDE click **Deployment** and arrange all instances so that you now can deploy.
4. Deploy everything.
5. Go to ObjectViewer and trigger the UDABool and UDAInt alarms (Figure 11 below).

The screenshot shows the Object Viewer application with a tree view on the left and a detailed attribute table on the right. The tree view shows the following structure:

- WinPlatform_001 [10MLKF30218W]
 - AppEngine_001
 - Area_001 [Area_001]
 - UserDefined_001 [UserDe] (selected)

The main table displays the following columns: Attribute Name, Value, Timestamp, Quality, Status, SecurityC..., Category, Locked, Type, Id, and Internal Primitiv. The table contains 25 rows of data for the selected UserDefined_001 object.

Attribute Name	Value	Timestamp	Quality	Status	SecurityC...	Category	Locked	Type	Id	Internal Primitiv
Tagname	UserDefined_001		C0:Good	Ok	ReadOnly	System...	Unlocked	String	100	Common
ShortDesc	The UserDefined object provides...		C0:Good	Ok	ReadOnly	Writea...	Unlocked	InternationalStr...	101	Common
ScanStateCmd	true		C0:Good	Ok	Operate	Writea...	Unlocked	Boolean	104	Common
ScanState	true		C0:Good	Ok	ReadOnly	Calcula...	Unlocked	Boolean	105	Common
SecurityGroup	Default		C0:Good	Ok	ReadOnly	Writea...	Unlocked	String	106	Common
Area	Area_001		C0:Good	Ok	ReadOnly	System...	Unlocked	ReferenceType	109	Common
Container			C0:Good	Ok	ReadOnly	System...	Unlocked	ReferenceType	110	Common
Host	Area_001		C0:Good	Ok	ReadOnly	System...	Unlocked	ReferenceType	111	Common
AlarmMode	Enable		C0:Good	Ok	ReadOnly	Calcula...	Unlocked	CustomEnum	113	Common
AlarmModeCmd	Enable		C0:Good	Ok	Operate	Writea...	Unlocked	CustomEnum	114	Common
AlarmInhibit	false		C0:Good	Ok	Operate	Writea...	Unlocked	Boolean	115	Common
InAlarm	true		C0:Good	Ok	ReadOnly	Calcula...	Unlocked	Boolean	116	Common
ConfigVersion	3		C0:Good	Ok	ReadOnly	Writea...	Unlocked	Integer	125	Common
ContainedName			C0:Good	Ok	ReadOnly	System...	Unlocked	String	127	Common
ExecutionRelatedObject			C0:Good	Ok	ReadOnly	Writea...	Unlocked	ReferenceType	128	Common
ExecutionRelativeOrder	None		C0:Good	Ok	ReadOnly	Writea...	Unlocked	CustomEnum	129	Common
HierarchicalName	UserDefined_001		C0:Good	Ok	ReadOnly	System...	Unlocked	String	130	Common
UDABool	false	2/21/2011 2:32...	C0:Good	Ok	Operate	Writea...	Unlocked	Boolean	137	Common
UDAInt	0	2/21/2011 2:32...	C0:Good	Ok	Operate	Writea...	Unlocked	Integer	138	Common
Discrete_001.Input.ReadStatus			C0:Good	Ok	ReadOnly	Calcula...	Unlocked	StatusType	100	Discrete_001.I
Discrete_001.Input.Value	false	2/21/2011 2:32...	C0:Good	Ok	ReadOnly	Calcula...	Unlocked	Boolean	101	Discrete_001.I
Discrete_001.Input.DataType	MxBoolean		C0:Good	Ok	ReadOnly	Writea...	Unlocked	DataType	102	Discrete_001.I
Discrete_001.Input.InputSource	UserDefined_001.UDABool		C0:Good	Ok	Configure	Writea...	Unlocked	ReferenceType	103	Discrete_001.I
Analog_001.Input.ReadStatus			C0:Good	Ok	ReadOnly	Calcula...	Unlocked	StatusType	100	Analog_001.Inq
Analog_001.Input.Value	0	2/21/2011 2:32...	C0:Good	Ok	ReadOnly	Calcula...	Unlocked	Integer	101	Analog_001.Inq
Analog_001.Input.DataType	MxInteger		C0:Good	Ok	ReadOnly	Writea...	Unlocked	DataType	102	Analog_001.Inq
Analog_001.Input.InputSource	UserDefined_001.UDAInt		C0:Good	Ok	Configure	Writea...	Unlocked	ReferenceType	103	Analog_001.Inq
Discrete_001	false	2/21/2011 2:32...	C0:Good	Ok	Operate	Writea...	Unlocked	Boolean	105	UserDefined

Below the main table, there is a summary table with the following data:

AttributeReference	Value	Timestamp	Quality	Status
UserDefined_001.UDABool	true	2/21/2011 2:35:40.843 ...	C0:Good	Ok
UserDefined_001.UDAInt	99	2/21/2011 2:35:45.625 ...	C0:Good	Ok

FIGURE 11: ALARMS IN OBJECT VIEWER

- Open the deployed InTouchViewApp in WindowViewer.
- The alarm comment tab displays English alarm comments (Figure 12 below).

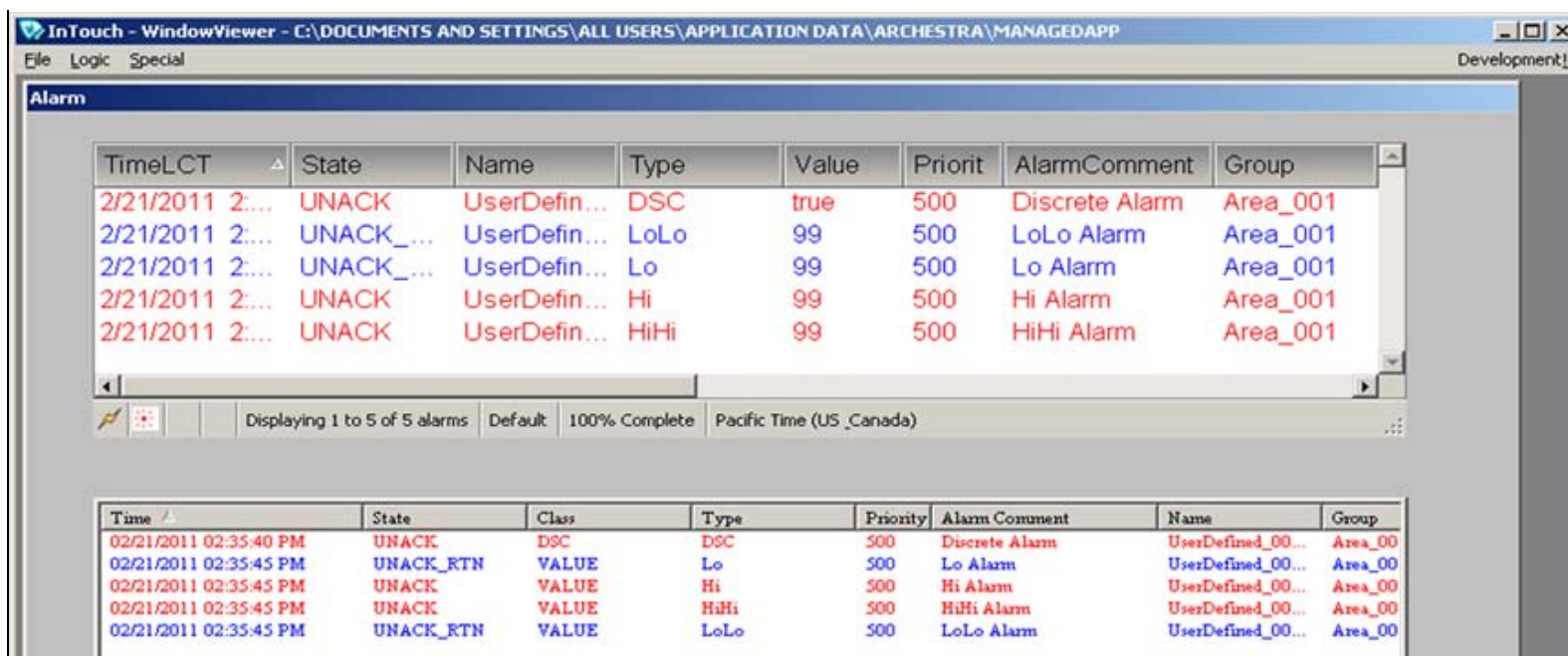


FIGURE 12: INTOUCH ALARM VIEWER DEFAULT COMMENTS

- In WindowViewer click **Special/Languages**.
- Click **Italian** and notice the Alarm comment changes to the one translated in the file (Figure 13 below).

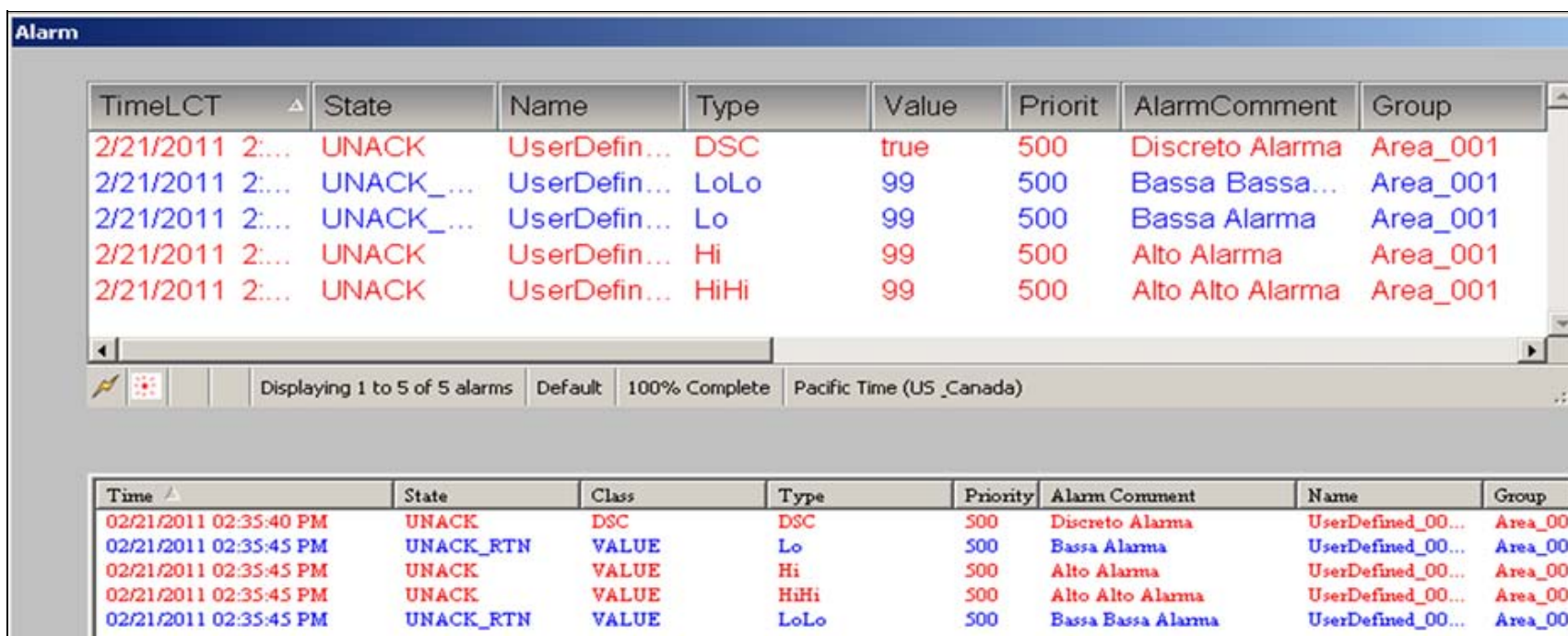


FIGURE 13: TRANSLATED ALARM COMMENTS

Re-Exporting Alarm Comments

To update the translations you must re-export the language file after adding new alarm comments that require translation or after modifying existing alarm comments.

After exporting and translating alarm comments, you can re-import them to ArchestraA to help maintain up-to-date alarm comment language files.

Example

1. Open the UserDefined_001 instance and add another Discrete Field Attribute (Discrete_002).
2. In the InputSource point to **UserDefined_001.UDABool**.
3. Click the **Enable the State Alarm** option and type **Second Discrete Alarm** in the **Alarm message** field (Figure 14 below).

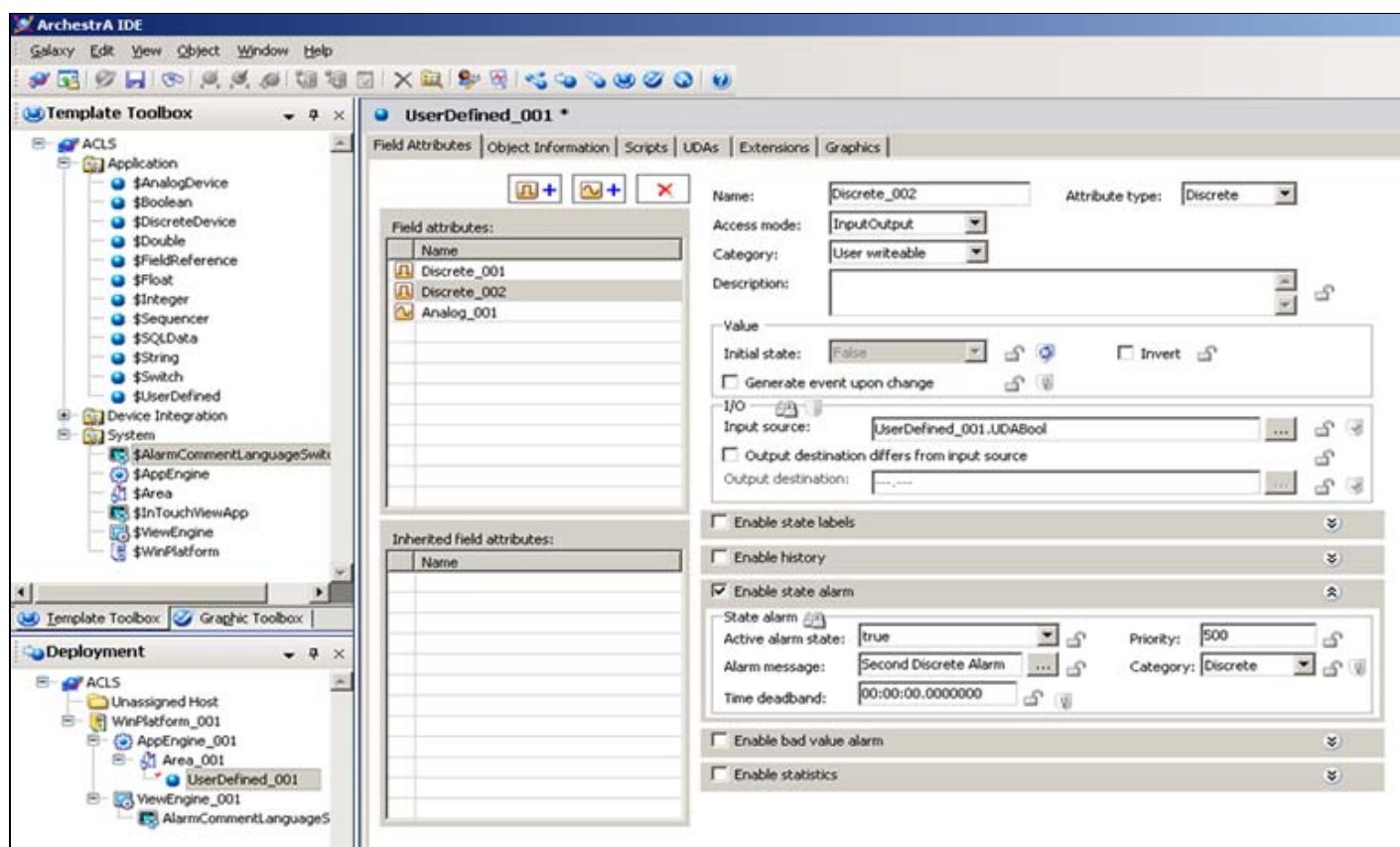


FIGURE 14: CONFIGURING ALARM ATTRIBUTES

4. Save and check in the UserDefined_001 instance.
5. On the Galaxy menu, click **Export/Localization**.
6. Click **All Alarm Messages**. The **Export Alarm Messages** dialog box appears. Choose the Italian language and create a new folder on desktop (**ACLs**).

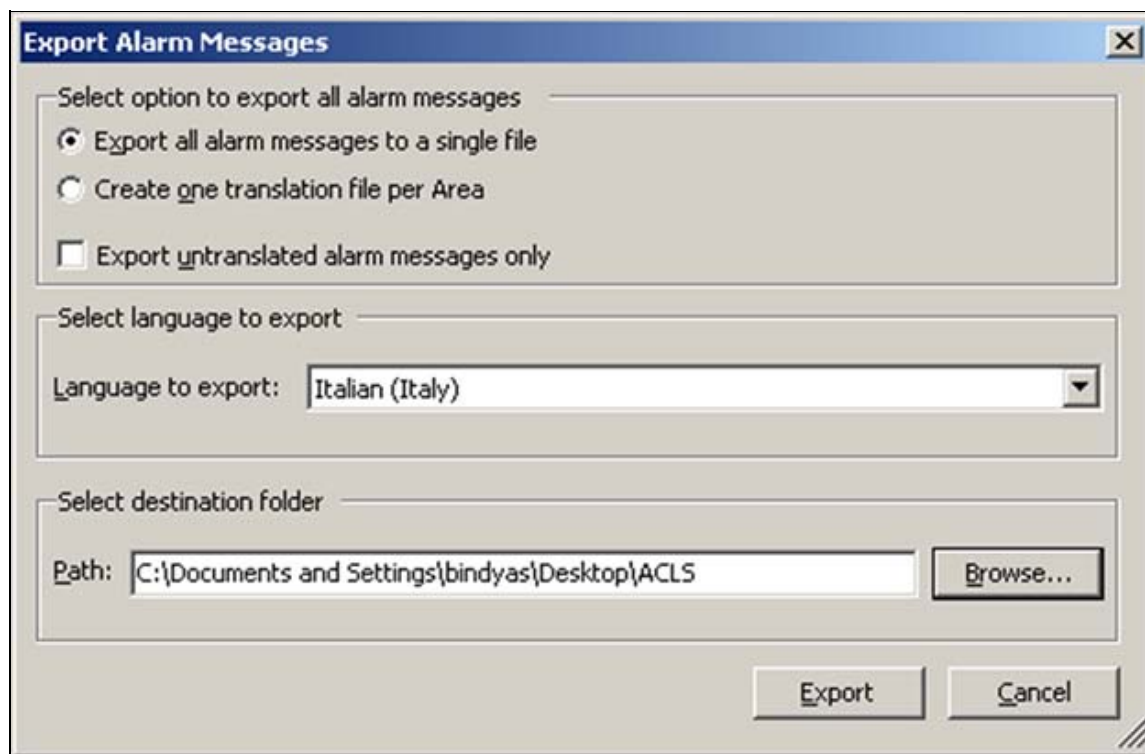


FIGURE 15: EXPORT ALARM MESSAGES

7. Click **Export**. You will be prompted to overwrite if the file already exists (Figure 16 below).

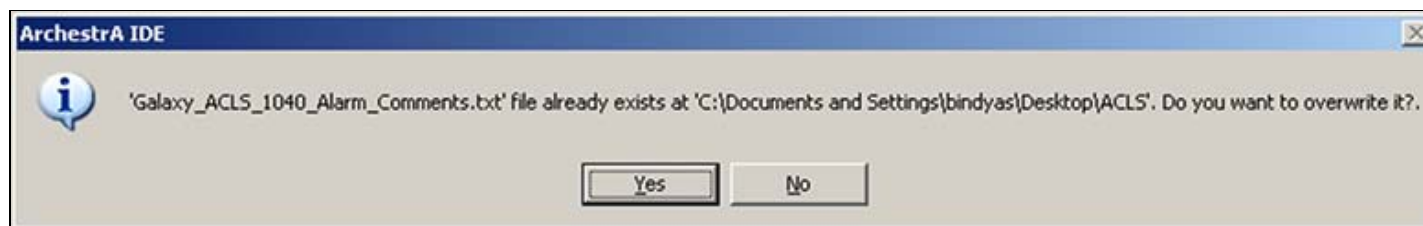


FIGURE 16: OVERWRITE EXISTING FILE MESSAGE

8. Click **Yes**.
9. Open the exported file using Excel.
10. Add the translation in column C for the alarm messages (Figure 17 below).

	A	B	C
1	Unique Phrases:		
2			
3	Phraseld (Default Message (DO NOT EDIT)		Translated Message (EDIT THIS COLUMN)
4	1	<<< NO CONFIGURABLE MESSAGE >>>	
5	2	Discrete Alarm	Discreto Alarma
6	3	Hi Alarm	Bassa Alarma
7	4	HIHI Alarm	Bassa Bassa Alarma
8	5	Lo Alarm	Alto Alarma
9	6	LoLo Alarm	Alto Alto Alarma
10	7	Represents a "managed" InTouch Application within Archestra	
11	11	Second Discrete Alarm	Due Discreto Alarma
12			
13	Alarms:		
14			
15	Phraseld (Alarm (DO NOT EDIT)		
16	7	ACLS_001.ItemErrorCntAlarm	
17	3	UserDefined_001.Analog_001.Hi	
18	4	UserDefined_001.Analog_001.HIHI	
19	5	UserDefined_001.Analog_001.Lo	
20	6	UserDefined_001.Analog_001.LoLo	
21	2	UserDefined_001.Discrete_001	
22	11	UserDefined_001.Discrete_002	
23	1	WinPlatform_001.CheckpointFileCorruptionAlarm	

FIGURE 17: MODIFY COLUMN C

11. Save the Excel file.
12. On the Galaxy menu, click **Import/Localization/All Alarm Messages**. The **Import Alarm Messages** dialog box appears.
13. Select the language as Italian, then the path (Figuer 18 below).

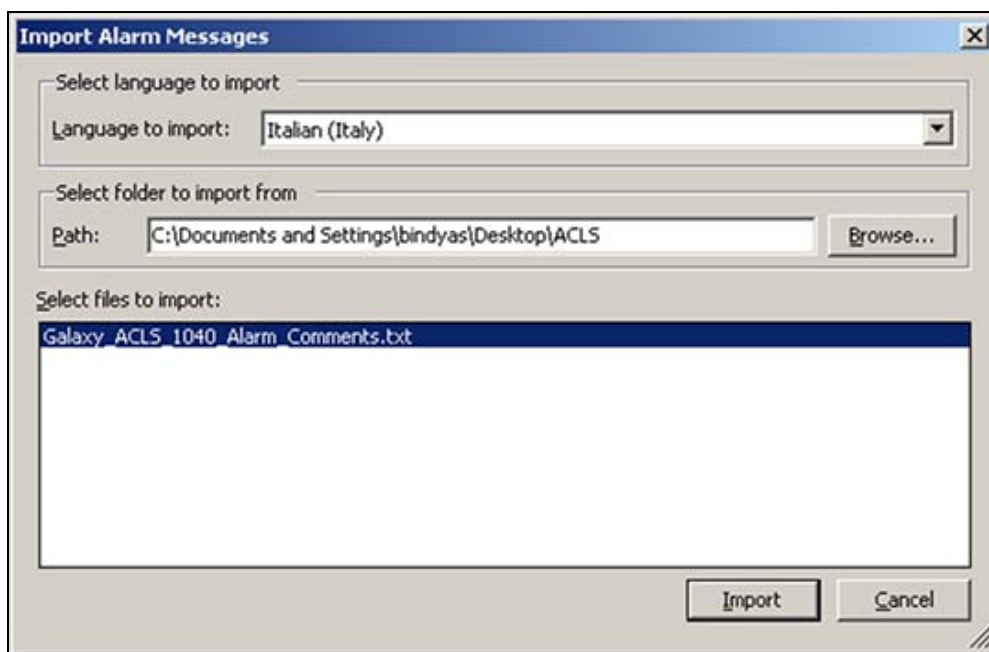


FIGURE 18: IMPORT ALARM MESSAGES

14. Click Import
15. Open the Managed InTouchViewApp.
16. On the main menu click Special/Languages/Import Alarm Fields.
17. When the dialog box appears select the path and import the file. The **Import alarm fields** dialog box's **List of configured languages** panel should display **Italian** (Figure 19 below).

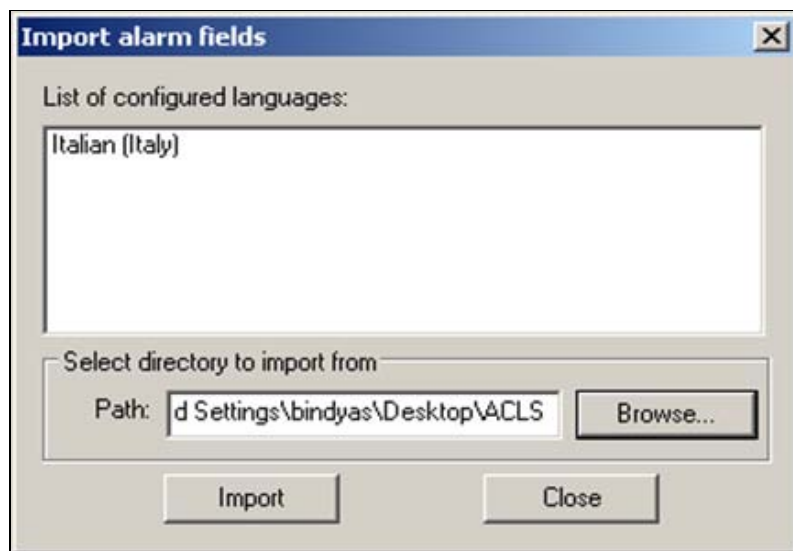


FIGURE 19: CONFIGURED LANGUAGES DISPLAY

18. Dialog box for Import Successfully appears as shown below



FIGURE 20: SUCCESS

19. Save and Check-in the InTouchViewApp.
20. Deploy the UserDefined_001 and the instance of the InTouchViewApp.
21. Open the deployed InTouchViewApp in WindowViewer.
22. In ObjectViewer, trigger the **UDABool** and **UDAI nt** alarms.
23. The alarm comment tab will be displaying English alarm messages (Figure 21 below).

TimeLCT	State	Name	AlarmComment	Type	Priority	Class
3/3/2011 9:3...	UNACK	UserDefined_001.Dis...	Discrete Alarm	DSC	500	DSC
3/3/2011 9:3...	UNACK	UserDefined_001.Dis...	Second Discrete Alarm	DSC	500	DSC
3/3/2011 9:3...	UNACK	UserDefined_001.Ana...	HiHi Alarm	HiHi	500	VALUE
3/3/2011 9:3...	UNACK	UserDefined_001.Ana...	Hi Alarm	Hi	500	VALUE
3/3/2011 9:3...	UNAC...	UserDefined_001.Ana...	Lo Alarm	Lo	500	VALUE
3/3/2011 9:3...	UNAC...	UserDefined_001.Ana...	LoLo Alarm	LoLo	500	VALUE

Displaying 1 to 6 of 6 alarms Default 100% Complete Pacific Time (US_Canada)

Time	State	Name	Alarm Comment	Type	Priority	Class
03/03/2011 09:31:55 AM	UNACK	UserDefined_001.Discrete_001	Discrete Alarm	DSC	500	DSC
03/03/2011 09:31:55 AM	UNACK	UserDefined_001.Discrete_002	Second Discrete Alarm	DSC	500	DSC
03/03/2011 09:31:58 AM	UNACK	UserDefined_001.Analog_001.Hi...	HiHi Alarm	HiHi	500	VALUE
03/03/2011 09:31:58 AM	UNACK_RTN	UserDefined_001.Analog_001.Lo	Lo Alarm	Lo	500	VALUE
03/03/2011 09:31:58 AM	UNACK	UserDefined_001.Analog_001.Hi	Hi Alarm	Hi	500	VALUE
03/03/2011 09:31:58 AM	UNACK_RTN	UserDefined_001.Analog_001.L...	LoLo Alarm	LoLo	500	VALUE

FIGURE 21: DEFAULT ALARM MESSAGES

- On the WindowViewer main menu, click Special then select Languages, then select Italian and notice the Alarm comment changed to the one translated in the file (Figure 22 below).

TimeLCT	State	Name	AlarmComment	Type	Priority	Class
3/3/2011 9:3...	UNACK	UserDefined_001.Dis...	Discreto Alarma	DSC	500	DSC
3/3/2011 9:3...	UNACK	UserDefined_001.Dis...	Due Discreto Alarma	DSC	500	DSC
3/3/2011 9:3...	UNACK	UserDefined_001.Ana...	Bassa Bassa Alarma	HiHi	500	VALUE
3/3/2011 9:3...	UNACK	UserDefined_001.Ana...	Bassa Alarma	Hi	500	VALUE
3/3/2011 9:3...	UNAC...	UserDefined_001.Ana...	Alto Alarma	Lo	500	VALUE
3/3/2011 9:3...	UNAC...	UserDefined_001.Ana...	Alto Alto Alarma	LoLo	500	VALUE

Displaying 1 to 6 of 6 alarms Default 100% Complete Pacific Time (US_Canada)

Time	State	Name	Alarm Comment	Type	Priority	Class
03/03/2011 09:31:55 AM	UNACK	UserDefined_001.Discrete_001	Discreto Alarma	DSC	500	DSC
03/03/2011 09:31:55 AM	UNACK	UserDefined_001.Discrete_002	Due Discreto Alarma	DSC	500	DSC
03/03/2011 09:31:58 AM	UNACK	UserDefined_001.Analog_001.Hi...	Bassa Bassa Alarma	HiHi	500	VALUE
03/03/2011 09:31:58 AM	UNACK_RTN	UserDefined_001.Analog_001.Lo	Alto Alarma	Lo	500	VALUE
03/03/2011 09:31:58 AM	UNACK	UserDefined_001.Analog_001.Hi	Bassa Alarma	Hi	500	VALUE
03/03/2011 09:31:58 AM	UNACK_RTN	UserDefined_001.Analog_001.L...	Alto Alto Alarma	LoLo	500	VALUE

FIGURE 22:

Summary

A typical workflow for a large Galaxy might consist of the following:

1. Export the Galaxy elements to be translated as a single file that is more manageable by the translator.
2. Import the translated file back into the Galaxy.
3. Export the translated file by Areas for use by InTouch applications.
4. Import the translated language file into InTouch.
 - In stand-alone InTouch, you can perform a single import operation.
 - In managed InTouch, you must import the language file into each managed InTouch application.
5. For InTouch applications that only target subareas of the Galaxy, exporting by Area is a more optimal workflow.

Important: Exporting, translating and importing the translated files back into the Galaxy are important steps for translating and managing translated files. Note that run-time language switching does not function unless you import the translated language file as described in number 4 above.

Note: This only works for Alarm Messages. It does not translate anything else.

B. Shah

Tech Notes are published occasionally by Wonderware Technical Support. Publisher: Invensys Systems, Inc., 26561 Rancho Parkway South, Lake Forest, CA 92630. There is also technical information on our software products at [Wonderware Technical Support](#).

For technical support questions, send an e-mail to support@wonderware.com.

 [Back to top](#)

©2011 Invensys Systems, Inc. All rights reserved. No part of the material protected by this copyright may be reproduced or utilized in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, broadcasting, or by any information storage and retrieval system, without permission in writing from Invensys Systems, Inc. [Terms of Use](#).