



## SISCO Supports UCA™ Testing Effort

SISCO recently held an embedded MMS-EASE *Lite* User's Group. During that meeting, several discussions occurred in regards to facilitating UCA 2.0 interoperability.

An analysis of the requirements was that the concrete tests and test rig needed to be something that could become part of a vendor's internal quality assurance and design processes. Additionally, the test case library needed to be able to be adapted and modified, by the vendors, in order to achieve more test coverage.

Based upon these requirements, SISCO has generated concrete test cases that cover a wide range of the Electric Power Research Institute's (EPRI's) Utility Substation Demonstration abstract test cases. The concrete test cases are provided "as-is" and are available from the SISCO ftp site. It is hoped that as more people develop further test cases, that the library will be increased.

For further information and assistance in obtaining the test cases, please contact Herbert Falk at [herb@sisconet.com](mailto:herb@sisconet.com). SISCO believes that testing, as part of a quality assurance process, is needed in order to make UCA 2.0 the success that it can become.

### Required Software:

- AX-S4 MMS
- Rational Software Visual Test

## New UCA Products

### SISCO Provides UCA/MMS OPC Interface for Major PC Based HMIs

Asheville, NC

SISCO announced and demonstrated the availability of a new version of AX-S4 MMS, which now includes an OLE for Process Control™ (OPC™) interface. OPC is a standard designed to provide business applications with easy and common access to real-time data.

This standard solves many of the performance problems associated with Dynamic Data Exchange (DDE). Additionally, many of the PC based HMI and SCADA manufacturers are members of the OPC Foundation and have products that can interface to OPC (e.g., Wonderware, USData Factorylink, GE Cimplicity, Siemens WinCC, National Instruments, etc.).

The demonstration, in Asheville, was shown during the IEEE PSRC meeting using the Wonderware HMI package. Wonderware, OPC, and UCA connectivity was provided by AX-S4 allowing data interchange with COOPER, GE, and Dranitz/BMI UCA enabled devices.

The new version of AX-S4 MMS provides both a DDE and OPC interface simultaneously and does not constitute a new product. Therefore, any current AX-S4 customer that has a support contract will receive this new capability free of charge. Additionally, although this powerful capability has been added to the product, there will be no price increase.

### UCA/MMS Automation and COM Interface Eases Programming Tasks

SISCO is releasing a new UCA/MMS Programming Interface that is compatible with the Microsoft Component Object Model (COM). The new API provides UCA and MMS object style interfaces for the following object classes:

- Association
- Remote Variables
- Local Variables
- List of Variable Objects
- Remote DataSet Objects
- UCA Report Control Block Objects
- UCA Report Objects
- UCA SBO Objects
- UCA Log Objects

Additionally, an automation interface is available which makes the programming within WindowsNT Visual Basic and Visual C++ much easier.

The phased release of this interface is scheduled beginning in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 1998.

For more information, please contact Ralph Mackiewicz at [ralph@sisconet.com](mailto:ralph@sisconet.com).

## The SISCO Difference

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