

Function Block

Introduction Guide

The screenshot displays the SIMATIC Manager interface for a PLC program. The main window shows a function block diagram for 'CalculateAvarage' (AverageCalc_3vals) within the 'ValidationProcess' section. The diagram includes a start pulse of 32.02, an enable input (EN), and three real inputs (x, y, z) with values +13.00120, +14.00540, and +13.99567 respectively. The block outputs a 'Finish' pulse of 200.00 and a 'AverageValue' of +13.56740. A table below the diagram lists the variables and their data types.

Name	Address or Value	Comment
result0	BOOL	FALSE
sensorR	BOOL	FALSE
sensorL	BOOL	FALSE
himceA	I INT	0

Below the table, the 'Internals' tab shows a ladder logic diagram with a normally open contact labeled 'sensorR' and a timer 'tim1' with a set value 'timsetA'. The 'Outputs' tab shows a timer 'tim1' with a set value 'timAerr'.

The status bar at the bottom indicates: NewPC1(Simulator) - Monitor Mode, 0.0 ms SYNC, rung 0 (5, 4) - 100%, NUM.

The CD-ROM of CX-Programmer has User's Manual of the PDF file.

Please read the 'Notice' and the 'Precautions' in the User's Manual before using CX-Programmer.

The 'Function Block Introduction Guide' describes the basic operation procedure to use Function Block of CX-Programmer. Refer to the Help or the User's Manual of the PDF file for detailed descriptions.

* You need Acrobat Reader 4.0 or greater versions in your PC to display the PDF file.

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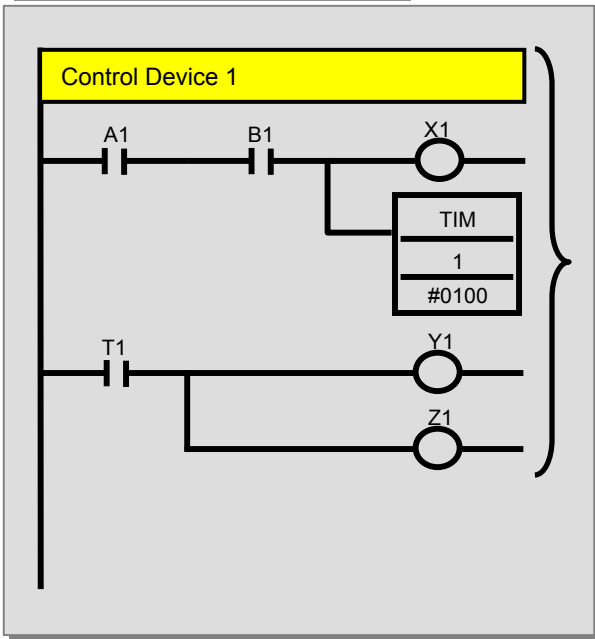
Chapter 1
OMRON FB Library

Function Block

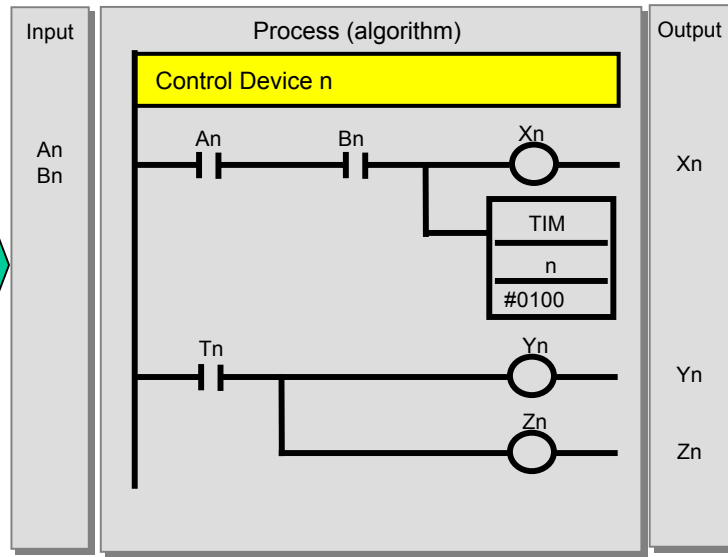
1. What is a Function Block?

“Function Blocks” are predefined programs (or functions) contained within a single program element that may be used in the ladder diagram. A contact element is required to start the function, but inputs and outputs are editable through parameters used in the ladder arrangement. The functions can be reused as the same element (same memory) or occur as a new element with its own memory assigned.

Partial Ladder program for machine A

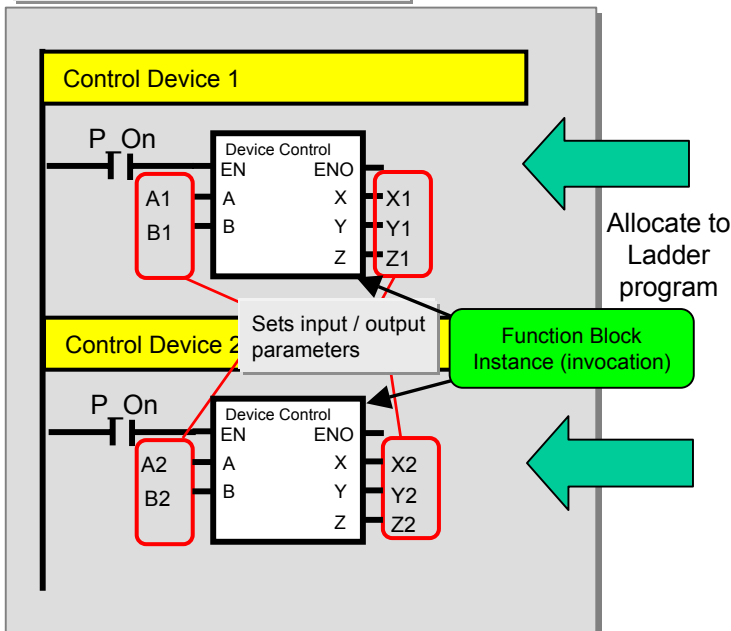


Defining Inputs and Outputs ...

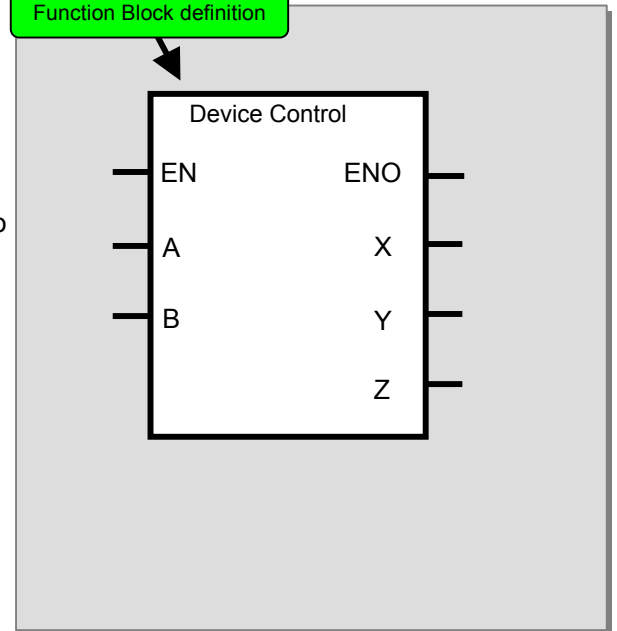


Produce template

Partial Ladder program for machine A



Function Block definition

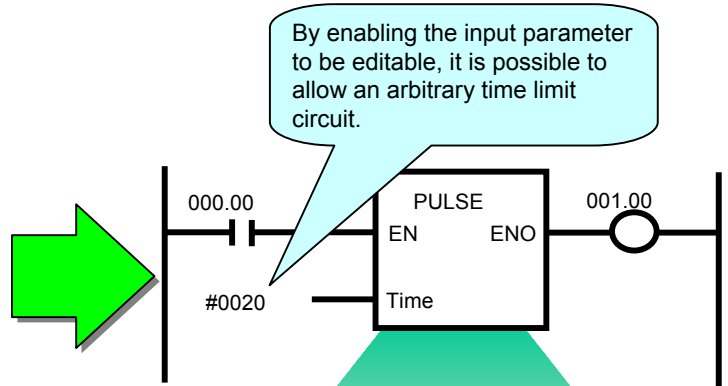
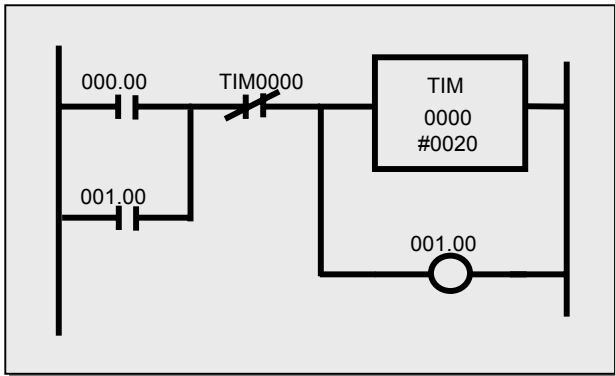


Function Block definition ...This contains the defined logic (algorithm) and I/O interface. The memory addresses are not allocated in the Function Block Definition
 Function Block instance(invocation) ...This is the instruction that will call the function block instance when used by the ladder program, using the memory allocated to the instance.

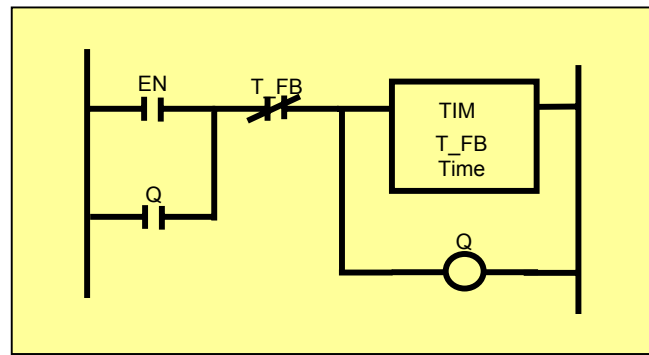
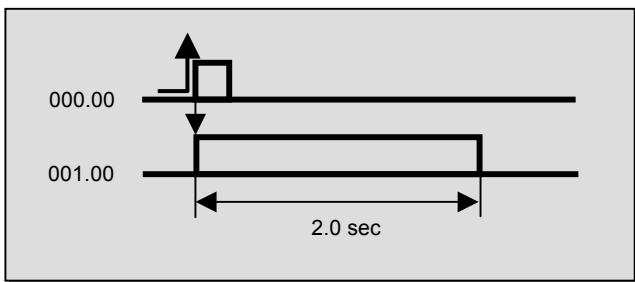
2. An Example of a Function Block

The following figures describe an example of a function block for a time limit circuit, to be used in the ladder. It is possible to edit the set point of the TIM instruction to reallocate the set time for turning off the output in the ladder rung. Using the function block as shown below, it is possible to make the time limit of the circuit arbitrary by only changing one specific parameter.

Ladder diagram



Timing chart



3. Overview of the OMRON FB Library

The OMRON FB Library is a collection of predefined Function Block files provided by Omron. These files are intended to be used as an aid to simplify programs, containing standard functionality for programming PLCs and Omron FA component functions.

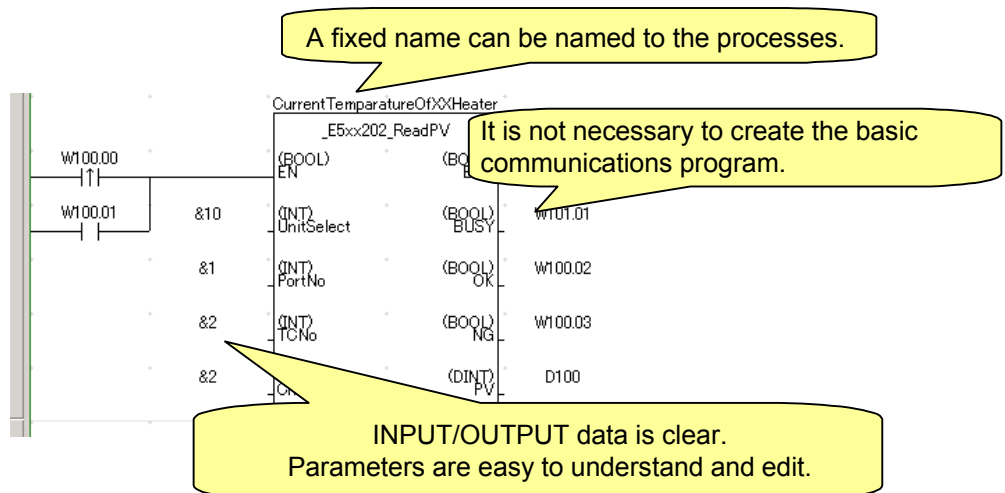
3-1. Benefits of the OMRON FB Library

The OMRON FB Library is a collection of function block examples that aim to improve the connectivity of the units for PLCs and FA components made by Omron. Here is a list of the benefits to be gained from using the OMRON FB Library:

- (1) No need to create ladder diagrams using basic functions of the PLC units and FA components
More time can be spent on bespoke programs for the external devices, rather than creating basic ladder diagrams, as these are already available.
- (2) Easy to use
A functioning program is achieved by loading the function block file to perform the target functionality, then by inputting an instance (function block call instruction: invocation) to the ladder diagram program and setting addresses (parameters) for the inputs and outputs.
- (3) Testing of program operation is unnecessary
Omron has tested the Function Block library. Debugging the programs for operating the unit and FA components for the PLCs is unnecessary for the user.
- (4) Easy to understand
The function block has a clearly displayed name for its body and instances. A fixed name can be applied to the process.

The instance (function block call instruction: invocation) has input and output parameters. As the temporary relay and processing data is not displayed, the values of the inputs and outputs are more visible. Furthermore, as the modification of the parameters is localised, fine control during debugging etc. is easier.

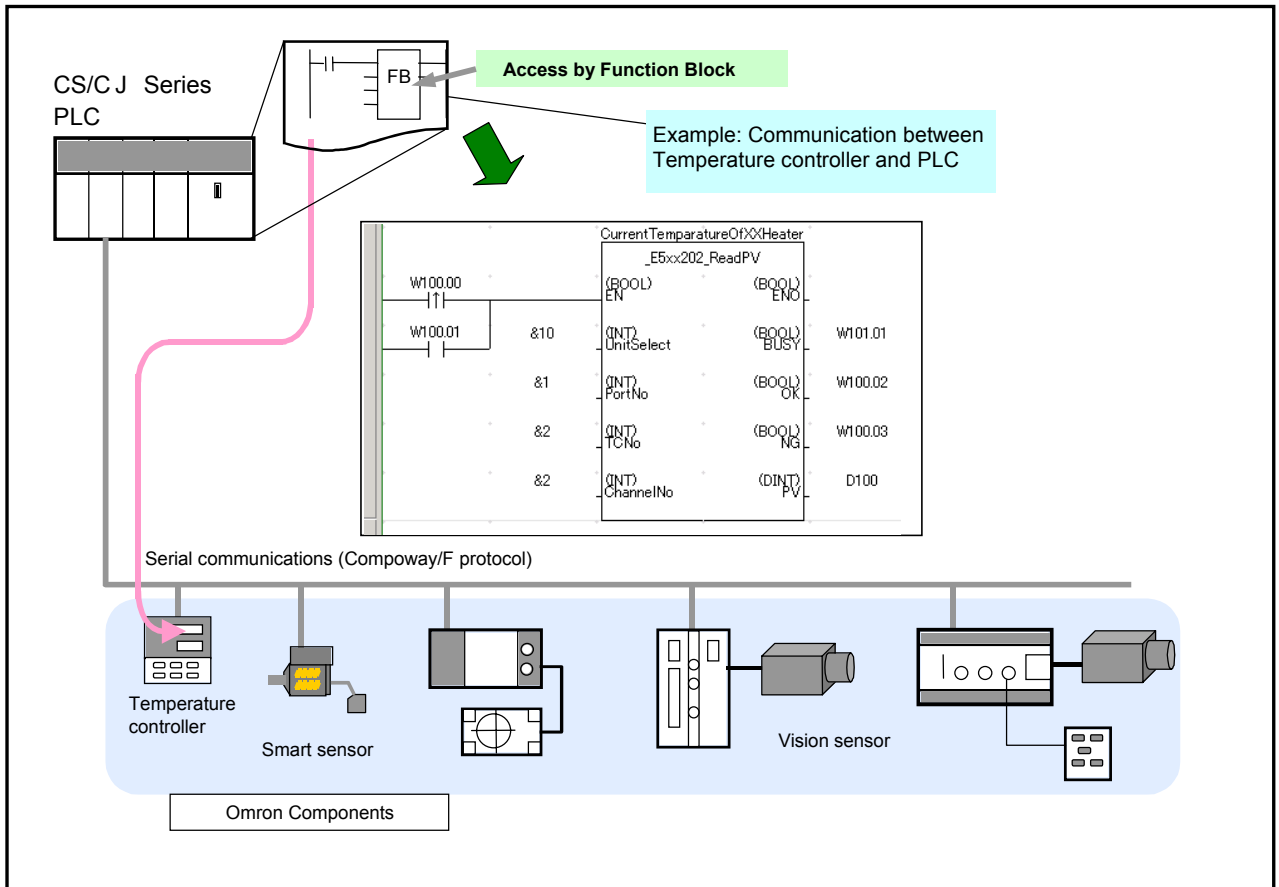
Finally, as the internal processing of the function block is not displayed when the instance is used in the ladder diagram, the ladder diagram program looks simpler to the end user.
- (5) Extensibility in the future
Omron will not change the interface between the ladder diagram and the function blocks. Units will operate by replacing the function block to the corresponding FB for the new unit in the event of PLC and the FA component upgrades, for higher performance or enhancements, in the future.



3-2-1. Example of using the OMRON FB Library - 1

Controlling the predefined components made by Omron can be easily achieved from the PLC ladder diagram.

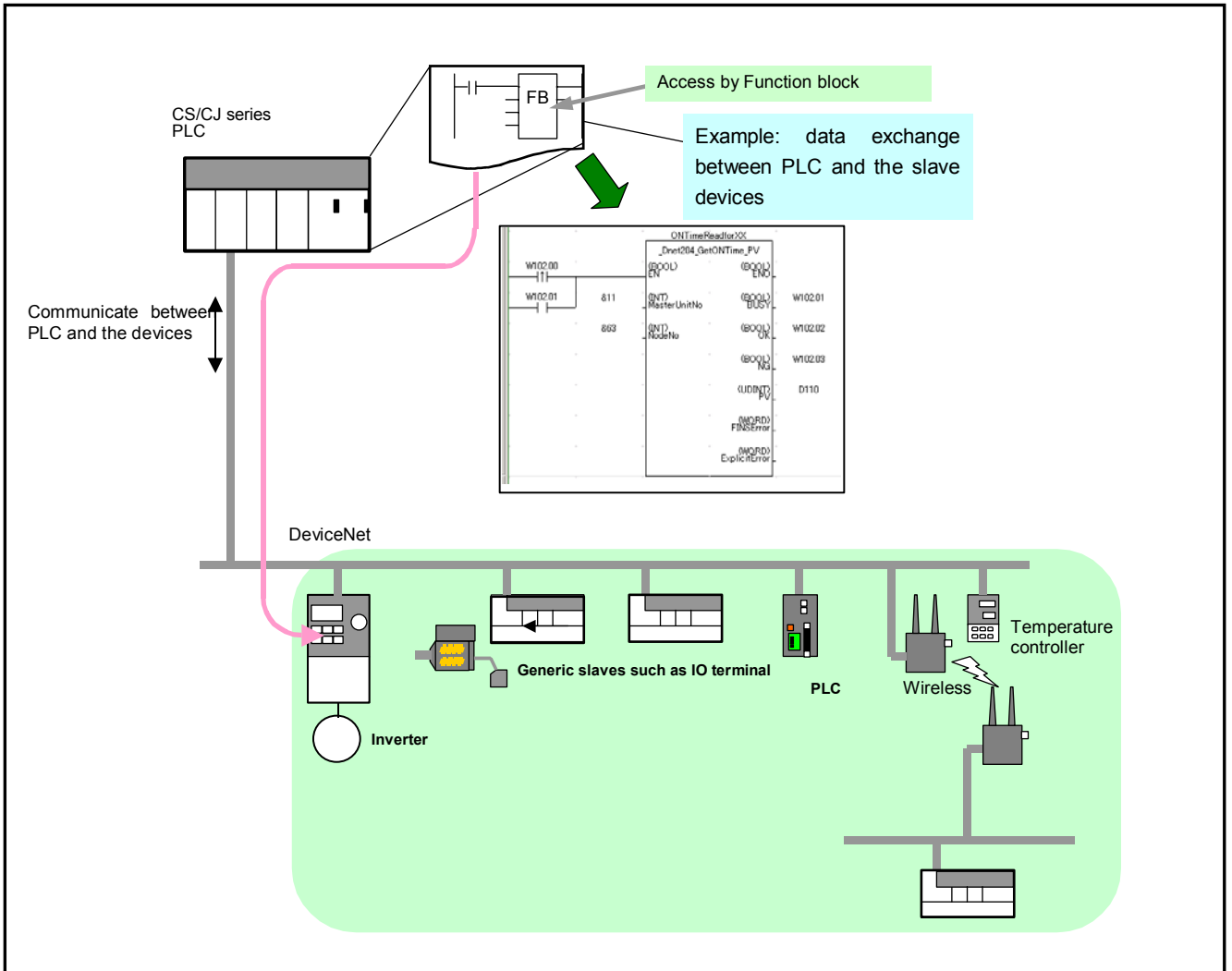
- Ability to configure low-cost communications (RS-232C/485)



3-2-2. Example of using the OMRON FB Library - 2

High performance communications can be made by DeviceNet level.

- Ability to communicate between PLC and DeviceNet slaves easily.



3-3. Content of the OMRON FB Library

The OMRON FB Library consist of the following:

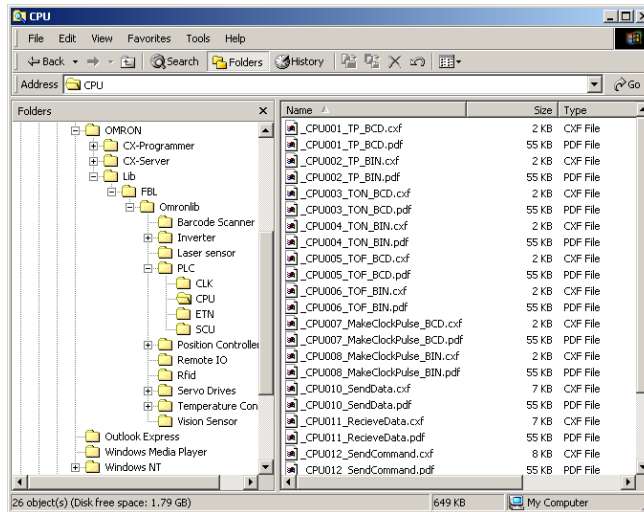
3-3-1. OMRON FB Part Files

The OMRON FB Part file is prepared using the ladder diagram function block, for defining each function of the PLC unit and the FA component.

The files contain a program written in ladder diagram and have the extension .CXF.

The file name of the OMRON FB Part file begins with ‘_’ (under score).

When the OMRON FB Library is installed onto a personal computer, the OMRON FB Part files are classified in the folder appropriate to each PLC Unit and FA component in the Omron Installation directory.



3-3-2. Library reference

The library reference describes the operation specifications of the OMRON FB Part file, and the specifications of the input and the output parameters for each. The file format for this is PDF.

When the OMRON FB Library is used, the user should select the OMRON FB Part file, set the input / output parameters, and test the program operations referring to the library reference.

V60x 200	Read Data Carrier Data _V60x200_ReadData
FB name Symbol	<p>_V600_ReadData</p>
File name	\\Lib\FBL\English\omronlib\FID\#V600#_V60x200_ReadData10.cxf
Applicable models	C51W-V600C11/V600C12 and CJ1W-V600C11/V600C12 ID Sensor Units
Basic function	Reads data from a Data Carrier.
Conditions for usage	Other <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This FB cannot be executed if the ID Sensor Unit is busy. The NG Flag will turn ON if an attempt is made.
Function description	Data is read from the specified area of the Data Carrier specified by the Unit No. and Vendor No. Up to 2048 bytes (1024 words) can be read at one time. The word designation for storing the data is specified using the area type and beginning word address. For example, for D1000, the area type is set to P_DM and the beginning word address is set to &1000.
EN input condition	Connect EN to an OR between an upwardly differentiated condition for the start trigger and the BUSY output from the FB.
Restrictions Input variables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Always use an upwardly differentiated condition for EN. If the input variables are out of range, the ENO Flag will turn OFF and the FB will not be processed. Always specify a head number of &1 for One-Head ID Sensor Units (C51W-V600C11 and CJ1W-V600C11).

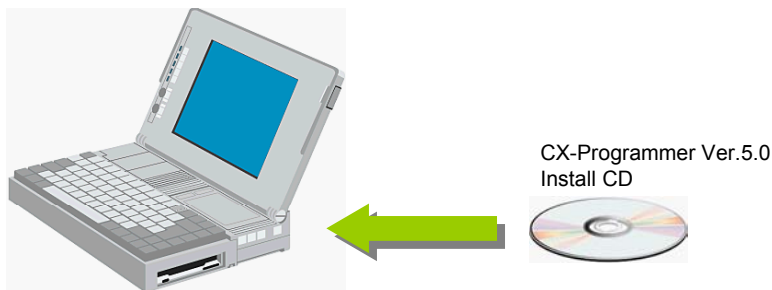
3-4. File Catalog and Where to Access the OMRON FB Library

3-4-1. Catalog of OMRON FB Library files

Type	Target components	Number of OMRON FB Part files (at the time of July '04)
FA components	Temperature controller, Smart sensor, ID sensor, Vision sensor, 2 dimensions bar code reader	approx. 80
PLC	CPU unit, Memory card, Special CPU IO unit (Ethernet, Controller Link, DeviceNet unit, Temperature control unit)	approx. 95
Motion control components	Position control unit Inverter Servo motor driver	approx. 30

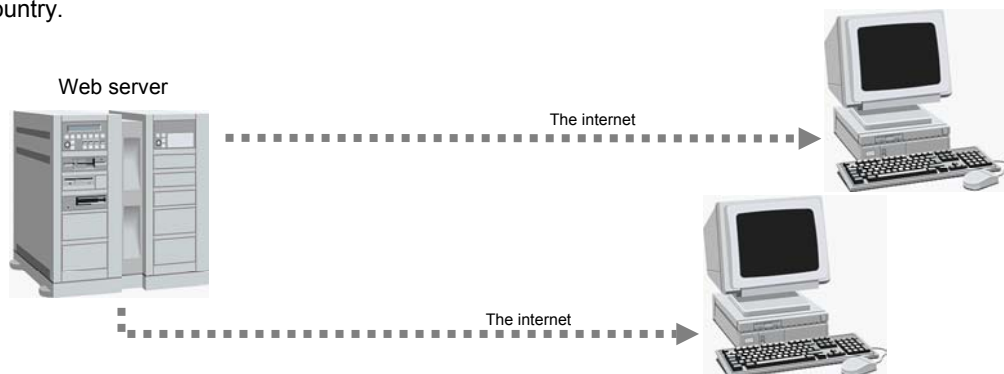
3-4-2. CX-Programmer installation CD

CX-Programmer Ver.5.0 installation CD contains the OMRON FB Library files. The user can select to install the OMRON FB Library during the installation of CX-Programmer Ver.5.0.



3-4-3. Accessing OMRON FB Library files from Web server

The latest version OMRON FB Library files will be provided by Omron on the Web server. New files will be added to support new or enhanced PLC units and FA components. The download service of the OMRON FB Library is provided as a menu of Omron Web in each country.



Chapter 2

How to use the OMRON FB Library

Explanation of target Program

Opening a new project

Import FB Library

Creating a program

Program Check

1. Explanation of the target program

This chapter describes how to use OMRON FB Library using the OMRON FB Part file 'Make ON Time/OFF Time Clock Pulse in BCD'.

1-1. Application Specifications

The target application specifications are as follows :-

- Pulse is generated after PLC mode is changed to 'run' or 'monitor' mode.
- Output the pulse to address D100.
- On time of generated pulse is set at D100.
- Off time of generated pulse is 2 seconds.

1-2. Specifications of the OMRON FB Part file

The OMRON FB Part file 'Make ON Time/OFF Time Clock Pulse in BCD' has the following specifications:-

CPU 007	Make ON Time/OFF Time Clock Pulse in BCD CPU007_MakeClockPulse_BCD
Basic function	Generates a clock pulse with the specified ON time and OFF time and outputs it to ENO.
Symbol	
File name	\\Lib\FBL\English\omronlib\PLC\CPU\CPU007_MakeClockPulse_BCD10.cxl
Applicable models	CS1-H, CS1-H, and CJ1M CPU Units
Conditions for usage	<p>PLC Properties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The PV update method for timers and counters must be set to BCD in the PLC Setup. A compiling error will occur if BCD mode is not set. The mode can be set in the PLC Properties in the CX-Programmer. <p>Shared Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timers
Function description	<p>ENO will be OFF for the time set in <i>OFF time</i> and then will be ON for the time set in <i>ON time</i>.</p>
EN input condition	Connect the EN input to the Always ON Flag (P_On).
Restrictions Input variables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the input variables are out of range, the ENO Flag will turn OFF and the FB will not be processed. • Set the <i>ON time</i> and <i>OFF time</i> input variables to between #0000 and #9999 in BCD (100 ms units). If a setting is not within range, ENO is turned OFF.
Application example	<p>In the following example, bitA will be repeatedly ON for 5 s and OFF for 3 s.</p>
Related FBs	<p>Use the correct FB for the timer/counter PV update mode set in the PLC Setup.</p> <p>Binary mode: Make ON Time/OFF Time Clock Pulse in Binary (_CPU008_MakeClockPulse_BIN)</p> <p>BCD mode: Make ON Time/OFF Time Clock Pulse in BCD (_CPU007_MakeClockPulse_BCD)</p>

■ Variable Tables

Input Variables

Name	Variable name	Data type	Default	Range	Description
EN	EN	BOOL			1 (ON): FB started 0 (OFF): FB not started.
ON time	OnTime	WORD		#0000 to #9999	Specify the ON time (unit: 100 ms). For example, #30 means 3 seconds.
OFF time	OffTime	WORD		#0000 to #9999	Specify the OFF time (unit: 100 ms). For example, #30 means 3 seconds.

Output Variables

Name	Variable name	Data type	Range	Description
ENO	ENO	BOOL		Turns ON for the OnTime and OFF for the OffTime.

Explanation of target Program



Opening a new project



Import FB Library



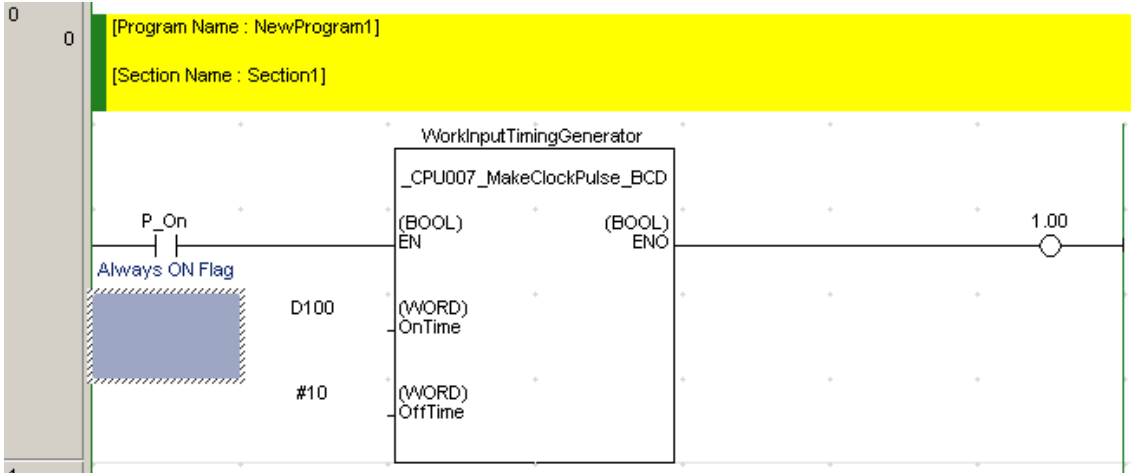
Creating a program



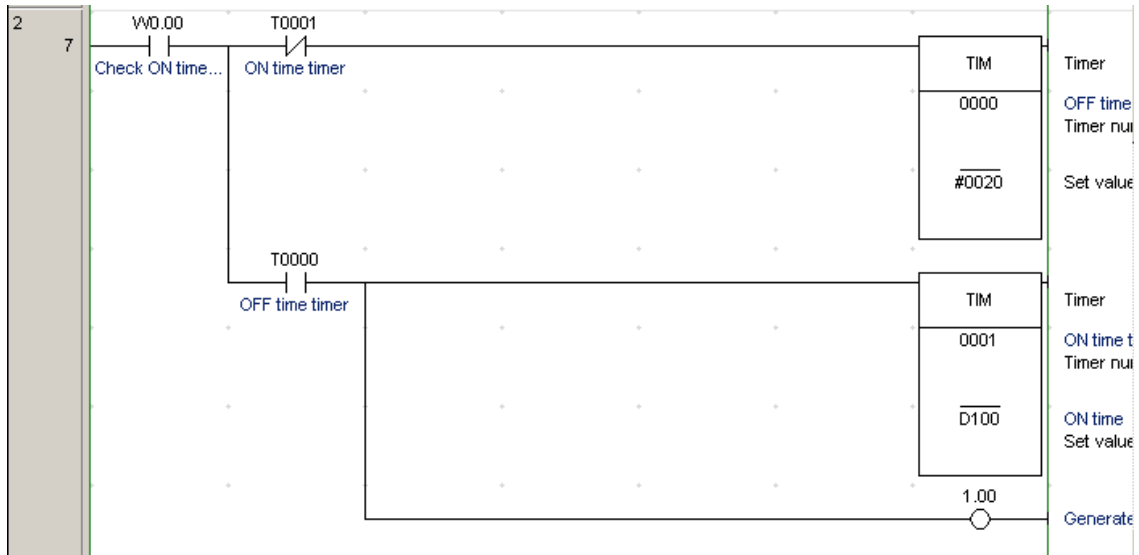
Program Check

1-3. Input program

Create the following ladder program:-



[Reference] If created as a straightforward ladder diagram, the program would be as below:-



Explanation of target Program

Opening a new project

Import FB Library

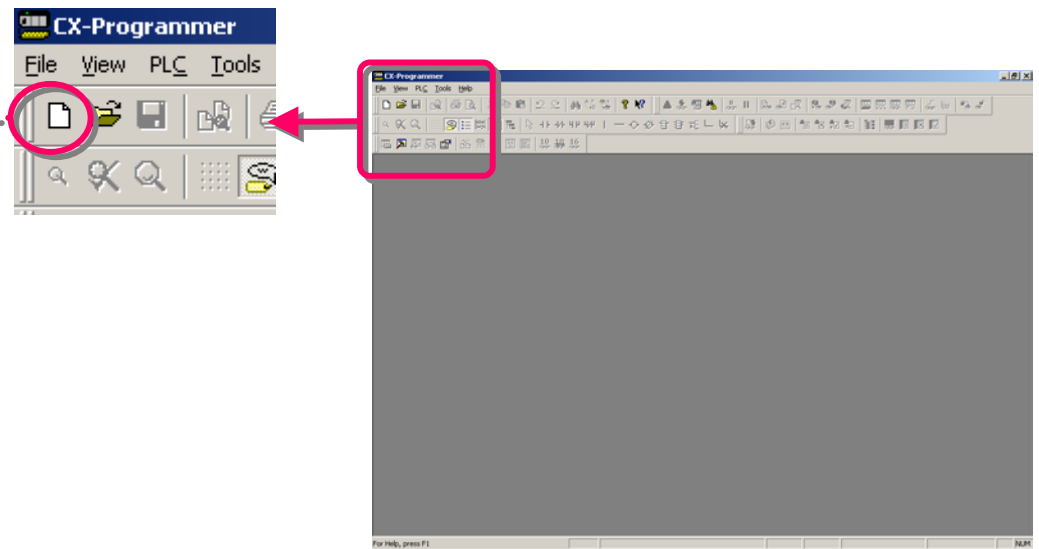
Creating a program

Program Check

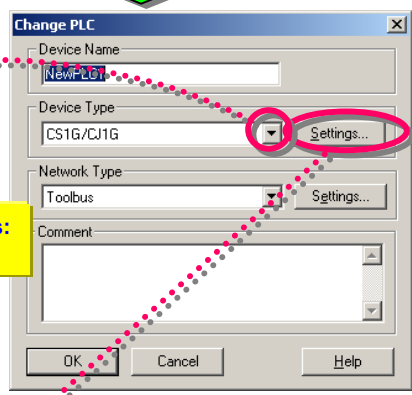
2. Opening a new project and setting the Device Type

Click the toolbar button [New] in CX-Programmer.

Click



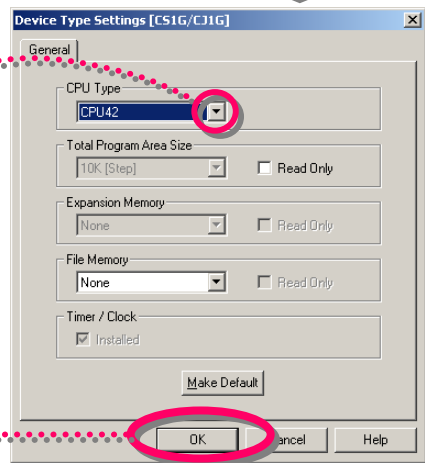
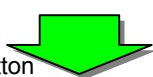
Click the left mouse button.



!To use Function Blocks, select the following PLCs:
CS1G-H, CS1H-H, CJ1G-H, CJ1H-H, CJ1M



Click the left mouse button



Click the left mouse button to select CPU type.

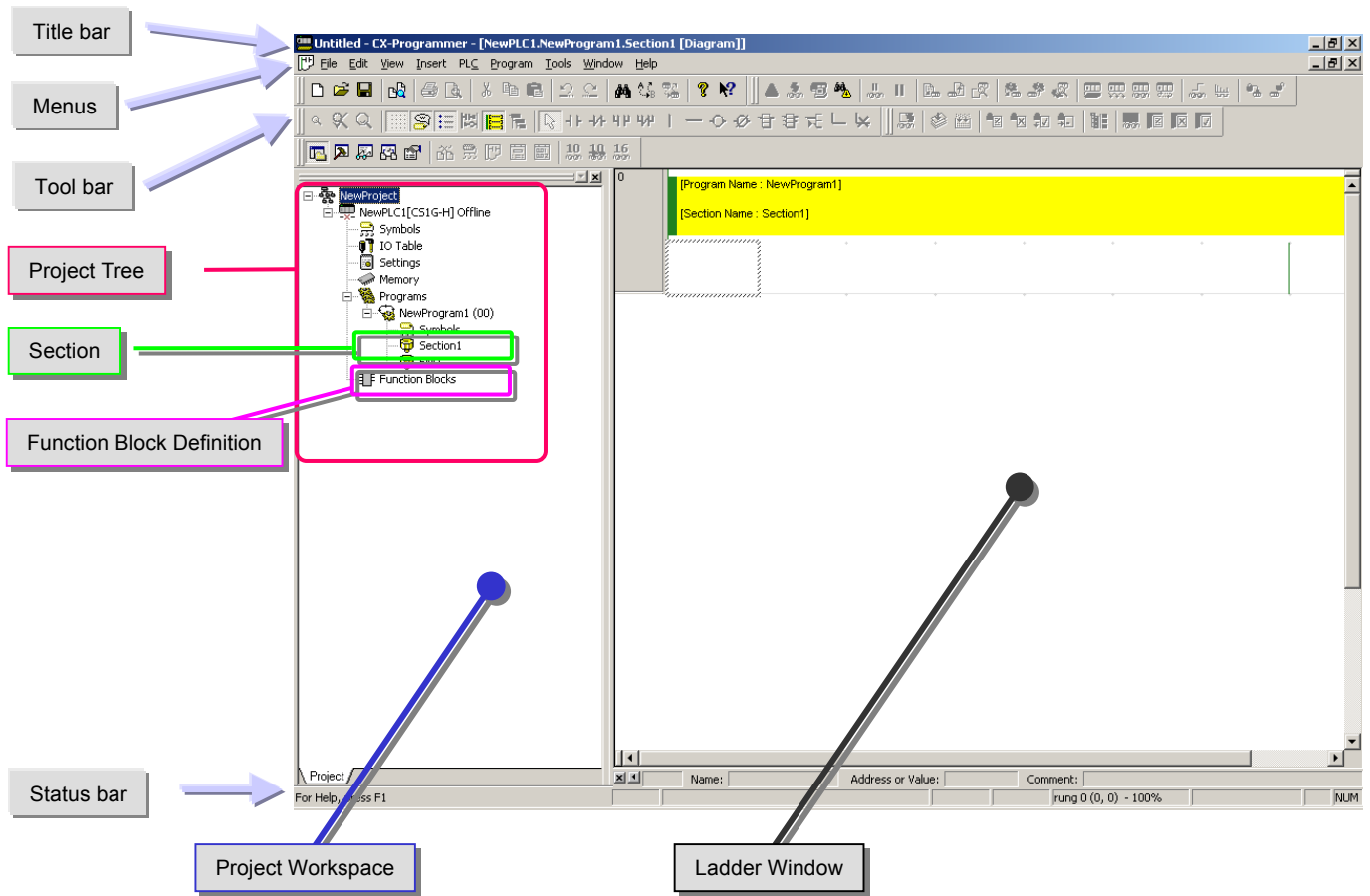


OK

Click [OK] to decide the selected CPU type.

3. Main Window functions

The main window functionality is explained here.



Name	Contents / Function
Title Bar	Shows the file name of saved data created in CX-Programmer.
Menus	Enables you to select menu items.
Toolbars	Enables you to select functions by clicking icons. Select [View] -> [Toolbars], display toolbars. Dragging toolbars enables you to change the display positions.
Section	Enables you to divide a program into several blocks. Each can be created and displayed separately.
Project Workspace Project Tree	Controls programs and data. Enables you to copy element data by executing Drag and Drop between different projects or from within a project.
Ladder Window	A screen for creating and editing a ladder program.
Function Block Definition	Shows Function Block definition. By selecting the icons, you can copy or delete the selected Function Block definition. - is shown if the file is a OMRON FB Part file. - In the case of a User-defined Function Block is shown if Ladder, is shown if ST.
Status Bar	Shows information such as a PLC name, online/offline state, location of the active cell.

Explanation of target Program

Opening a new project

Import FB Library

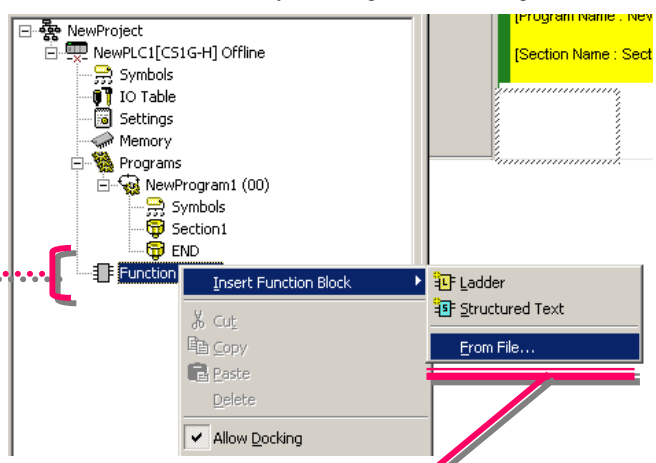
Creating a program

Program Check

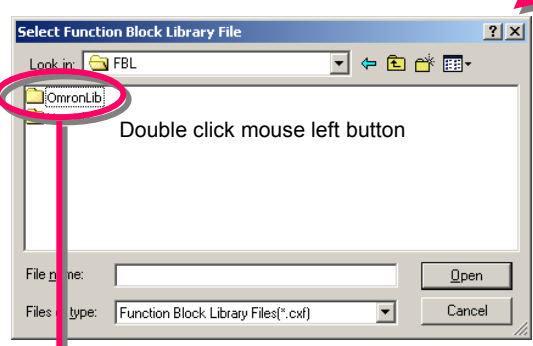
4. Import the OMRON FB Part file

Select Function Block definition icon from the project tree using the mouse cursor, right click. Select Insert Function Block, then select a Library file using mouse to navigate.

Click mouse right button
-> Insert Function Block
-> Library File



Double click mouse left button.
-> [OmronLib]
-> [Programmable Controller]
-> [CPU]
Select each of the above in series.

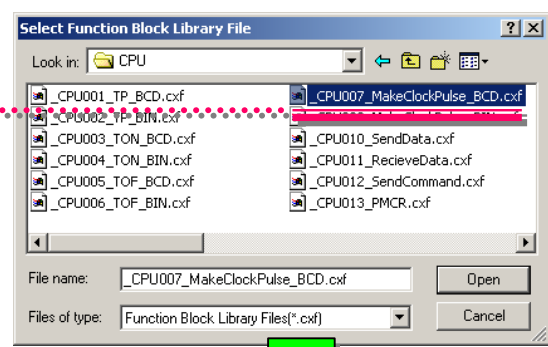


Select the necessary OMRON FB Part file in the 'Select Function Block Library' dialog.

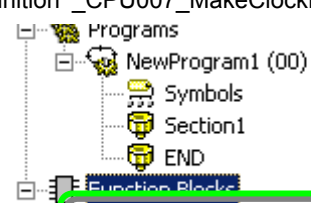
! The default path of the OMRON FB Library is C:/Program Files/Omron/Lib/FBL.



Left Click
'_CPU007_MakeClockPulse_BCD.cxf'
Left Click the [Open] button



Function Block definition '_CPU007_MakeClockPulse_BCD' is registered as part of the project file.



Function Block Definition

Explanation of
target ProgramOpening a
new project

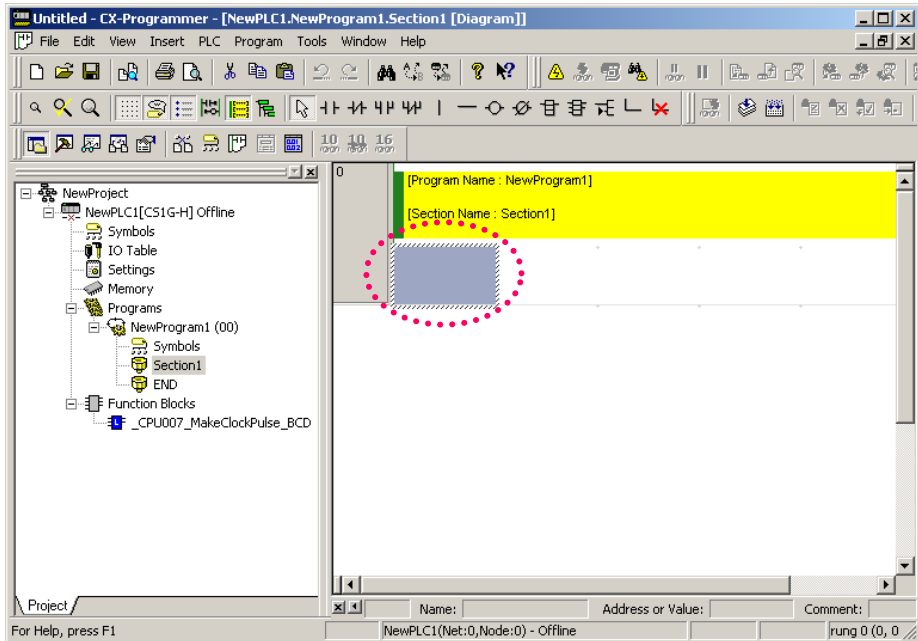
Import FB Library

Creating a
program

Program Check

5. Program Creation

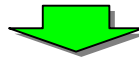
Confirm cursor position is at the upper left of Ladder Window to start programming.



5-1. Enter a Normally Open Contact



Press the [C] key on the keyboard to open the [New Contact] dialog. Use the dropdownbox to select the "P_On" symbol.



Deleting instructions

- Move the cursor to the instruction and then press the DEL key or
- Move the cursor to the right cell of the instruction and press the BS key.

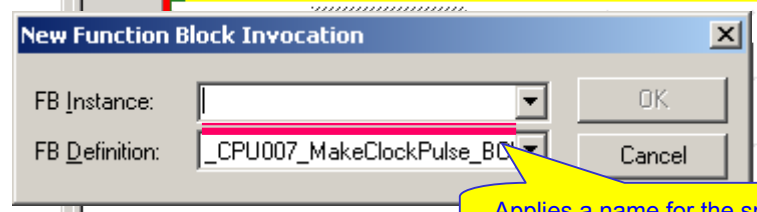
"P_On" is a system defined symbol. Its state is always ON.

0 of the upper digit of an address is omitted when shown.

[.] (period) is displayed between a channel number and a relay number.

5-2. Entering an Instance

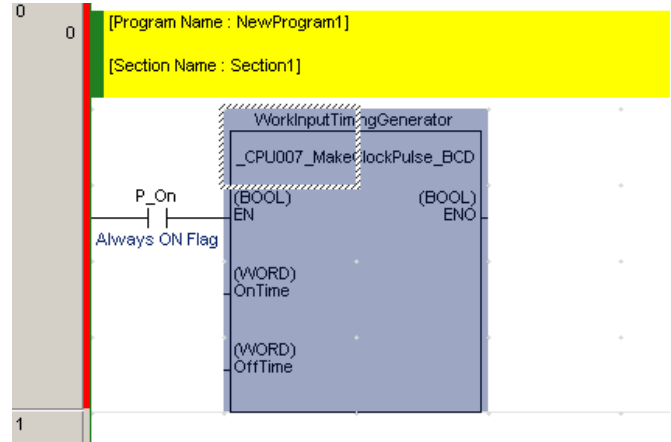
F Press the [F] key on the keyboard to open the [New Function Block Invocation] dialog.



Applies a name for the specific process in the diagram.

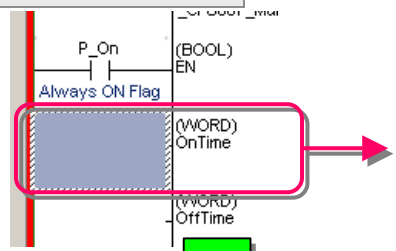
Enter text to create an FB instance name.
[WorkInputTimingGenerator]

ENT Shows FB instance (invocation) 'WorkInputTimingGenerator'.



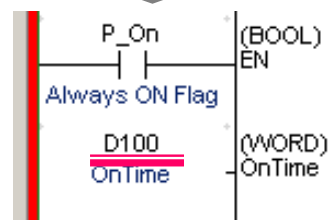
5-3. Entering Parameters

P or **ENT**



Move the cursor to the left of input parameter.

Enter the address.
[d100]



Choose an address for the input parameter 'OnTime'.

ENT

Explanation of target Program

Opening a new project

Import FB Library

Creating a program

Program Check

Enter the remaining parameters in the same way.

P Or ENT



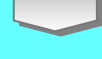
#10



ENT



O



1.00

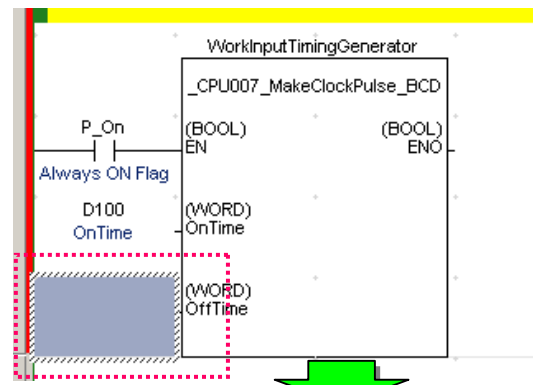


ENT

[Generated Pulse]



ENT

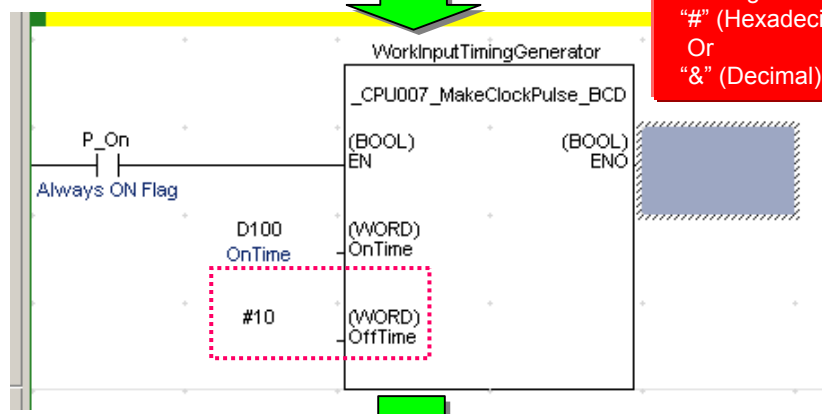


New Parameter

#10

Detail >> OK Cancel

Please add the following prefix for entering constants as parameters:
 "#" (Hexadecimal/BCD)
 Or
 "&" (Decimal)



-()- New Coil

1.00

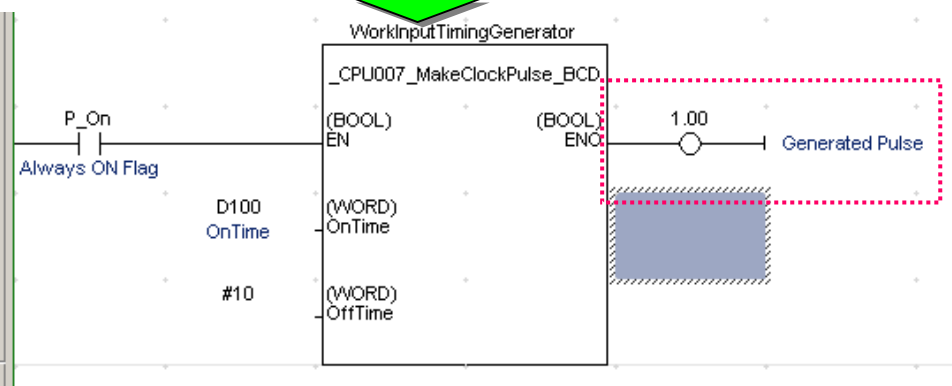
Detail >> OK Cancel

-()- New Edit Comment (1/1) : 1.00

1.00

Generated pulse

OK Cancel



Explanation of target Program

Opening a new project

Import FB Library

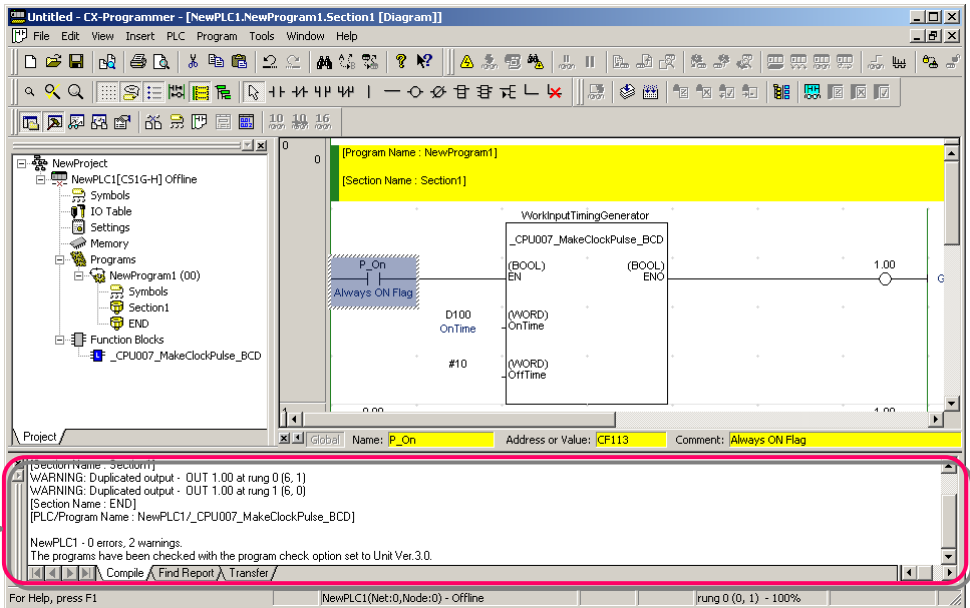
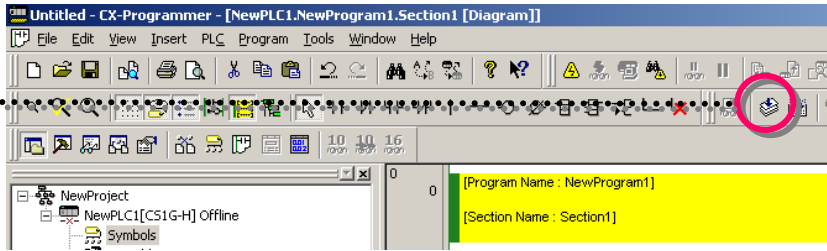
Creating a program

Program Check

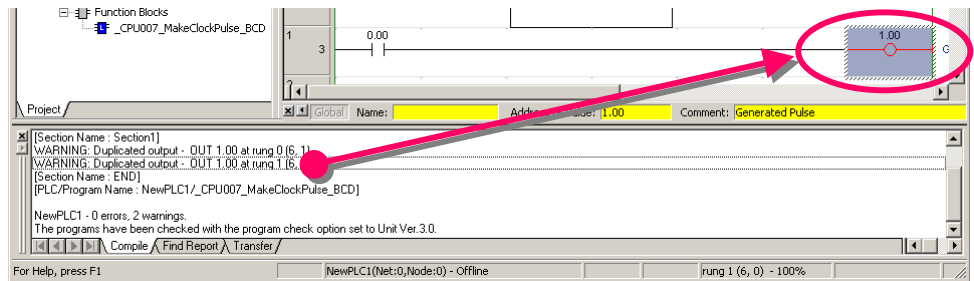
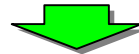
6. Program Error Check (Compile)

Before program transfer, check for errors using the program compile.

Click 



Errors and addresses are displayed in the Output Window.



Double-click on displayed errors, and the Ladder Diagram cursor will move to the corresponding error location, displaying the error rung in red.

Modify the error.

- Output Window automatically opens at program check.
- The cursor moves to an error location by pressing J or F4 key.
- Output Window closes by pressing the ESC key.



7. Going Online

CX-Programmer provides three methods of connecting, depending on usage.

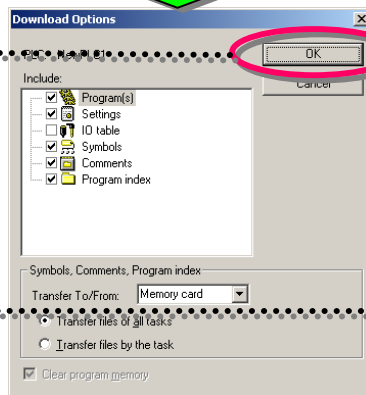
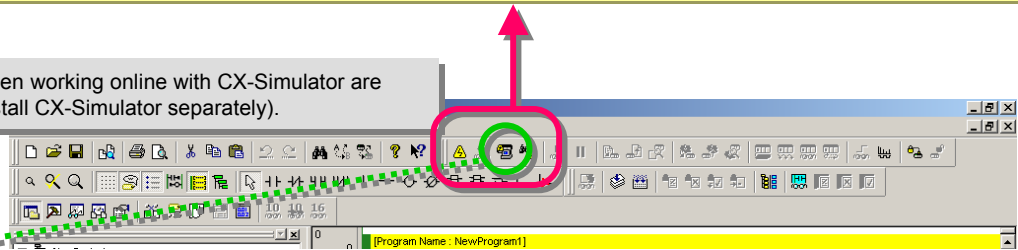
- Normal online. Enables you to go online with a PLC of the device type and method specified when opening a project.
- Auto online. Automatically recognizes the connected PLC and enables you to go online with a PLC with one button. -> Uploads all data, such as programs, from the PLC.
- Online with Simulator. Enables you to go online with CX-Simulator with one button (CX-Simulator must be installed.)

Online/debug functions when working online with CX-Simulator are explained in this guide (Install CX-Simulator separately).

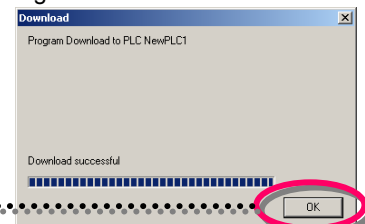
Click

Click [OK]

Click [OK]



Program transfer starts.

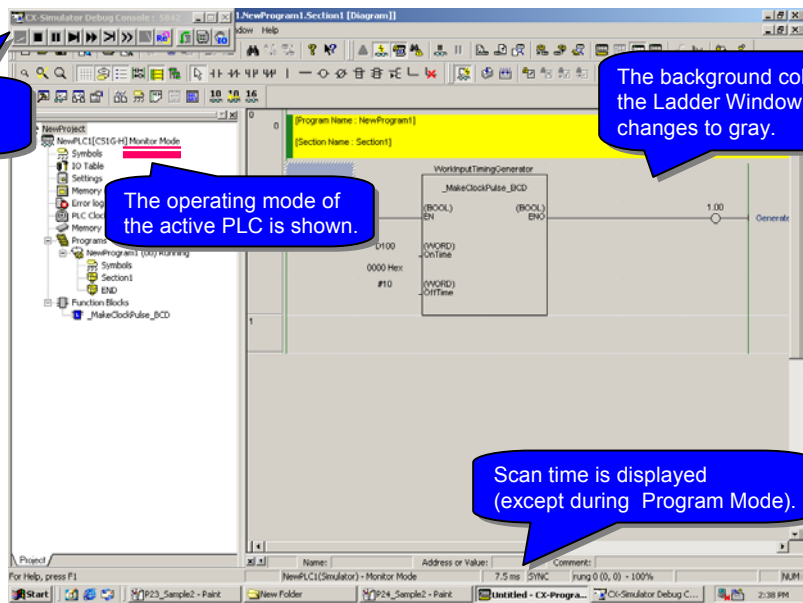


The CX-Simulator Console box is shown.

The operating mode of the active PLC is shown.

The background color of the Ladder Window changes to gray.

Scan time is displayed (except during Program Mode).



Online to transfer



Monitoring



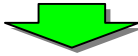
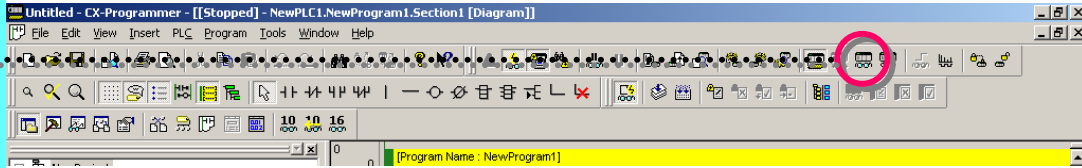
Online Edit

8. Monitoring - 1

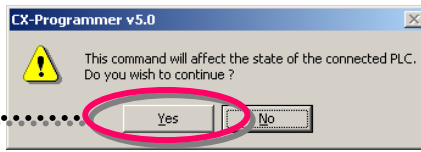
Change the PLC (Simulator) to Monitor mode.

The on/off status of contacts and coils can be monitored.

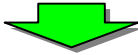
Click



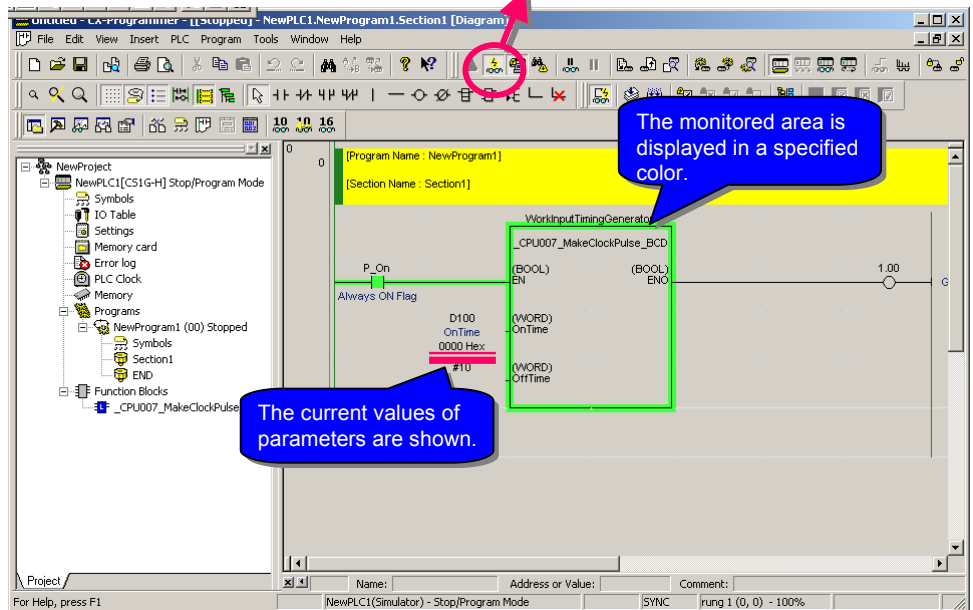
Click [Yes].



If your program has a large volume of data, the scroll speed of the screen may become slow when monitoring. To resolve this, click the icon below to cancel monitoring, scroll to the address you want to monitor, then restart the monitor mode.



... toggles PLC monitoring on/off



Online to transfer



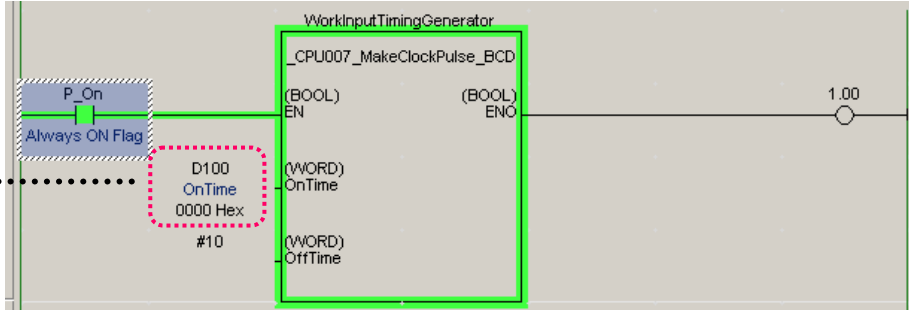
Monitoring



Online Edit

9. Monitoring - 2 Change Parameter Current Value

Change the current value of contact/coils or word data in the Ladder Window.

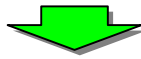


Move the cursor to the input parameter 'D100'.

Click mouse right button and select the menu item [Set/Reset(S)] ->[Setting Value(V)]

Or

Double click mouse left button.

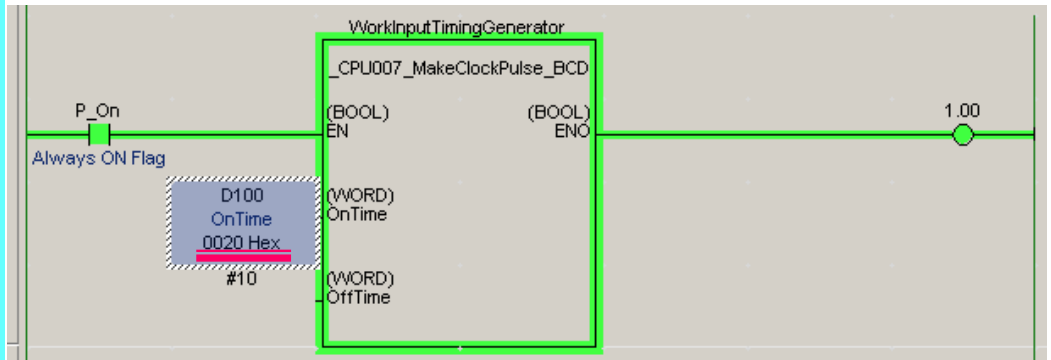


Change the current value of Input parameter.

Click [Set]

Please add the following prefix for entering constants as parameters:
 "#" (Hexadecimal/BCD)
 Or
 "&" (Decimal)

Or
 ENT



Online to transfer



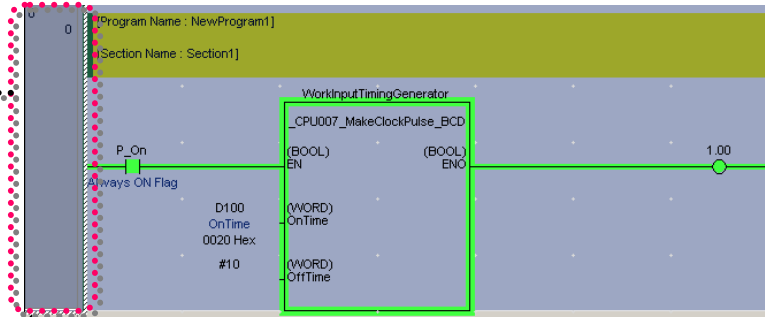
Monitoring



Online Edit

10. Online Editing

Move the cursor to the rung requiring modification.



You can also select multiple rungs by using the Drag & Drop facility with the mouse.

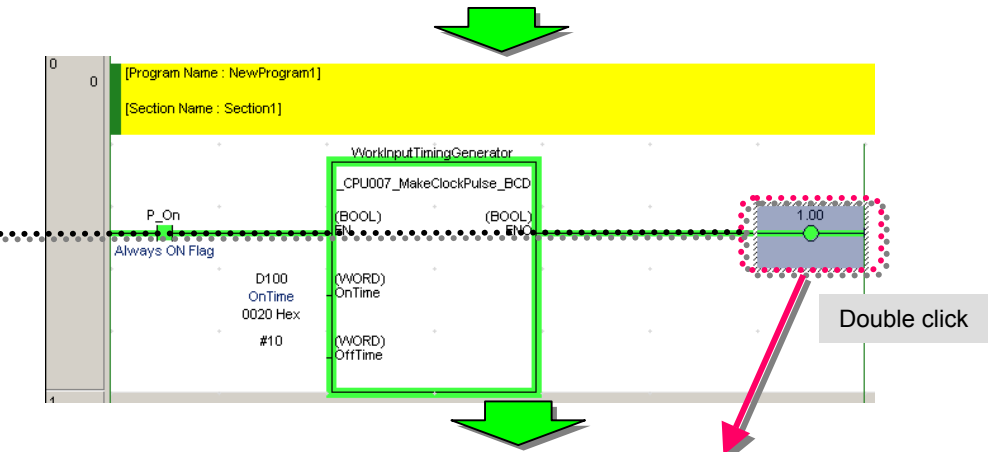


Select [Program] ->[Online Edit] -> [Begin]

Shortcut: [Ctrl]+[E]



Move the cursor to a instruction you want to modify. Double click the left mouse button.



Edit the address to the required bit number (4.11 in the example)

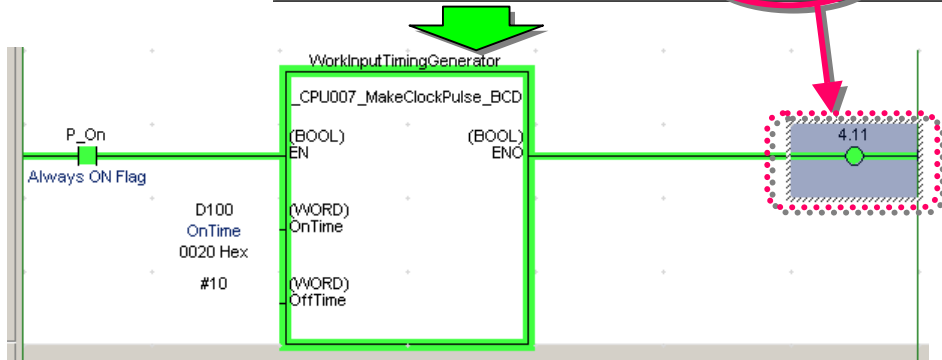
() - Edit Coil

4.11

Detail > OK Cancel

Select [Program] ->[Online Edit] -> [Send Change]

Shortcut: [Ctrl]+[Shift]+[E]



End

Chapter 3

Customize

the OMRON FB Part file

Function Block

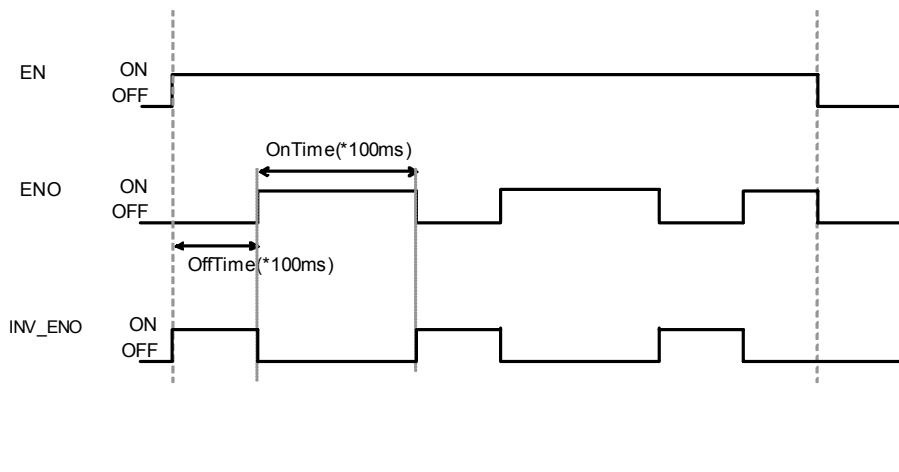


1. Explanation of target program

This chapter describes how to customize the OMRON FB Library using the OMRON FB Part file 'Make ON Time/OFF Time Clock Pulse in BCD'.

1-1. Changing File Specifications

The OMRON FB Part file 'Make ON Time/OFF Time Clock Pulse in BCD' is designed to repeatedly turn off the ENO for the specified OffTime (unit: 100 msec) and on for the specified OnTime (unit: 100 msec). In this example, the OMRON FB Part file will be changed to output an invert signal by adding the output parameter 'INV_ENO'.



1-2. Changing the contents of the OMRON FB Part file

To satisfy the requirement described above, the following changes must be made to OMRON FB Part file 'Make ON Time/OFF Time Clock Pulse in BCD'

1. Add an output parameter 'INV_ENO'.
2. Add ladder program to output the ENO for inverting the signal.

Caution

OMRON cannot guarantee the operation of a customized OMRON FB parts. Please be sure to check the process of your FB part sufficiently before customization and confirm the operation of each FB parts thoroughly after that.

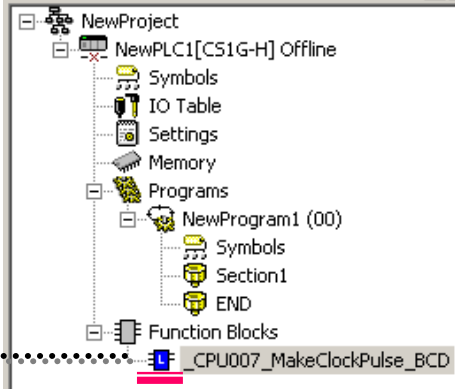
Explanation of target Program


Copy of FB part

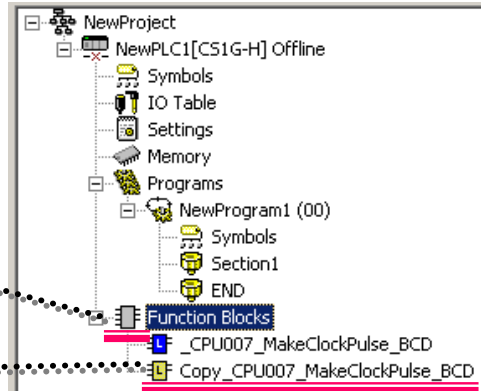
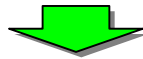
Change of FB Definition


2. Copy the OMRON FB Part file

Import the 'Make ON Time/OFF Time Clock Pulse in BCD' Function Block Part file as explained in Chapter 1 (FB definition name: `_CPU007_MakeClockPulse_BCD`)



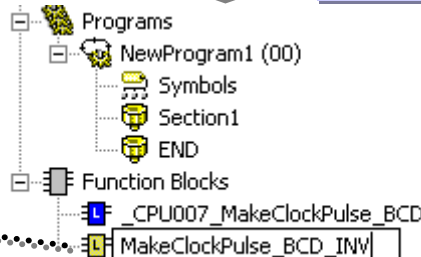
Select the OMRON FB Part icon  then right click the mouse.
-> Copy




Select Function Block Definition icon  and right click the mouse.
-> Paste

The OMRON FB Part file is pasted.

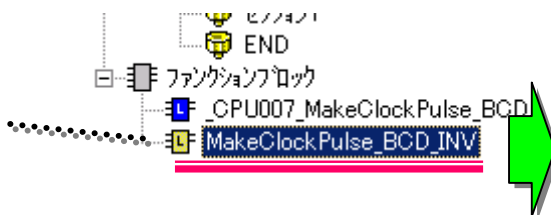
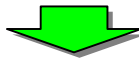
Change the FB definition name.



Select pasted Function Block icon  and click mouse right button.

-> Rename
[MakeClockPulse_BCD_INV]

Note:
The user can't create Function Block Definitions With name starting with '_' (underscore). Please use names not starting with '_'.

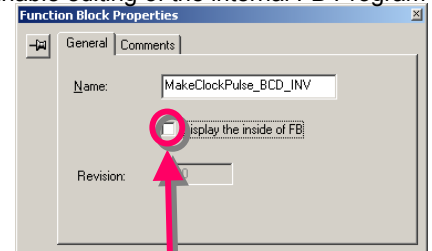


Select pasted Function Block icon and right click the mouse button.
-> Property

Or

ALT + ENT

Enable editing of the internal FB Program code.



Tick the check box using the left mouse click.

Explanation of target Program

Copy of FB part

Change of FB Definition

3. Add a variable to the Function Block

Variable Table

Open the Function Block Ladder Editor.

Opens the Function Block Ladder Editor.

The screenshot shows the 'Function Block Ladder Editor' window. At the top, a 'Variable Table' is visible with the following data:

Name	Data Type	AT	Initial Value	Retain...	Comment
P_ER	BOOL			CF003	Error flag
Tmp_Data	WORD		0		Multiple area of use for internal...
Tim_a	TIMER				OFF time measurement timer
Tim_b	TIMER				ON time measurement timer
Ok_Bit	BOOL		FALSE		Area check OK flag
On_Bit	BOOL		FALSE		Bit for output

The ladder logic diagram below the table shows two parallel normally open contacts labeled 'Area check OK...' leading to a coil labeled 'Error flag'. Below this, there are two more parallel normally open contacts labeled 'Area check OK...' leading to a coil labeled 'Error flag'. The diagram also includes various function blocks like 'BIN(023) BCD to Binary' and 'TIM'.

Select the Function Block icon using the mouse cursor and double click the left mouse button.

The original OMRON FB Part file is also able to display its ladder program, but cannot be edited.

Ladder Editor

Variable table

Name	Data Type	AT	Initial Value	Retain...	Comment
ENO	BOOL		FALSE		Indicates successful execution ...

Below the table, the 'Outputs' tab is selected in the variable table interface.

Select Output tab in Variable Table using the mouse cursor And click the left mouse button.

Click the left mouse button and select Insert Variable(I).

Enter a new variable name.

The 'New Variable' dialog box is shown with the following fields:

- Name: INV_ENO
- Data Type: BOOL
- Usage: Output
- Initial Value: FALSE
- Retain:
- Comment: Inverting output of ENO

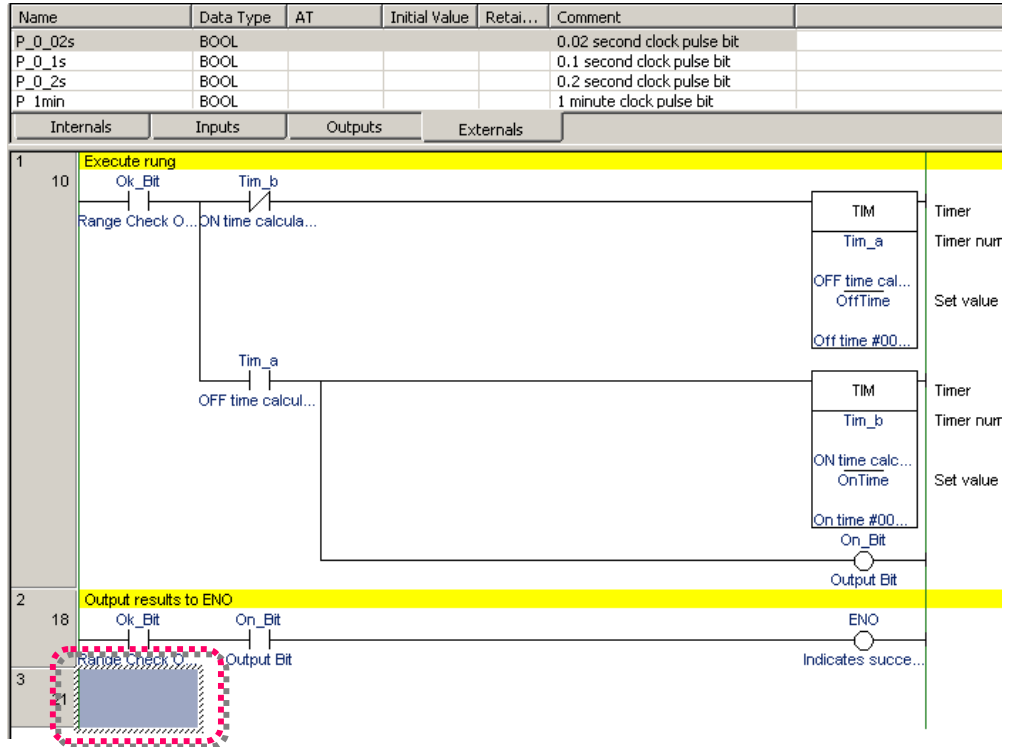
Select BOOL for bit data.

Confirm the entered variable is correct.

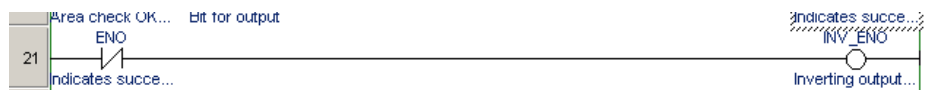
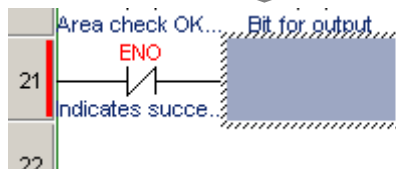
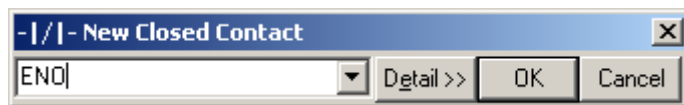
Name	Data Type	AT	Initial Value	Retain...	Comment
ENO	BOOL		FALSE		Indicates successful execution ...
INV_ENO	BOOL		FALSE		Inverting output of ENO

4. Changing the Function Block Ladder

Add the required ladder diagram on Function Block Ladder edit field.
Move the cursor to the left column of the next rung.



4-1. Entering a Contact

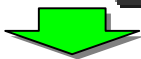


5. Supplemental Information

5-1. How to delete unused Function Block definitions

When you delete unused Function Block definitions, it is not enough just to delete the Function Block invocations (instructions). This is because the Function Block instance definitions are registered in the global symbol table. At this situation, when the compile (program check) is done, then the unused function block instances will be shown on the output window. You can identify the unused function block instance definitions and delete them easily. The Function Block definitions and Function Block instances are a part of user program in the CPU unit even if they are not called, so it is recommended to delete unused Function Block definitions and instances before transferring the program to the CPU unit.

Execute Compile **F7** key



Result of Compilation

The screenshot shows the GX Developer interface. The Symbol Table lists various function blocks. A warning message in the output window states: "WARNING: Unused Function Block Instance. This can be removed." A function block named 'aaaa' is highlighted in the Symbol Table. A red box highlights the 'aaaa' entry, with a callout: "Double click mouse left button". A green arrow points to the 'Del' key, with a callout: "Click mouse left button". A confirmation dialog box titled "Confirm Symbol Delete" is open, asking "Are you sure you want to delete symbol aaaa?". The "Yes" button is circled in red, with a callout: "Click mouse left button". A green arrow points down from the dialog box to a box containing the text: "Function Block definition will be deleted."

Name	Data Type	Address / Value	Rack Location	Usage	Comment
P_LT	BOOL	CF007		Work	Less Than (LT) Flag
P_Max_Cycle_Time	UDINT	A262		Work	Maximum Cycle Time
P_N	BOOL	CF008		Work	Negative (N) Flag
P_NE	BOOL	CF001		Work	Not Equals (NE) Flag
P_OF	BOOL	CF009		Work	Overflow (OF) Flag
P_Off	BOOL	CF114		Work	Always OFF Flag
P_On	BOOL	CF113		Wo	
P_Output_Off_Bit	BOOL	A500.15		Wo	
P_Step	BOOL	A200.12		Wo	
P_UF	BOOL			Wo	
aaaa	FB (FunctionS...				

5-2. Memory allocation for Function Blocks

It is necessary to allocate required memory for each function block instances to execute Function Blocks. CX-Programmer allocates the memory automatically based on the following setting dialog information. (PLC menu -> Function Block Memory -> Function Block Memory Allocation)
There are 4 types of areas, 'Not retain', 'Retain', 'Timers', and 'Counters'. Please change the settings if requires.

- Notice when changing the settings
If you change the 'Not retain' or 'Retain' area, please consider the allocated memory areas for the special IO unit and CPU SIO unit.
- Special memory area for the Function Blocks
CS1/CJ1-H/CJ1M CPUs (unit version: 3.0 or higher) have a special memory area which is extended hold (H) relay area.
The address of the area is from H512 to H1535. CX-Programmer sets the area as a default.
Please note that the area cannot be used for the operands of ladder instructions.

The screenshot shows the "Function Block Memory Allocation [NewPLC1]" dialog box. It contains a table with the following data:

FB Instance Area	Start Address	End Address	Size
Non Retain	H512	H1407	896
Retain	H1408	H1535	128
Timers	T3072	T4095	1024
Counters	C3072	C4095	1024

Buttons on the right side of the dialog include: OK, Cancel, Edit..., Default, and Advanced...

Chapter 4

**How to use
the ST(Structured Text) language**

Function Block

Explanation of
target ProgramCreate new
FB DefinitionEntering
SymbolsCreating
ST ProgramCreating Ladder
Program and check

1. What is the ST Language?

The ST (Structured Text) language is a high-level language code for industrial controls (mainly PLCs) defined by the IEC 61131-3 standard.

It has many control statements, including IF-THEN-ELSE-END_IF, FOR / WHILE loop, and many mathematical functions such as SIN / LOG. It is suitable for mathematical processing.

The ST language supported by CX-Programmer is in conformance with IEC 61131-3 standard.

The arithmetic functions in CX-Programmer Ver.5.0 are as follows:

sine (SIN), cosine (COS), tangent (TAN), arc-sine (ASIN), arc-cosine (ACOS), arc-tangent (ATAN), square root (SQRT), absolute value (ABS), logarithm (LOG), natural-logarithm (LN), natural-exponential (EXP), exponentiation (EXPT)

```

(* Initial Settings *)
XMT[1] = 2;
XMT[2] = 7;
N = 2;

(* CRC16 *)
CRCTMP := 16#FFFF;
FOR I = 1 TO N DO
  CRCTMP := CRCTMP XOR XMT[I];
  FOR J = 1 TO 8 DO
    CT := CRCTMP AND 1;
    IF CRCTMP < 0 THEN
      CH := 1;
      CRCTMP := CRCTMP AND 16#7FFF; (* CRCTMP & 0x7FFF *)
    ELSE
      CH := 0;
    END_IF;
    UINT_CRCTMP := WORD_TO_UINT(CRCTMP) / 2;
    CRCTMP := UINT_TO_WORD(UINT_CRCTMP);
    IF CH = 1 THEN
      CRCTMP := CRCTMP OR 16#4000; (* CRCTMP OR 0x4000 *)
    END_IF;
    IF CT = 1 THEN
      CRCTMP := CRCTMP XOR 16#A001; (* CRCTMP XOR 0xA001 *)
    END_IF;
  END_FOR;
END_FOR;

IF CRCTMP < 0 THEN
  CL := 1;
  CRCTMP := CRCTMP AND 16#7FFF; (* CRCTMP & 0x7FFF *)
ELSE
  CL := 0;
END_IF;

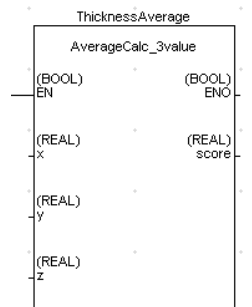
C_1 := CRCTMP AND 16#FF; (* CRCTMP & 0xFF *)
CRCTMP := CRCTMP AND 16#7F00; (* CRCTMP & 0x7F00 *)
UINT_CRCTMP := WORD_TO_UINT(CRCTMP) / 256;
C_2 := UINT_TO_WORD(UINT_CRCTMP);

```

Reference: The IEC 61131 standard is an international standard for programming Programmable Logic Controllers (PLC), defined by the International Electro-technical Commission (IEC). The standard consists of 7 parts, with part 3 defining the programming of PLCs.

2. Explanation of the target program

This example describes how to create an ST program in a Function Block to calculate the average value of a measured thickness.



The data type should be set to REAL to store the data.
REAL type allows values with 32 bits of length, see range below:-
-3.402823x10³⁸ ~ -1.175494x10⁻³⁸, 0,
+1.175494x10⁻³⁸ ~ +3.402823x10³⁸

FB definition name **AverageCalc_3Value**

Input symbols **X**(REAL type), **Y**(REAL type), **Z**(REAL type)

Output symbol **score**(REAL type)

ST Program definition **score := (X + Y + Z) / 3.0;**

Substitute a value to a symbol is expressed by " := ".

Enter " ; " (semicolon) to complete the code.

Explanation of target Program

Create new FB Definition

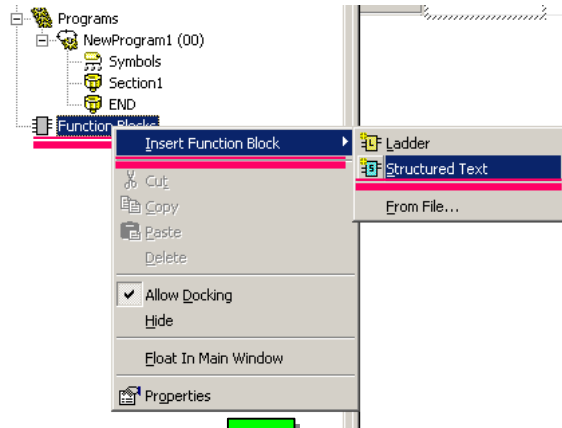
Entering Symbols


Creating ST Program

Creating Ladder Program and check

3. Create a Function Block using ST

Create a Function Block using Structured Text.



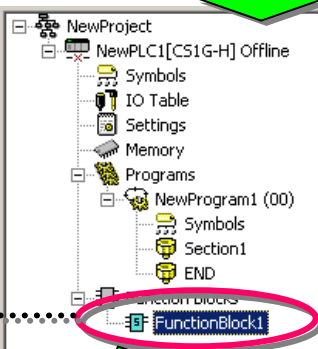
Select the Function Block icon  using a mouse cursor, and click the right mouse button.
 -> Insert Function Block(I)
 ->Structured Text(S)




A New Function Block definition is created.

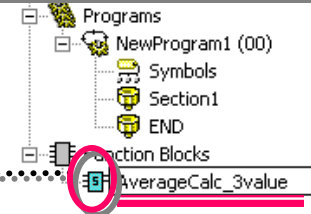


Change the Function Block definition name




Note:
 The user can't create Function Block Definitions with names starting '_' (underscore). Please use names not starting with '_'.

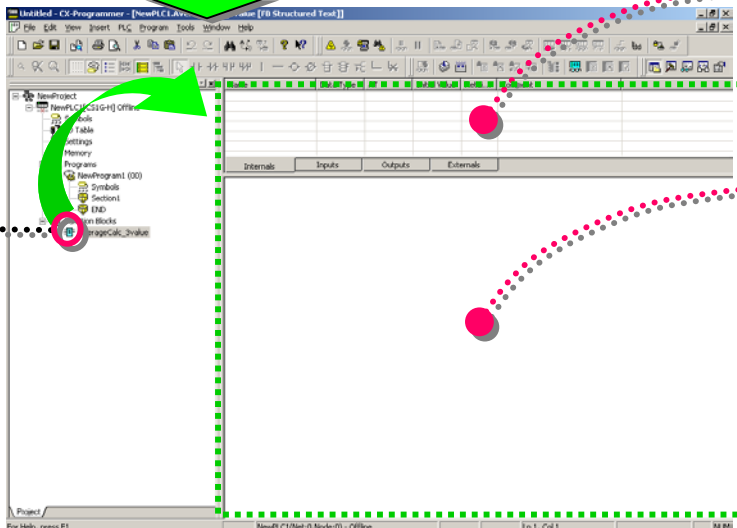
Select the Function Block definition icon  using the mouse cursor and right click the mouse button.
 Select Paste.
 -> Rename
 Enter
 [AverageCalc_3value]



Variable Table

Open Function Block ST Editor

Select Function Block definition Icon  by mouse cursor and double click the left mouse button.



ST Edit Field

4. Entering Variables in to Function Blocks

Select Variable Table.

Name	Data Type	AT	Initial Value	Retai...	Comment
EN	BOOL		FALSE		Controls execution of the Func...

Select the Input tab using the mouse cursor.

Select Insert from the Pop-up menu.

Enter data for the following.
Name
Data type
Comment

New Variable

Name:

Data Type:

Usage:

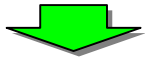
Initial Value: Retain

Comment:

Enter a variable name

Select REAL

Enter and applicable comment



Enter input symbol x, output symbols y,z by repeating the process above.

Name	Data Type	AT	Initial Value	Retai...	Comment
EN	BOOL		FALSE		Controls execution of the Func...
x	REAL		0.0		Input value 1
y	REAL		0.0		Input value 2
z	REAL		0.0		Input value 3

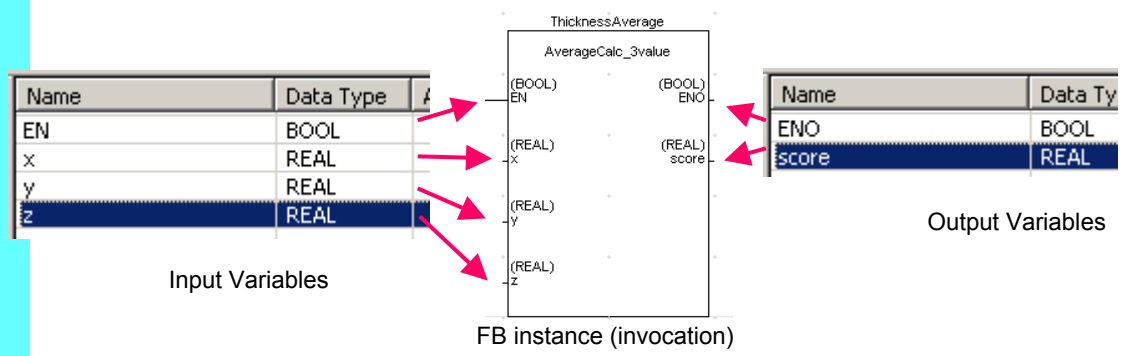
Input Variables

Name	Data Type	AT	Initial Value	Retai...	Comment
ENO	BOOL		FALSE		Indicates successful execution ...
score	REAL		0.0		Average

Output Variables

Reference: The copy and paste operation is available in FB Header.

Reference: The order of the variables in the FB table becomes the order of parameters on FB instance (invocation) in the normal ladder view.
To change the order, it is possible to drag & drop variables within the table.



Input Variables

Output Variables

Explanation of target Program

Create new FB Definition

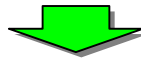
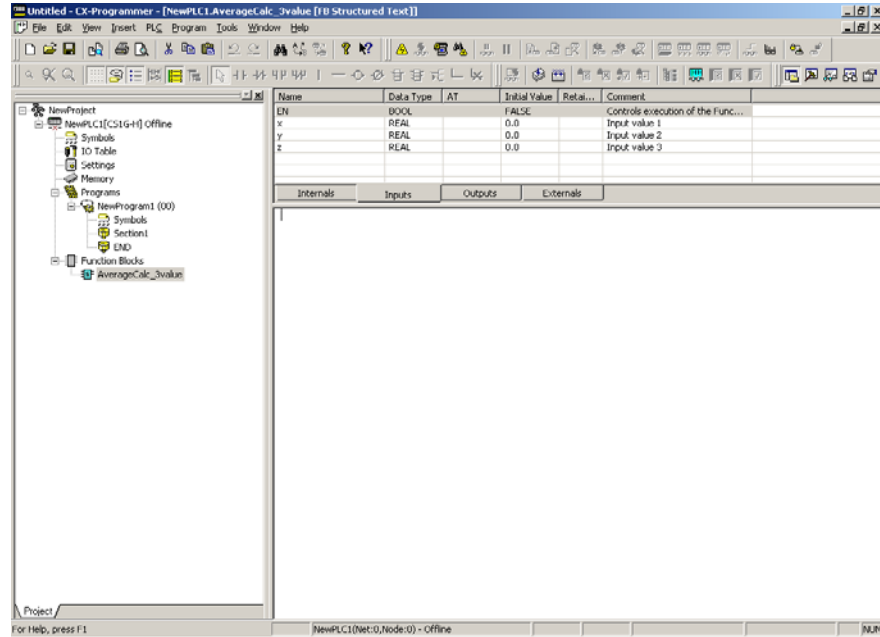
Entering Symbols

Creating ST Program

Creating Ladder Program and check

5. Entry of ST program

Select the ST Editor text field in the Function Block ST Editor window.



Enter text into the field: "score := (x + y + z) / 3.0;"

```
score :=(x + y + z) / 3.0;
|
```

When the input expression is a real type calculation, please enter the constant value with decimal point and zero for single decimal places, e.g. '3.0'.

Reference: User may type Comments in the ST program.
Enter '(' and '*' both ends of comment strings, see below.
This is useful for recording change history, process expressions, etc.

```
(* Created by Suzuki 5/21/2004 *)
score := (x + y + z) / 3.0;
```

Explanation of target Program

Create new FB Definition

Entering Symbols

Creating ST Program

Creating Ladder Program and check

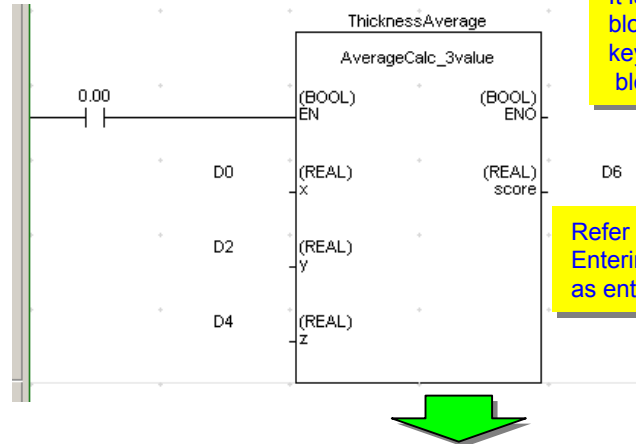
6. Entering the FB to the Ladder Program and error checking

Enter the following FB into the ladder program.

Instance name: ThicknessAverage

Input parameters: D0, D2, D4

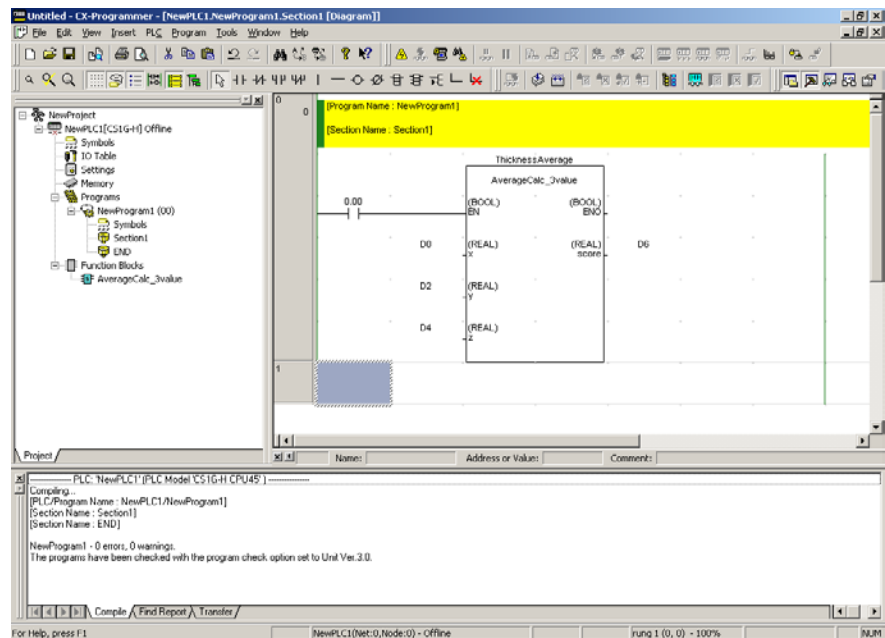
Output parameter: D6



It is able to jump the referred function block definition by entering [Shift]+[F] key when the cursor is in the function block instance.

Refer page 2-7 for entering FB instances. Entering ST FB instances is the same as entering FB Ladder instances.

Perform a programs check before transferring the program.



Refer page 2-9 for program checking.

The functionality is the same as for Function Block Ladder instances.

It is possible to change or add variables in the Function Block after inputting FB instance into the ladder editor. If modified, the Ladder editor changes the color of the left bus-bar of the rung containing the changed Function Block.

When this occurs, please select the instance in the Ladder Editor using the mouse cursor, and select Update Function Block Instance (U) from the pop-up menu.

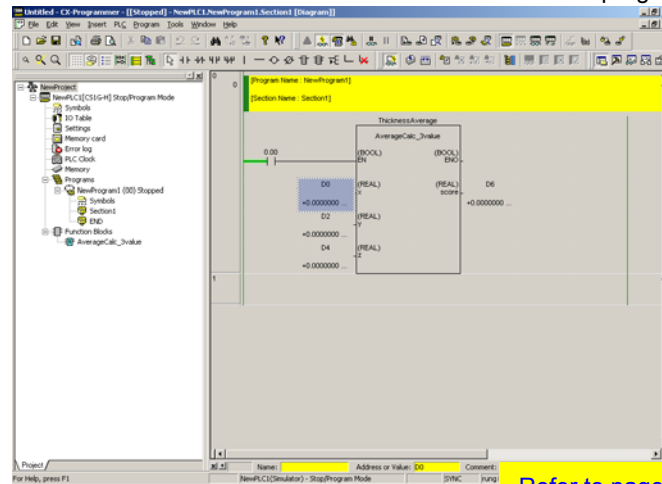
Transfer Program



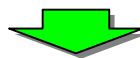
Monitoring

7. Program Transfer

Go online to the PLC with CX-Simulator and transfer the program.



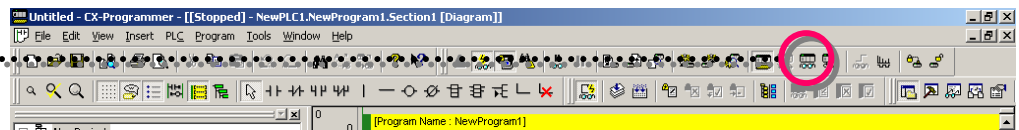
Refer to page 2-10 for steps to go online and transfer the program.



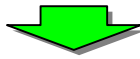
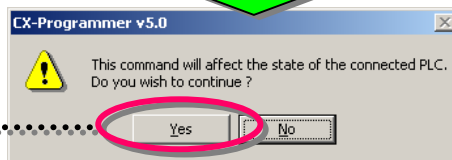
The on/off status of contacts and coils can be monitored.

Change the PLC (Simulator) to Monitor mode.

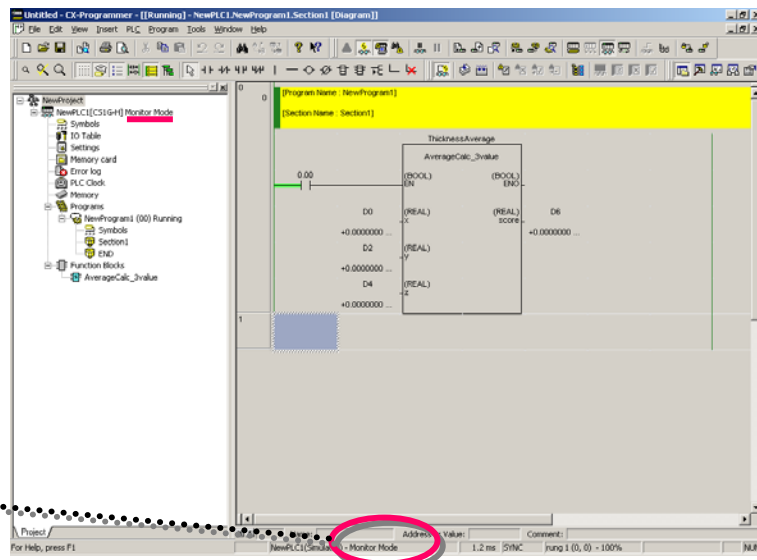
Click



Click [Yes]



Confirm that the PLC is Monitor mode.

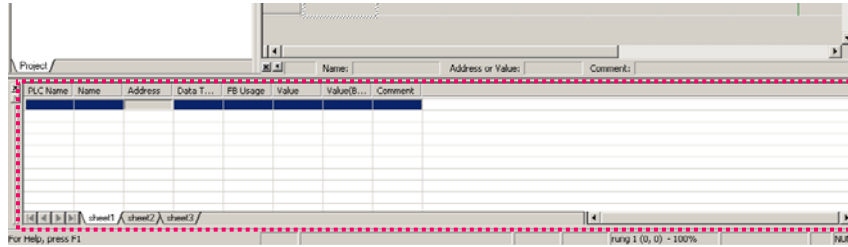


Transfer Program

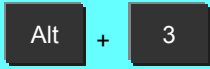
Monitoring

8. Monitoring the Function Block execution

Monitors the present value of parameters in the FB instance using the Watch Window.



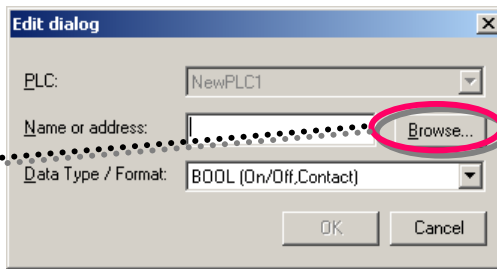
Display the Watch Window.



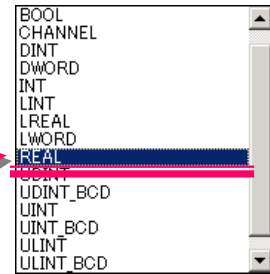
Open the Edit dialog.



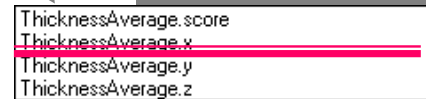
Click Browse... button using the mouse left button.



Select REAL(32bit floating point)

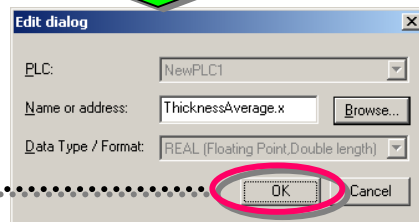
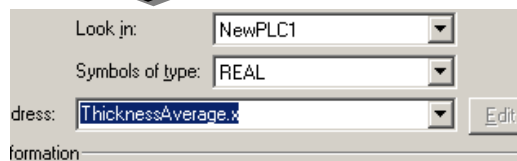
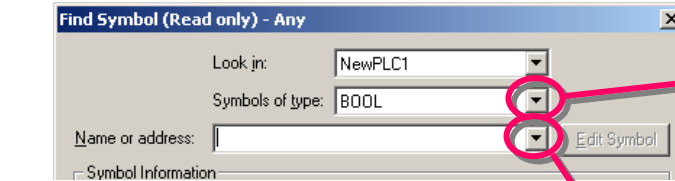


Select ThicknessAverage.x



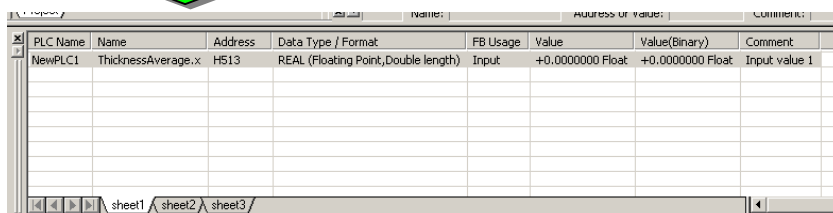
Click the [v] button using the left mouse button, then select the following:

[Symbols of type]
[Name or address]



When monitoring internal variables at debug phase, always use the Watch Window. It is not possible to monitor inside a Function Block Definition.

Click [OK] button using the left mouse button.



Reference: Example of an ST program using IF-THEN-ELSE-END_IF

The following ST program checks the average value calculated by the example of page 4-7 against a range (upper limit or lower limit).

FB Definition: OutputOfDecisionResult
 Input symbols: score(REAL type), setover(REAL type), setunder(REAL type)
 Output symbols: OK (BOOL type), overNG(BOOL type), underNG(BOOL type)

ST program:

```

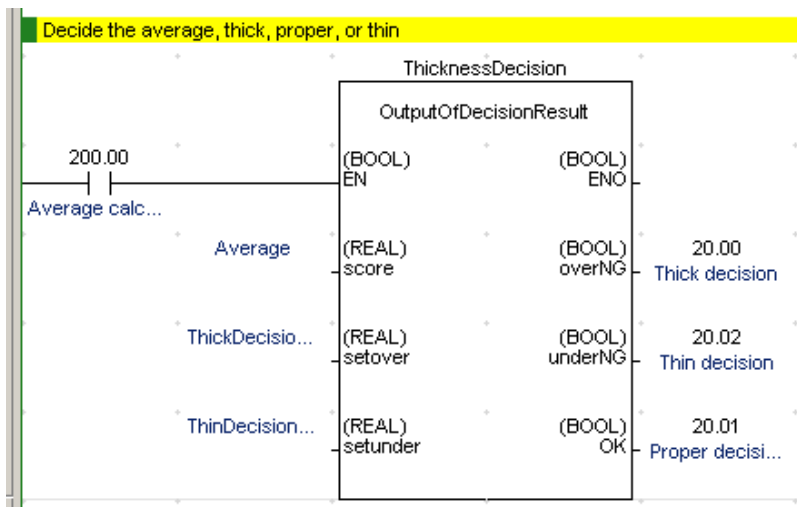
IF score > setover THEN      (* If score > setover, *)
    underNG := FALSE;      (* Turn off underNG *)
    OK := FALSE;          (* Turn off OK *)
    overNG := TRUE;       (* Turn on overNG *)

ELSIF score < setunder THEN (* if score =< setover and score < setunder then *)
    overNG := FALSE;      (* Turn on overNG *)
    OK := FALSE;          (* Turn off OK *)
    underNG := TRUE;     (* Turn on underNG *)

ELSE                          (* if setover > score > setunder then*)
    underNG := FALSE;     (* Turn off underNG *)
    overNG := FALSE;     (* Turn off overNG *)
    OK := TRUE;           (* Turn off OK *)

END_IF;                      (* end of IF section*)
    
```

Example of an FB instance (the instance name is 'ThicknessDecision')



Useful Functions


It is possible to automatically display a list of symbol names or IO comments when entering the operands of instructions.

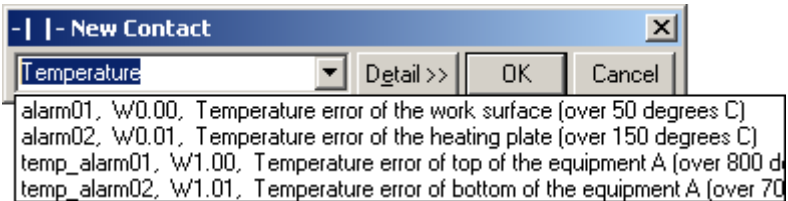
When entering the operand for contact or output (or special instructions), enter a string, and the dropdown list is automatically updated to display in symbol names or IO Comments using the defined string. Selecting the item from the list defines the operand information..

This is an efficient way of entering registered symbol information into the ladder.

Example: Enter text "Temperature" to the edit field in the operand dialog.



Click  or push [F4] key; all symbols / address having IO comment containing the text 'temperature' are listed. See below:-



For instance, select 'temp_alarm01, W1.00, Temperature error of upper case of MachineA', from the list. The operand is set to be using symbol 'alarm01'.



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