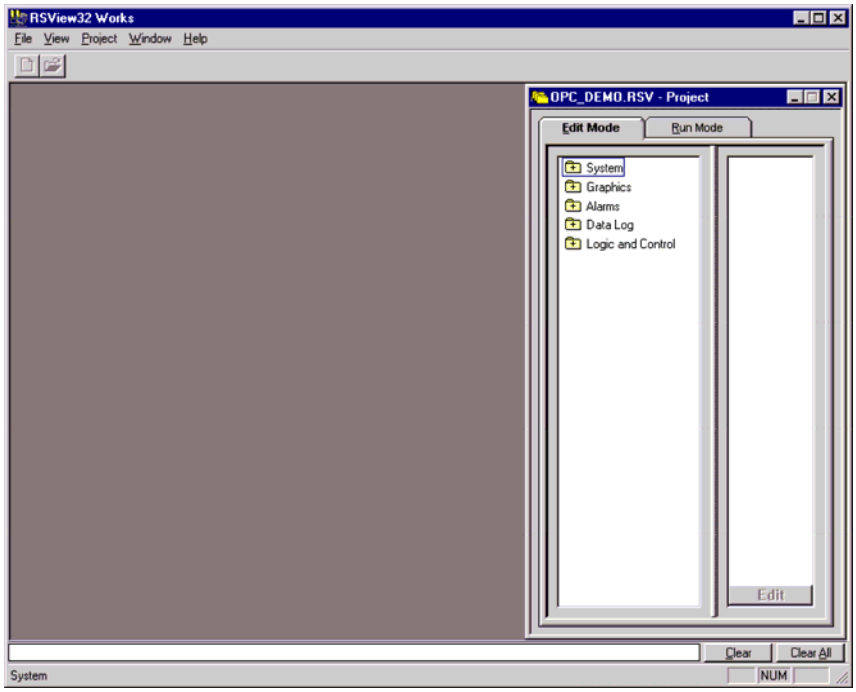
# Rockwell Software's RSView32® as an OPC Client

## Connect to the Server from RSView32

Rockwell's RSView32 OPC client is one of many HMI's that can be used to connect to The server. The RSView32 OPC client version used for this example was version *6.3*. The following steps will show you how to create an OPC connection to the Server from RSView32.

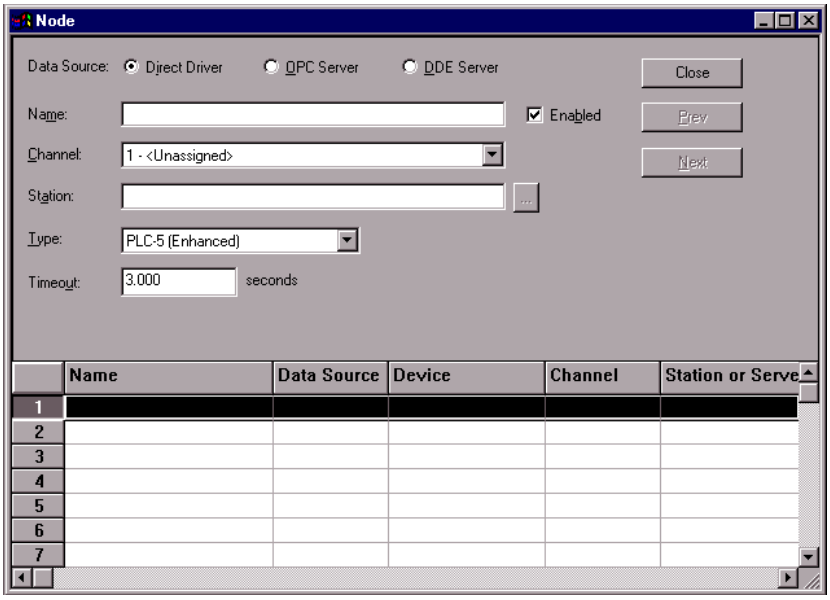
1. Open your copy of RSView32 and start a new project.



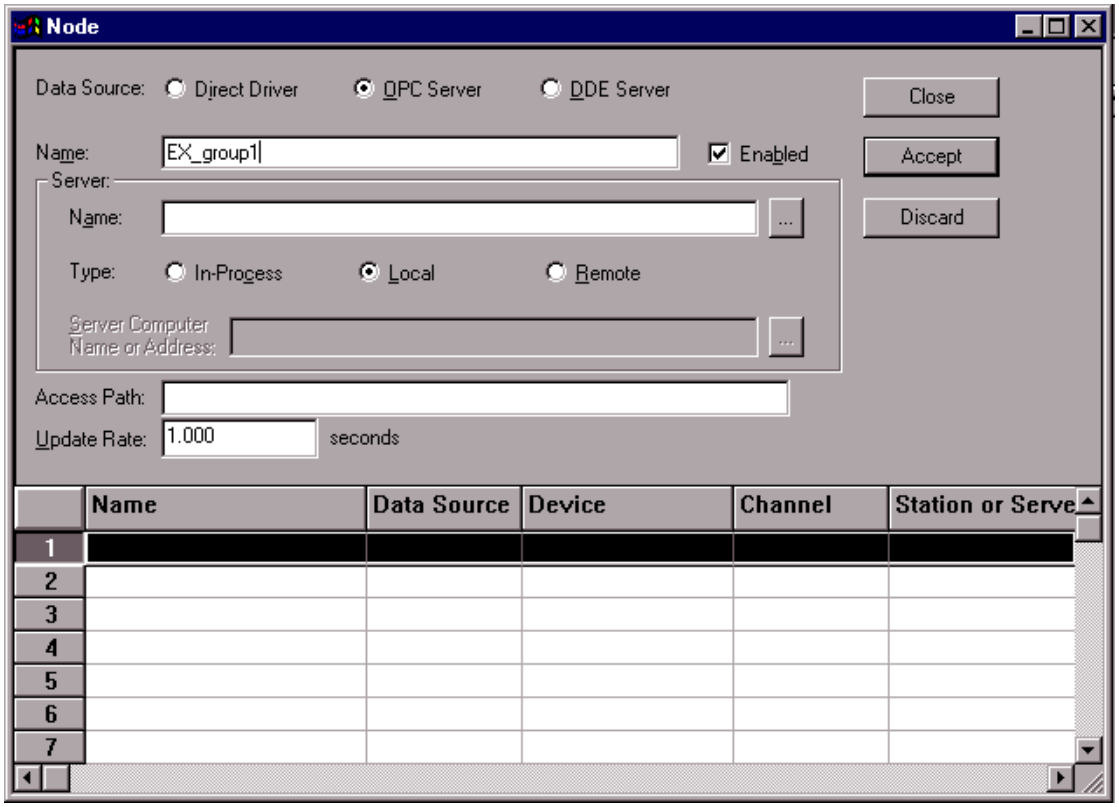

The server is capable of being an OPC or DDE server to RSView. If your node is defined as an OPC node in RSView, then The server will be an OPC server to RSView. Likewise, if the node is defined as a DDE node in RSView, The server will be an Advanced DDE

### Create a Device Node

2. In RSView32 click on the System folder and then click on Node in the Project Control Panel. If you have multiple devices in the The server project, you may want to create multiple nodes in RSView and link them to the devices in the server.



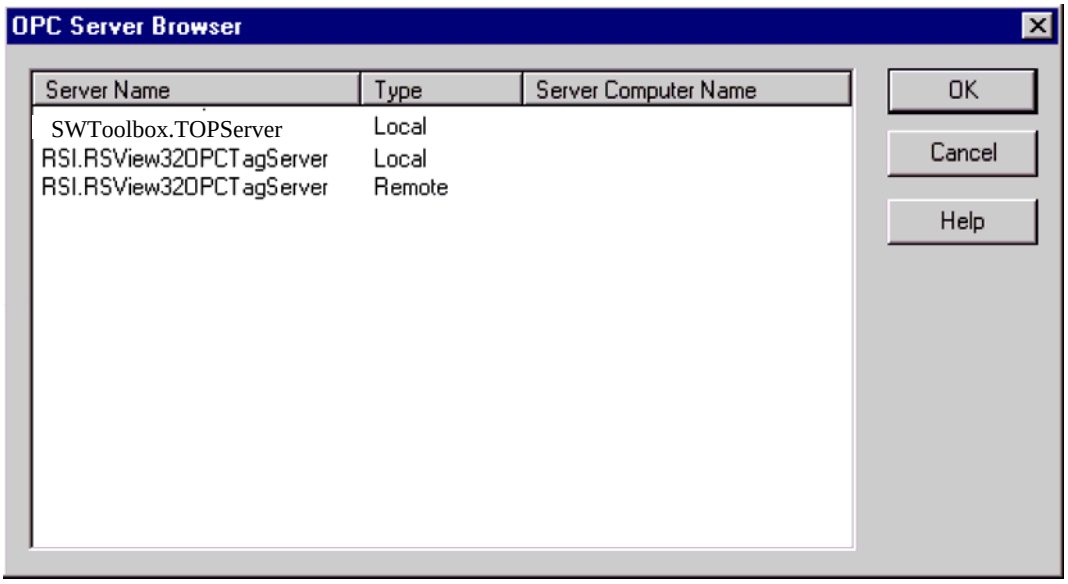

3. First we will select a Data Source for the Node; in this case it will be OPC Server.



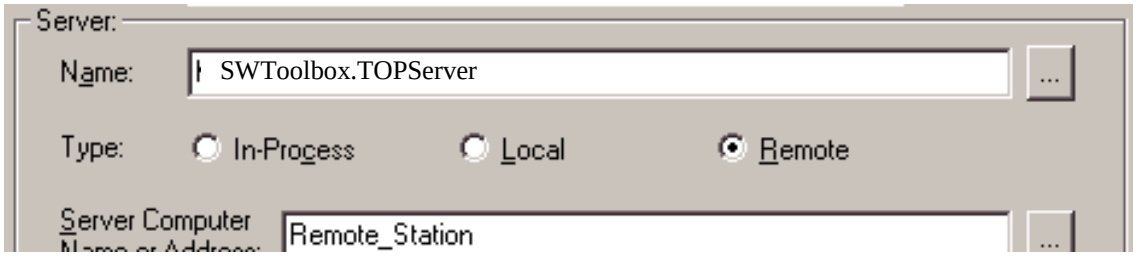

4. Next you will assign a name by which RSView will refer to the node. In this case we called it “Ex_group1” but you can assign a name of your choice.

***Browse for an Available Server***

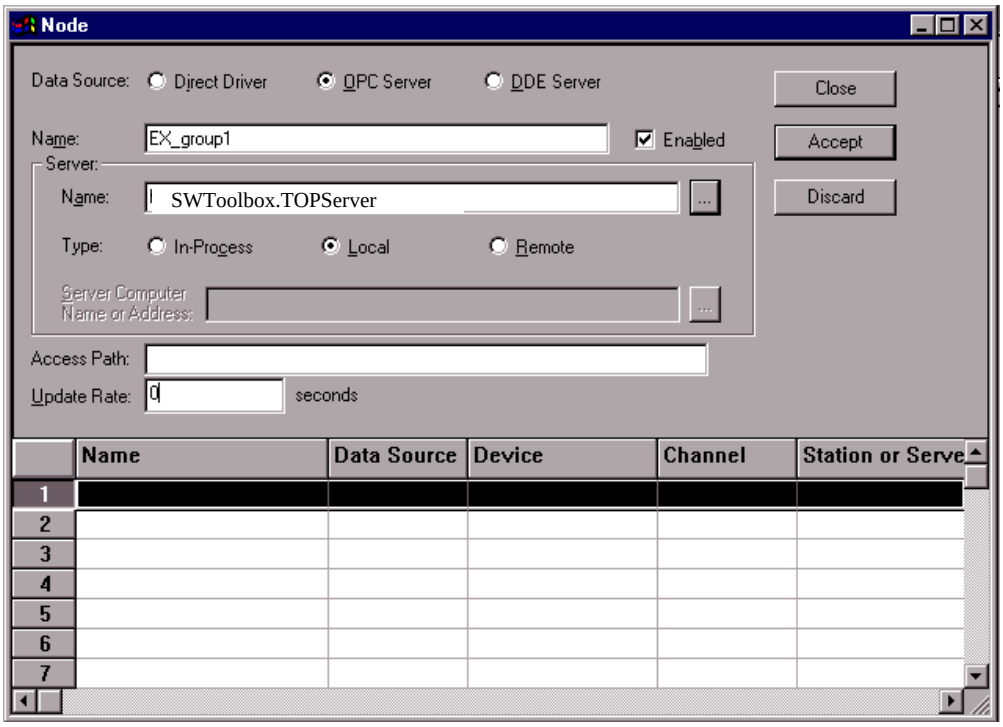
5. In the Server section you need to perform several tasks. First, you will click on the browse button and select a valid server Program ID for a local or remote server. .
The list displayed in the OPC Server Browser is pulled from the local PC even for remote connections. Because of this you will have to configure the DCOM settings for the server, see http://www.opcactivex.com/Support/DCOM_Config/dcom_config.htm
If you have your server running on a Win 95 or Win 98 box you will have to have DCOM installed, configured, and running, in order to allow access to the server.
6. Select "SWToolbox.TOPServer" from the list of servers.




7. In the Server section select the Type of connection you are going to make to The server. Select Local for connection to a server on the same PC as RSView. Select Remote to connect to a server running on another PC. Selecting Remote will enable the Server Computer Name or Address field. You can enter either a name like "Remote_Station" or IP address like "120.150.11.90" for the PC running the server.




RSView allows you to create the node with or without an Access Path. We have left this field blank. By leaving the Access Path blank RSView is able to link to any tag within the server from this node. This means you can access tags from multiple devices in the The server application.
If we had entered an Access Path, then only tags from a single device could be accessed through this node.
Make sure that Enabled is checked so that the node will connect to The server when you run your RSView project.
8. Set the Update Rate to 0.
This tells RSView that The server will use the fastest possible rate to send data. If you design a large RSView project with multiple nodes, you may want to slow down the update rates of your nodes

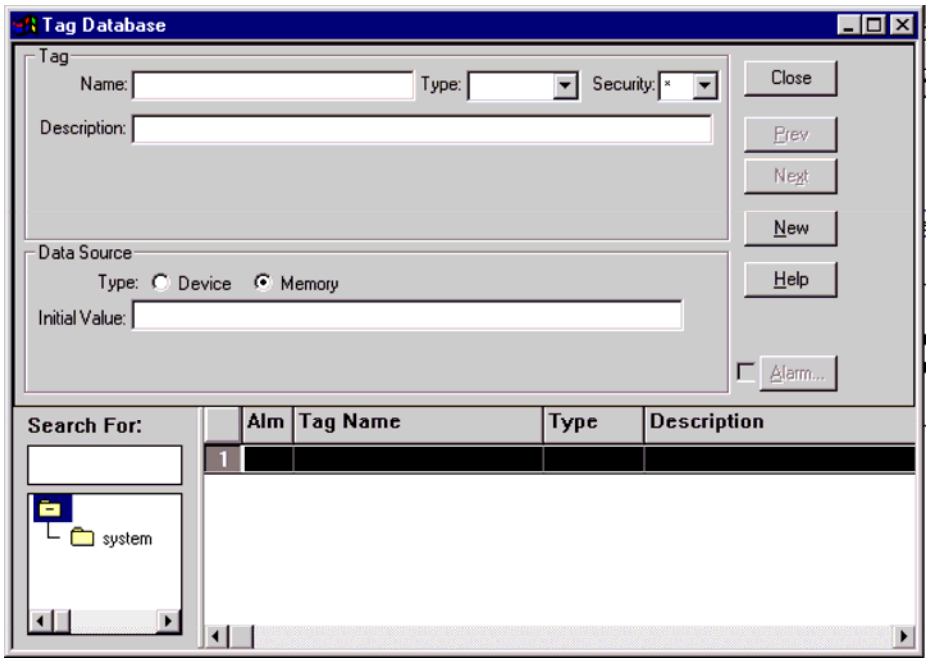



9. Click Accept and Close in the Node dialog box.

## Create a Tag

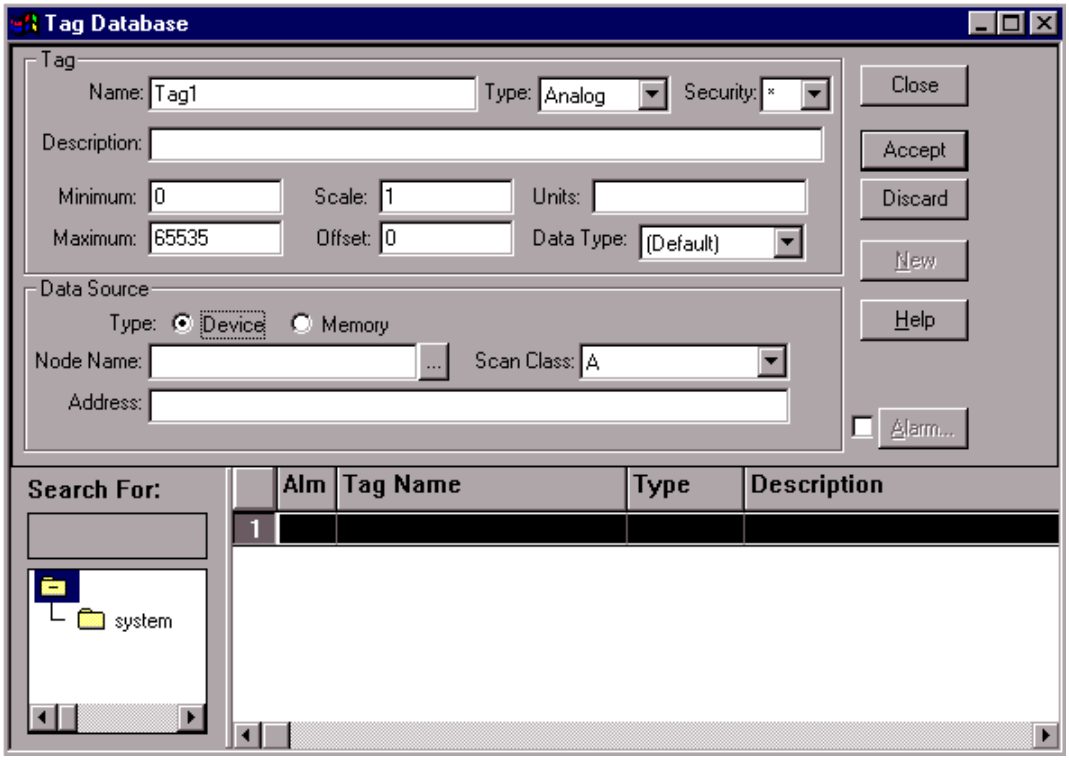
Next, create a tag or tags to access the data in the devices.

10. In RSView32 click on the System folder and then click on Tag Database in the Project Control and open the Tag Database dialog box.

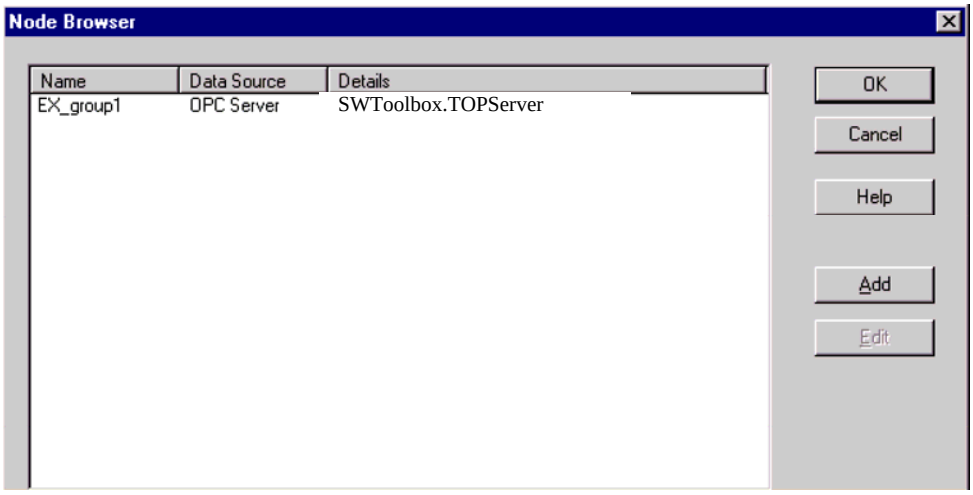



11. In the Tag Database, enter the tag description information as you would for any Rockwell driver

12. In the Data Source section Click on the Device radio button.



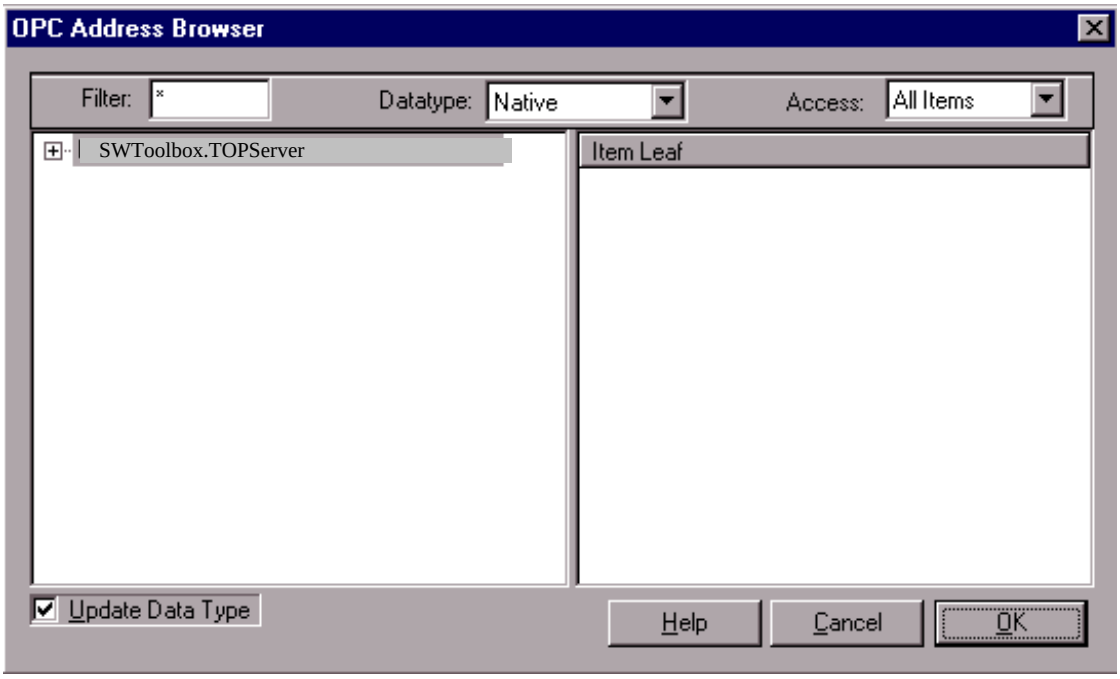

13. Click on the Node Browser button to display the Node Browser window.



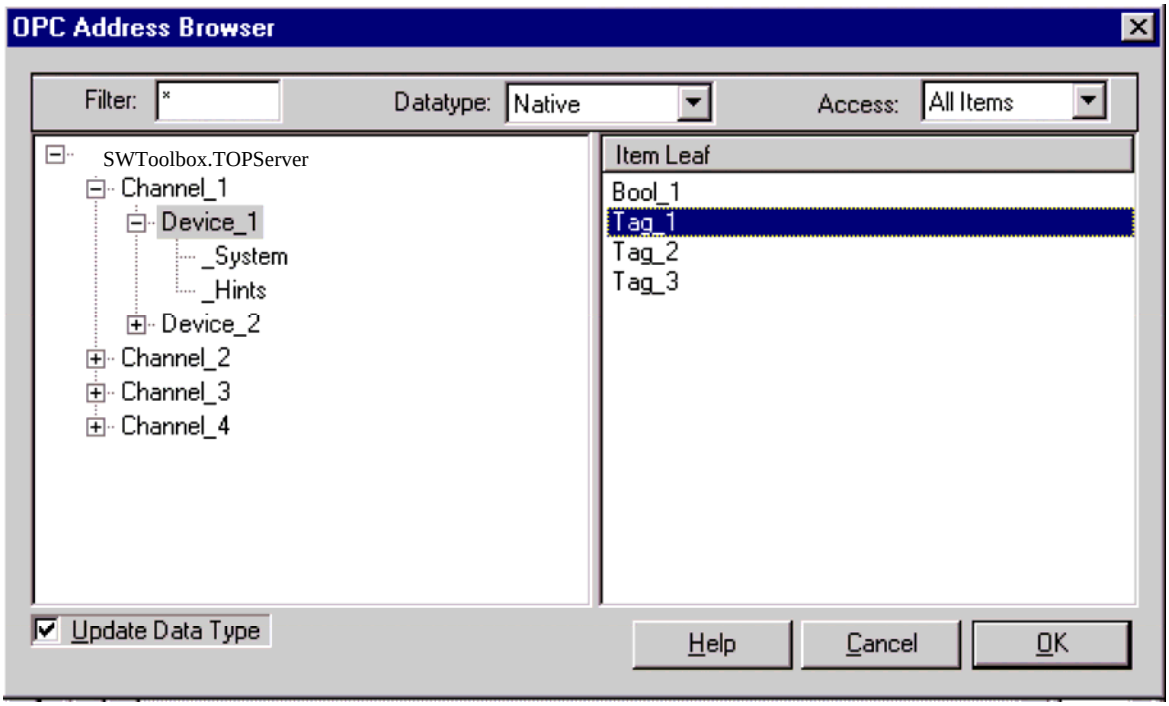

14. In the Node Browser select a Node Name and click OK to assign the node to your tag. In our example we have only the "Ex_group1" node that we added

***Browse for Tags in the Server***

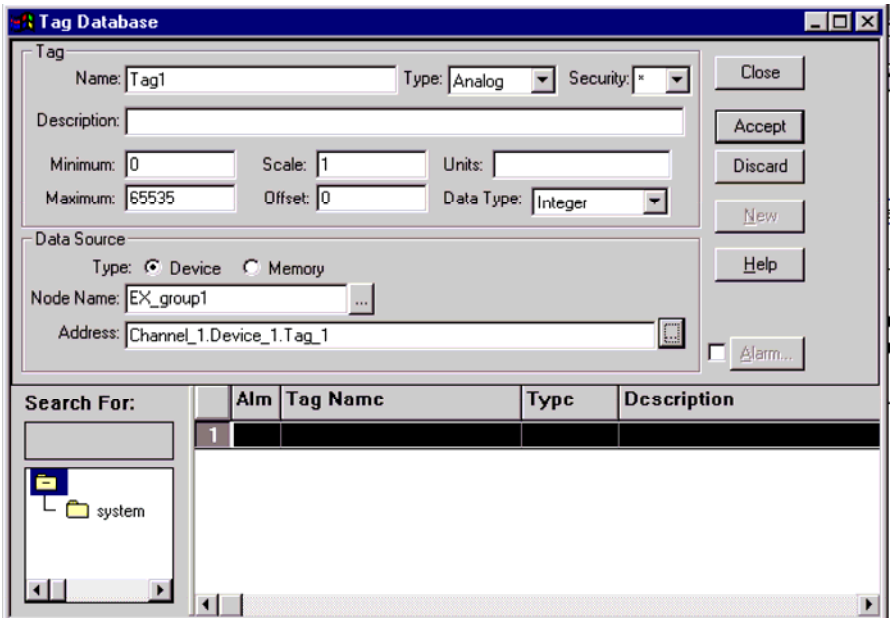
15. Click on the Address Browser button located to the right of the Address field.



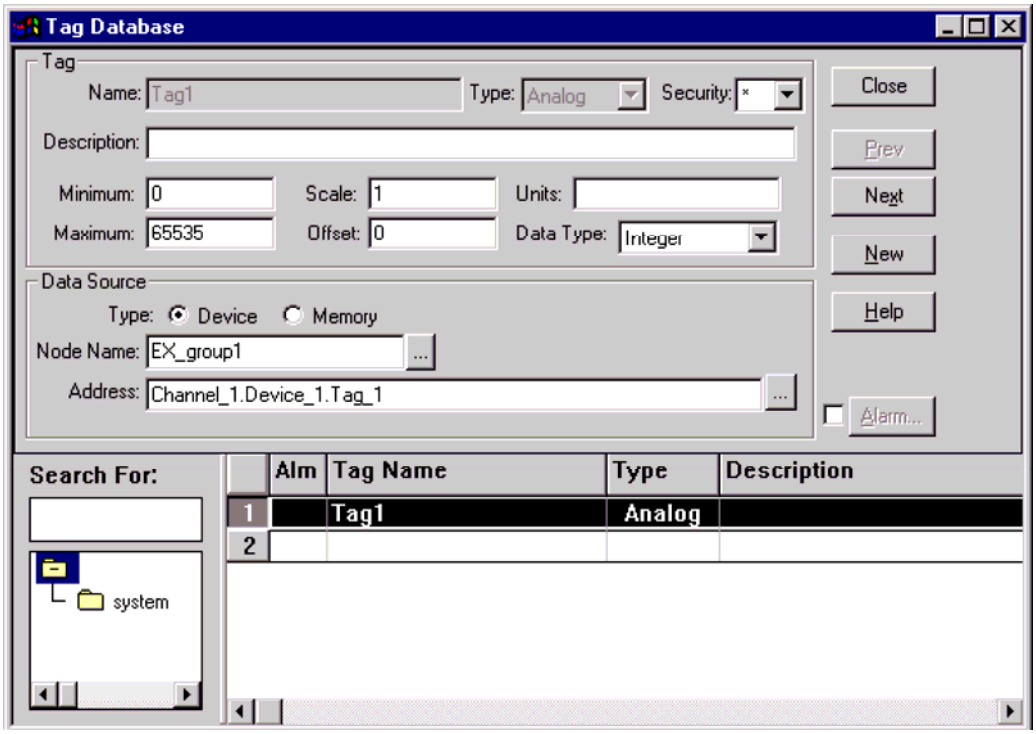

16. Using the tree view in the left pane of the OPC Address Browser window, select the Device or Group from which you wish to select Address items/tags. We are selecting Tag_1 in Device_1 on Channel_1.
Remember that these are tags that have already been defined in our Simdemo.opf project.




17. After you highlight the tag, click OK to add it.




18. Now click Accept to add the tag to the RSView tag database.

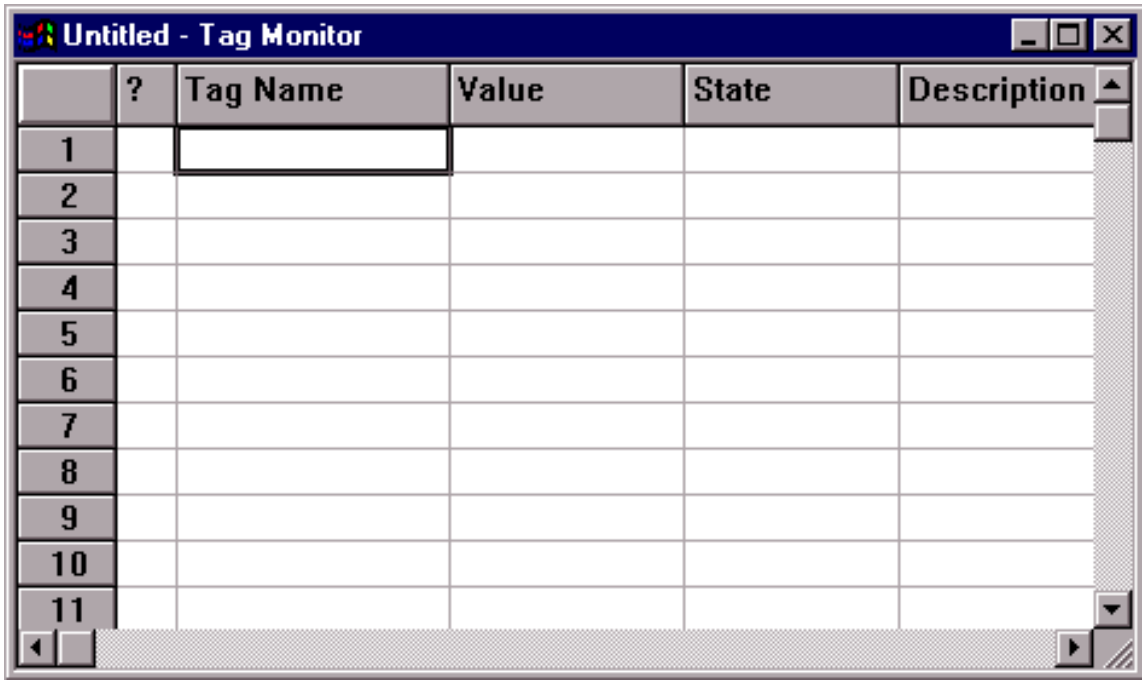



19. Click Close to close the tag database.

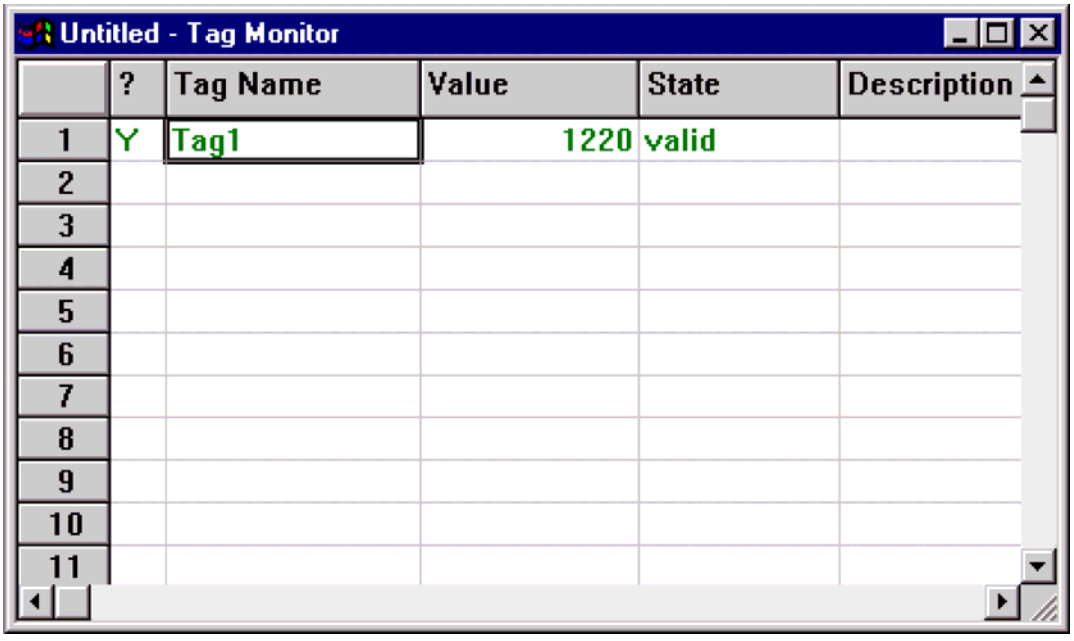
## Check the OPC Connection

Next we are going to verify a connection to the The server “Simdemo” project.

20. To do this, double click on Tag Monitor in the System Folder.




21. Enter the Tag Name or names that you want to check. In this case we entered "Tag1" which is the name of our tag that we added.




22. Hit the Enter key after typing in the tag name.
23. You should see a State of "valid" in the Tag Monitor window for the tag and a Value that is ramping or incrementing very quickly.
24. You have now established a good OPC connection to The server from RSView