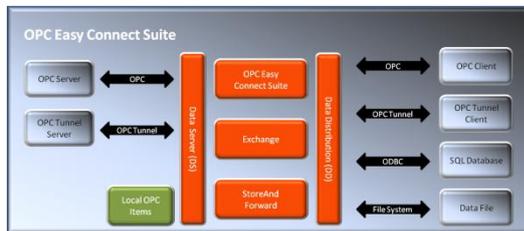


Introducing the Softing OPC Easy Connect Suite: Software for Optimised OPC Communication

Explore how the latest release of the Softing OPC Easy Connect Suite will enable:



- Secure OPC communication across networks
- Simple commissioning and use of OPC servers and clients
- Optimisation of OPC interface performance
- Easy-to-use GUI for OPC communication configuration

OPC in context...

With its wide range of products and services, Softing is one of the market leaders in OPC technology. Softing recognised the significance of OPC for industrial automation very early on while it was still in its infancy. Today, as a leading member of the Steering Committee for the OPC Foundation, Softing actively contributes to the success of OPC.

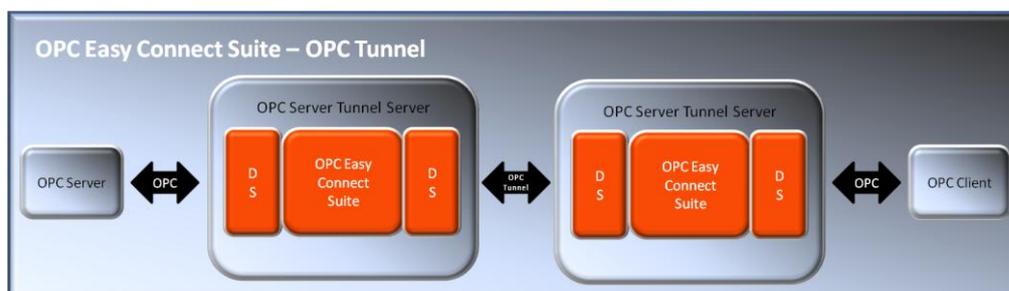
As the UK's strategic partner, Hitex Automation is ideally placed to enable all our customers to maximise the benefits this technology can bring.

OPC Easy Connect is a family of OPC middleware products that help you save time and money. The OPC Easy Connect Suite eliminates the complications that frequently arise in OPC communication between remote computers. It also simplifies the commissioning and use of OPC clients and servers and optimises the performance of your OPC interfaces.

Focus 1: OPC Tunnel with StoreAndForward

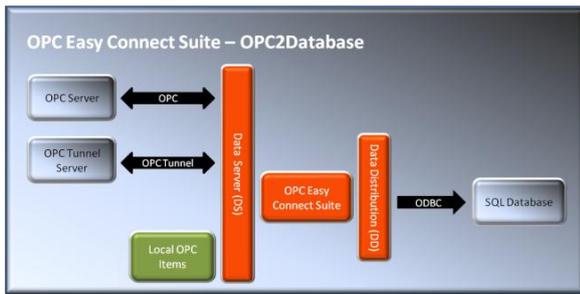
OPC Tunnel eliminates DCOM configuration problems that can arise in OPC communication between OPC servers and clients on different computer platforms. StoreAndForward ensures a robust and reliable high-performance data exchange.

- No need to configure time-consuming DCOM security settings
- Substantial speeding up of configuration of OPC communication across networks
- Second-by-second monitoring of OPC communication
- Local buffering of OPC data when detecting a broken connection to an OPC client
- Automatic re-establishment of OPC communication after interruption
- Minimum configuration requirements for network PCs
- Ensured computer security policies and firewall settings



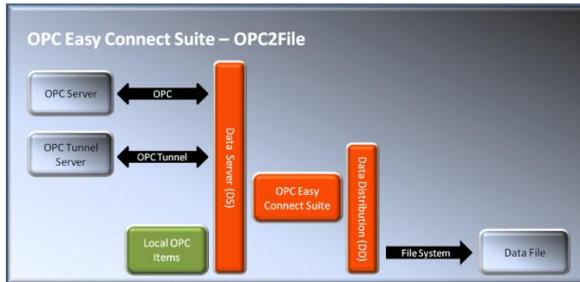
Focus 2: OPC2Database and OPC2File

OPC2Database allows the storage of both OPC server items and local items in SQL databases, while OPC2File offers storing OPC server items and local items in text files only. This new release of OPC2Database enables:



- Support of ODBC-enabled databases eg: Microsoft SQL Server, Oracle, My SQL, IBM DB2
- Creation of references between process items and database cells via an easy-to-use wizard
- Definition of storage trigger conditions, also via a wizard
- Processing of stored data for proof purposes or performance analyses
- Setup of overall solutions for traceability etc.

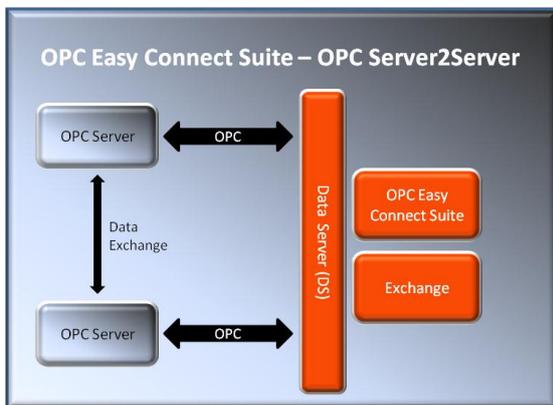
The OPC2File has a range of features including:



- Support for different text including ASCII, HTML and XML
- Definition of storage trigger conditions via easy-to-use wizard
- Processing of stored data by standard software
- Analysis of specific OPC data
- Verification and documentation of correct system functionality.

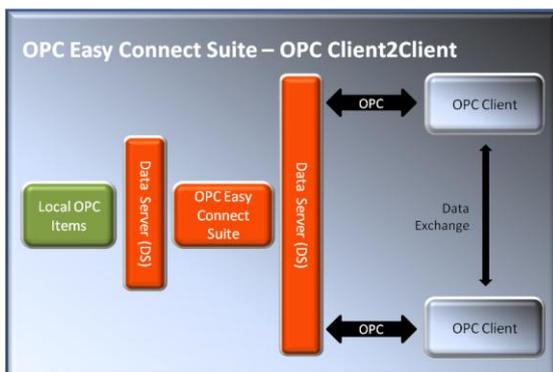
Focus 3: OPC Server2Server and OPC Client2Client

OPC Server2Server allows data to be exchanged between OPC servers and supports the connection of different automation worlds by just using OPC servers.



- Combines heterogeneous OPC communication structures in one OPC name space
- Supports data exchange between different fieldbus networks e.g. PROFIBUS and DeviceNet
- Avoids the cost of hardware gateways or the development of OPC client applications

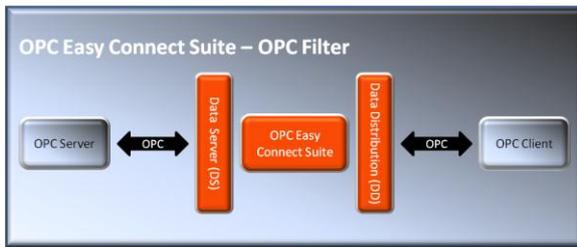
OPC Client2Client provides the functionality of intelligent data storage that can receive data from one OPC client and forward it to either just one or to multiple OPC clients.



- Data can be exchanged between control systems and visualisation systems without the OPC server interface
- Eliminates the need to include additional components for further data processing in the system overall

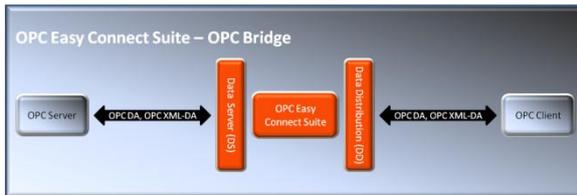
Focus 4: OPC Filter and OPC Bridge

OPC Filter provides the capability to customise OPC server items and use them with aliases in the OPC namespace.



- Free selection of which data to show or hide in the OPC namespace
- Definition of individual access rights
- Prevention of accidental data manipulation and unauthorised access
- Additional security layer for sensitive data
- Increase of runtime system security

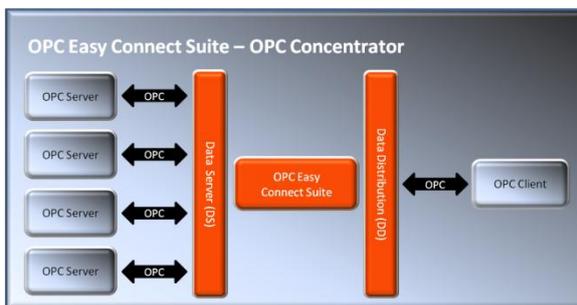
OPC Bridge ensures interoperability of OPC servers and clients supporting different versions of the OPC Data Access specification. This will also allow for the integration of OPC XML-DA components.



- Resolution of incompatibilities between different OPC specifications and releases
- Cost savings via continued use of existing OPC components
- Integration of other operating systems (eg: Linux) in OPC communication via web services

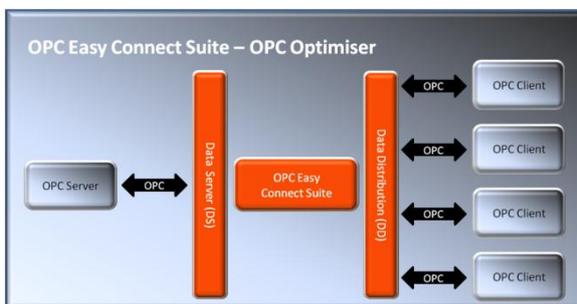
Focus 5: OPC Concentrator and OPC Optimiser

Using OPC Concentrator, multiple OPC servers can be combined and unified for access by one OPC client.



- Reduction and unification of OPC items on multiple OPC servers
- Effective and efficient configuration of even the largest distributed automation systems

OPC Optimiser streamlines simultaneous access from multiple OPC clients to an OPC server by intelligent compilation of groups and by then recombining multiple read requests for OPC items.



- Optimisation of OPC communication traffic
- Reduction of OPC server management workload and processor load
- Additional computing power available to other applications

To find out more about [Softing's OPC Easy Connect Suite](#) please contact [Dale Fittes](#) or call us on 024 7669 2066.