OPERATOR INTERFACE PRODUCTS APPLICATION NOTE

Subject: Pilot Light in SoftScreen for Windows

AN# 1028A

Date: 7/16/96

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Page: 1 of 2

Description: How to Implement a Pilot Light in SoftScreen for Windows

This application note will describe and walk you through implementing one pilot light on a SoftScreen screen.
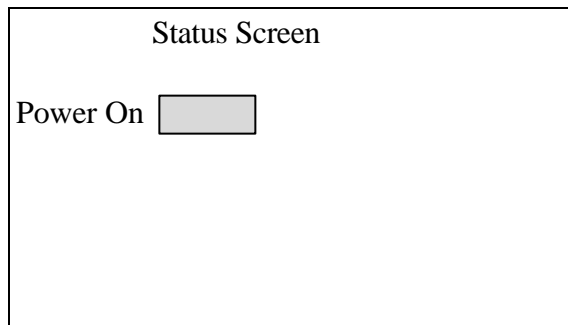
There is a basic principle to understanding how a pilot light works in SoftScreen. Normally you would not think about it because the PLC and output card would "handle" every thing for you. If you think about what ladder logic does when you turn on and off a pilot light: ladder logic will turn ON an output by making it a 1, and turn it OFF (or goes to its original state) by making it a 0. We need to emulate this in SoftScreen.

To summarize what this note will accomplish:
1. Draw an object to act as the light, for example a rectangle.
2. Place text on the screen to label the rectangle.
3. Configure an Animation to change the color of the foreground of the rectangle when ON.
4. Add the PLC tags to support the light.

1. Draw an object to act as the light, for example a rectangle

Go to the screen (or Master Template) where you want to add this pilot light. Now you have to decide what you want your light to look like, it could be a rectangle, circle or another shape. Put a rectangle on the screen for this example. Make the Foreground color under the properties menu, the color that you want the light in its OFF condition, try black (0).

Status Screen

Power On ▭

2. Place text on the screen to label the rectangle

Place some text next to the rectangle, "Power On". Remember, this is only going to label the light, it is not making it work functionally.

3. **Configure an Animation to change the color of the foreground of the rectangle when ON**
   Select the rectangle and open the Animations menu. Select the Foreground Color tab. Enter the tag name that will turn ON when you want the light on. Choose the color that you

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want it to become in its ON condition, try green (250). Click on Add. Click on OK. Close the Screen Editor.

4.   Add the PLC tags to support the light
Now make sure that you have the tag name that you entered in the PLC driver area (or internal driver). Go to the Data, Drivers area from the Application Navigator and select your PLC driver (or internal driver). Fill in the tag name and information about the address and then click on Add. Close the driver window.

You should now be able to save, generate and download.

Notes:
This works by using the drawn color of the rectangle as the OFF condition and only changes it when it is ON. SoftScreen knows to revert back to the color that the rectangle was drawn in the Development system.

If you put multiple foreground colors in the list for one object, and more than one of them become true (on) at the same time, the color will change to the last one that is true in the l7ist.