

AutoSave

Support for PanelBuilder32

Enterprise tools for automation source management

OVERVIEW

The AutoSave™ suite of products provides you with the software tools needed to manage all your automation programs. AutoSave controls and tracks the changes to your industrial programmable devices and program sources including PanelBuilder32 programs.

AutoSave's Microsoft Windows-based client application is fully integrated with the PanelBuilder32 software to offer you both an interactive environment and background monitoring, resulting in a comprehensive change management solution. You have complete control over your device programs including:

- Secure Editing Off-line and Monitoring functionality
- Historical Tracking and Audit Trails
- Automatic, Real-time Change Notification
- Quick Disaster Recovery

CLIENT / SERVER / AGENT

The AutoSave PanelBuilder32 module is comprised of the AutoSave client, agent, and server.

- The client is installed on a Windows workstation and provides a graphical user interface into the system that is common to all program types supported by AutoSave. The AutoSave server acts as the master control center that coordinates all change-related programming activities and stores the archives of program files.
- The agent provides all device communications for the server and results in its distributed processing efficiencies.

ARCHIVED CONTENTS

The PanelBuilder32 module archives the PanelView's PBA and PVA files, storing them in a compressed set on the server. They are restored to the client or agent whenever needed for subsequent use.

SECURED PROGRAM ACCESS

The GUI-based client interface allows you to access the AutoSave functions with a login and password. At login, the AutoSave server determines the level of access to the different areas and programs that are permitted to both you and the client PC.

VERSION CONTROL

When the user opens a program via AutoSave, the file becomes locked and indicates to others the user who has the file checked out. The system denies access to others while the program is in use. When the user completes editing and saves the changes, AutoSave prompts for a revision note, creates a new current copy, relegates the previous current to a numbered ancestor, and unlocks the program. Simply downloading an ancestor or master copy to the device and restoring that copy to the current copy can undo unwanted programming changes.

UPLOAD

Using the local copy of PanelBuilder32, a client upload from the processor first retrieves the current copy files for the local PC, uploads the files from the PanelView to the PC and then saves all the program's files to the server, creating a complete new current copy. A server-based upload employs the AutoSave agent and affords the capability of performing the upload from a client that cannot communicate with the processor or that does not have the appropriate version of PanelBuilder32 installed.

DOWNLOAD

Using the local copy of PanelBuilder32, a client-based download to the processor enables the user to select the current copy or any available ancestor or version with which to update the processor's logic and data files. Accessing the download function only via a context menu provides additional security, as does AutoSave's prompting for confirmation before initiating the download.

Features

COMPARISON FEATURES

Since PanelBuilder32 provides no native comparison capability, AutoSave implements its own comparison function. We create text files of the two revisions being compared, perform the comparison, and produce a web-based report showing all differences using color-coding to differentiate changes versus added or deleted lines.

COMPARISON ON DEMAND

Any two copies of a program, such as current, local, ancestor, version, or processor, can be compared to each other. This comparison is done on an as-needed basis and may be performed from any client with access to the device program.

AUTOMATED COMPARISON

The PanelBuilder32 modules allow for scheduled, unattended comparisons of configured groups of programs. Using the agent to perform the actual upload and comparison, AutoSave can compare the device's copy to the current copy or compare the current copy to a selected version (permanent or master copy). The AutoSave module for PanelBuilder32 does support the **AutoUpdate** feature option to create a new current copy when differences between the device and current copy are detected.

NOTIFICATIONS

Notification e-mail is automatically sent to selected personnel when scheduled comparisons are completed and provides links to complete HTML detail reports.

COMMUNICATIONS

Communication to the PanelView passing through PLC-5 or SLC processors, through remote I/O, and via RSLinx to PanelViews attached directly to a Data Highway Plus is supported.

Capabilities

System Highlights	
Client: Real-time Ancestry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Server: Auto Unattended Operation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Agent: Parallel/Distributed Processing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Secured Program Access	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Version Control w/file compression	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Device Upload	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Device Download	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Client Highlights	
Compare	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Editor Off-line	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Server / Agent Highlights	
Time-Base Scheduling	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
AutoCompare	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
AutoNotify	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
AutoUpdate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Server Platform Support	
Windows	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
UNIX	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

VERSION SPECIFIC MODULES

MDT has tested its modules using **PanelBuilder32 v3.80**.