



How to use unacknowledged alarms to trigger horns and lights on the production floor

Overview

Our technical support team is asked a question like this about once a month:

"I have a horn and lights on my production floor that are activated by a bit on a PLC. How do I tie that bit into unacknowledged alarms in VTS?"

Solution

Enter the following expression into a calculation tag:

```
\Code\AlarmManager\GetNumUnacked(invalid, 1)>0?1:0
```

Then, make that tag the data source for a digital output or digital control tag.

Step-by-Step Instructions

1. Open the VTS Tag browser (Figure 1)
2. Select Calculation in the Types menu
3. Click New
4. Enter a name in the ID tab and then select the Calc tab
5. Select the Expression checkbox
6. Click the Expression button [...] to the right of the Calculation field
7. Enter the following expression

```
\Code\AlarmManager\GetNumUnacked(invalid, 1)>0?1:0
```
8. Click OK to close the Expression editor
9. Click OK again to save the Calculation tag
10. Back in the VTS Tag Browser, select Digital Output in the Types menu
11. Click New
12. Give the tag a name in the ID tab and select the I/O tab
13. Click the Select Tab button to the right of the Data Source field
14. Select the Calculation tag you just created
15. Click OK to save the Digital Output tag

More How-to Guides

www.trihedral.com/supportdocuments/howto

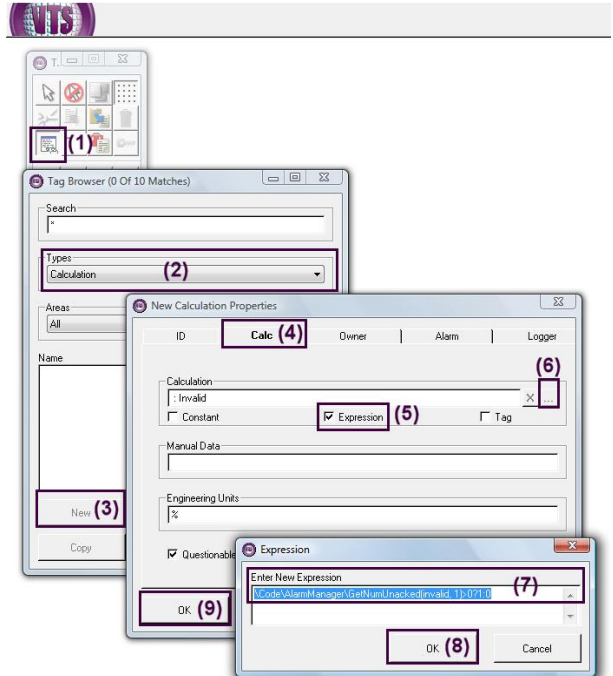


Figure 2

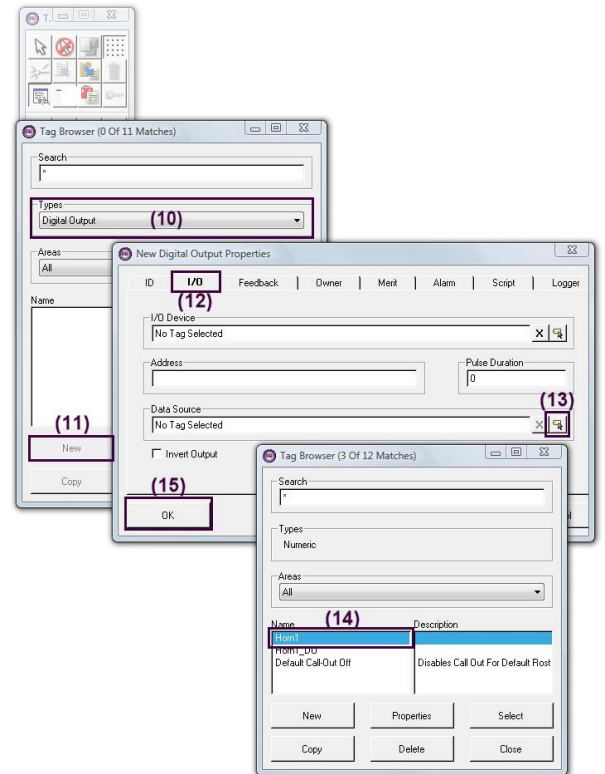


Figure 2