



Media Control Server MCS-EX Integration Guide for RTI Control Systems

Version 2.0



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Overview

This document describes how to install integrate the Autonomic Controls Media Control Server into a RTI control system installation. This guide assumes that you have setup MCS on the host computer and can communicate with it remotely from other PCs on the network using the Mirage PC client application.

For instructions on setting up the Media Control Server application, please refer to the Getting Started document included with the MCS installation. You'll find it in the Start menu of the host computer, under Autonomic Controls.

MCS and the associated RTI module offer a ready-to-use solution for IP control of iTunes, Media Player and Media Center playback. The control service allows the RTI Control System to interactively access your digital media player's functionality and will display feedback for those actions. You can browse your digital media collection, initiate playback, and manage the playback queue without having direct access to the Media Server's display.

In addition to the RTI control module, MCS ships with Mirage, Autonomic Controls' desktop client application. Mirage will allow you to use a UMPC, laptop computer, or other devices to remotely browse music, movies, TV, videos and pictures stored on your Media PCs.



Setting up MCS for RTI Control.

Requirements.

The Media Control Server module requires a RTI Ethernet touch panel. Visit www.RTIcorp.com to determine which touch panels support this feature.

Preparation.

Download the RTI control module from www.autonomic-controls.com/support.htm. The control module downloads with touch-panel layouts for supported RTI touch panels.

Once you have downloaded the control module and required touch panel files, un-zip the files into a new directory on your hard drive.

You will find the following directories:

1. **Touch Panel Samples.** This is a complete sample program which uses the Autonomic Controls MCS module and touch panel files.
2. **Server Deployment Kit.** This directory contains the setup files for the Media Control System, which should be installed on the host PC to be controlled.
3. **Graphics.** This directory contains graphics for placement in Integration Designer to implement the Mirage client.

Programming the RTI Control System.

In order to verify that the MCS server application is operating properly and to reduce the number of variables during your first run through, Autonomic Controls strongly recommends that you run the included sample program stand-alone on your RTI touch panel before integrating the system into your projects.

The first step is to open the Autonomic Controls Sample program in Integration Designer and modify the required parameters for your network and Media server.

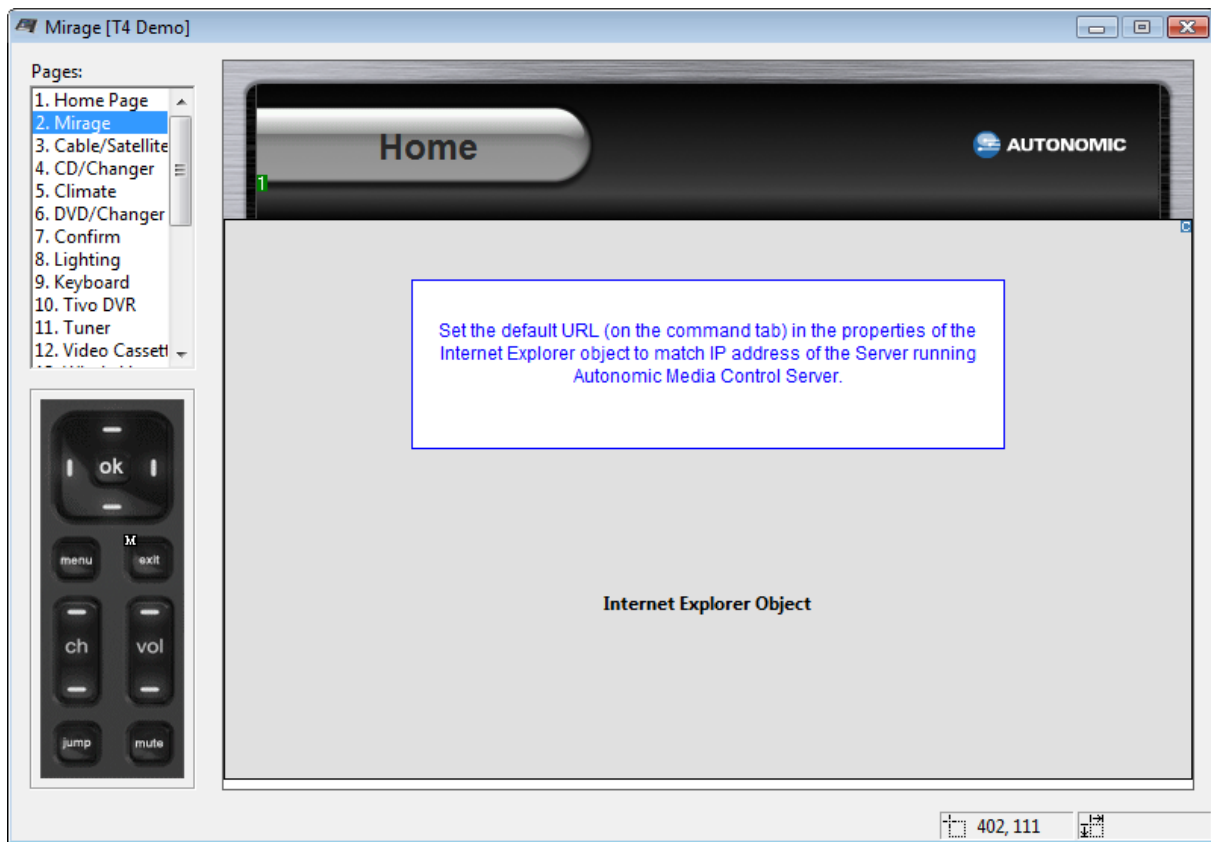
Configuring the Media Server IP address.

To implement Mirage on an RTI touch panel, the Internet Explorer Object is utilized to serve the control pages for the Media Control System.

Once you have opened the desired sample system file in Integration Designer, open the Mirage page.

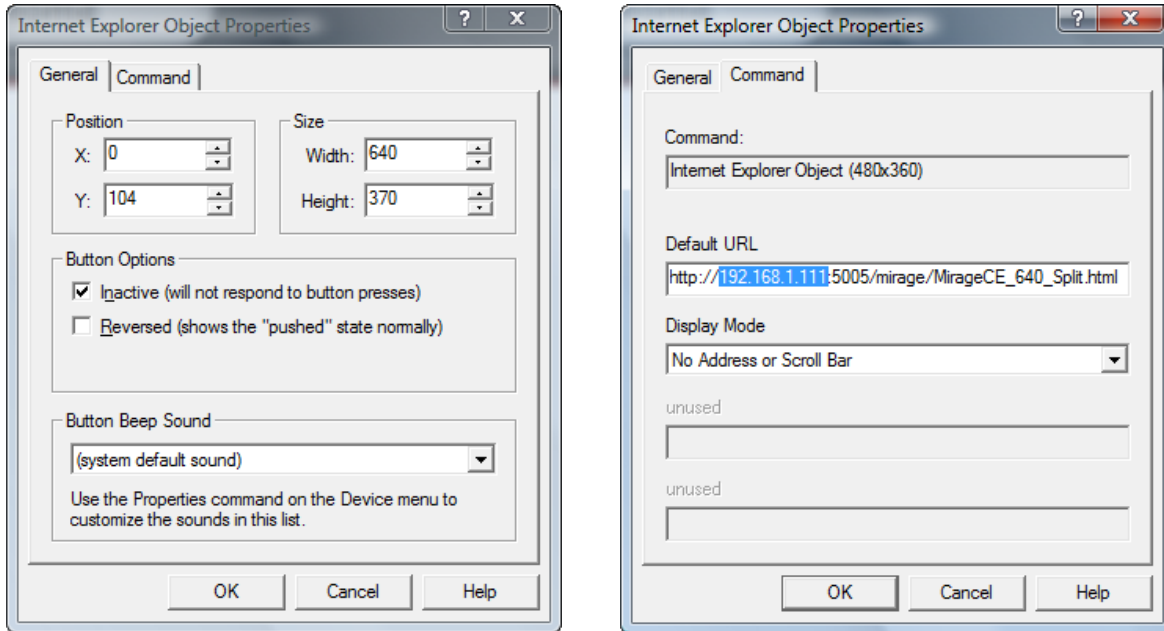
A split screen is utilized to provide space on the page for native RTI buttons. This space on top can be used to create buttons for page flips, amplifier volume/mute, device power, etc.

The space on the bottom will fill up with the Mirage user interface at run time.



The text object on the screen describing the properties to set should be deleted. It's there for programmers who don't like documentation, which clearly doesn't apply to you!

Right click on the Internet Explorer Object and select **Properties**.



Make note of the position and size information on the General Tab. You will have to recreate this configuration when you integrate the Mirage page into your own project file.

Next, click on the Command tab. Change the IP address in the Default URL field to the host name or IP address of the host Media Server (the computer with the MCS server software installed). **It's important that you do not remove the :5005 port designation at the end of your server address.**

That's it! You're done. Upload the program to the remote control, ensure that it's IP information is correct and that it's connected to your network and have fun!



*Tip: Media Center Extenders are always controlled through the host media PC. If you wish to control an extender, use the IP address of the **host PC**, not the extender here.*

Enabling the DVD Library in Windows Media Center

Assuming you have several locally copied DVDs on your hard drive you can get them to show up in My DVDs and play in Media Center. **Please observe all applicable copyright laws.**

1. How to get locally copied DVDs to show up in My DVDs:
 - a. Enable the DVD Library option in the Media Control Server configuration application. This will enable the DVD library interface in Windows Media Center.
 - b. Copy your DVD to your hard drive. It is recommended that when you copy DVDs locally that you select the option to have the data chunked at 1 gig and the output should be something of the form `c:\myDvds\Jaws\`.

Underneath `c:\myDvds\Jaws\` you'll find `c:\myDvds\Jaws\video_ts` and in `video_ts` you'll find a `video.ifo` file in addition to several other files.

- c. Add the `c:\myDvds\` folder to My Videos in XP or Dvd Library in Vista. The My DVDs gallery searches the same path as My Videos so if your DVD is not showing up go to My Videos, press CTRL-D, and go through the Videos Media Discovery wizard and add `c:\myDvds\`
 - d. Enable rich metadata:
In `c:\myDvds\Jaws` create a file called `Jaws.dvdid.xml`. It's of the form:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8" ?>
<Disc>
<Name>Jaws</Name>
<ID>00000000|00000000</ID>
</Disc>
```

Where the `00000000|00000000` is the CRC64 id of the DVD.

A web site (<http://www.dvdxml.com>) has been set up to help you with the creation of these `dvdid.xml` files. Jaws can be found here:

<http://www.dvdxml.com/download.php?view.5615>

Troubleshooting

Page not found error on the RTI remote control.

- Double check the the touch panel has Ethernet connectivity and that it has a valid IP address on your network. You can do this by programming the remote over Ethernet rather than via a USB cable.
- Make sure that your remote control is on the same subnet as the host media server.
- Check the IP address in the Internet Explorer Object. Make sure you left the :5005 control port designation at the end of your IP address in your URL.
- Check Server Status in configuration application (step 1). Stop and restart server if necessary. Refer to Autonomic Controls if the server will not report “Running” or if the problem persists after reboot.
- Enter the URL from the Default URL field on the IE Object properties page into your browser on your computer. If it works, there is a connectivity problem with your remote control.

The page loads on the remote, but Mirage cannot establish a connection with the Media Control Server.

- Check Server Status in configuration application (step 1). Stop and restart server if necessary. Contact Autonomic Controls if the server will not report “Running” or if the problem persists after reboot.
- Check Licensing Status – rule out an expired demo license. Validate that the server has an active, full time connection to the internet if you running MCS in demo mode.
- Check your Firewall status. Determine if the PC has third party firewall software such as Norton Antivirus. May need to manually make port exceptions in those cases.
- Validate connection on local host and remote network PC using telnet to rule out networking problem. Ping the RTI Processor touch panel from the host to insure connectivity between them.

Some of the remote control buttons do not function.

Certain one-way commands on the MCS controls page, as well as volume and mute feedback for Media Center require that Windows Media Center (WMC) is the focused window.

MCS client applications are intended to be operated from remote devices while WMC is running full screen. These commands should work properly when Media Center is the focused window.
