

Object Specification

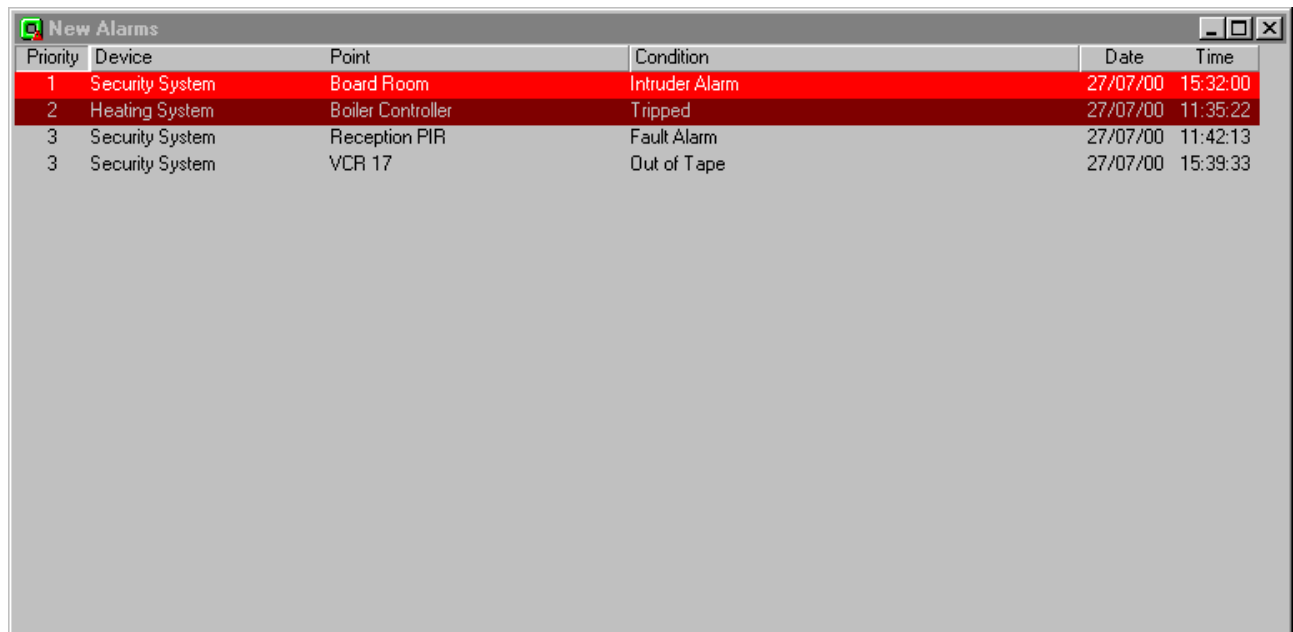
AlmView v10 Application

Introduction

The AlmView v10 Application, shortened in this document to AlmView, is used for viewing and acknowledging alarms within an alarm store. Alarms of different priorities can be shown in different colours. An alarm can be acknowledged by the user double clicking on that alarm. Other views can also be started by right-clicking on an alarm.

AlmView connects to ObServer, and communicates with an alarm store via ObServer. The alarm store can be located within ObServer or on any system connected to ObServer.

AlmView displays the alarms from the store using a window. The engineer can configure the window title, font, and colours if necessary.



The screenshot shows a window titled "New Alarms" with a table of alarm data. The table has six columns: Priority, Device, Point, Condition, Date, and Time. The first two rows are highlighted in red.

Priority	Device	Point	Condition	Date	Time
1	Security System	Board Room	Intruder Alarm	27/07/00	15:32:00
2	Heating System	Boiler Controller	Tripped	27/07/00	11:35:22
3	Security System	Reception PIR	Fault Alarm	27/07/00	11:42:13
3	Security System	VCR 17	Out of Tape	27/07/00	15:39:33

In more advanced systems, several alarm viewers (AlmViews) on different PCs can access a single alarm store, enabling different users to view a common list of unacknowledged alarms. If one user acknowledges an alarm, that alarm is removed from all AlmView windows.

AlmView stores the colours for different alarm priorities are stored within an INI file on the PC.

Refer to the following Engineering Guide for details of products that contain an alarm store:

[OSM v20 AlarmHistory v10 Engineering Guide](#)

Engineering

Step 1 – Install AlmView

Refer to the 'ObSys CD sleeve' for details on how to install ObSys.

Step 2 – Create a Shortcut to AlmView

Use Windows Explorer to create a shortcut by opening the ObSys directory, right-clicking on the AlmView.exe file, and selecting 'Create Shortcut'. The basic shortcut is created in the ObSys directory.

Step 3 – Specify the Command-line

AlmView requires parameters to run properly. Use Windows Explorer to edit the shortcut by right-clicking on the shortcut, and selecting 'Properties'. Modify the 'target' command-line, by appending the following after the AlmView.exe text

```
O=S5;L=New Alarms;OC=61;F=Arial 8
```

This will instruct AlmView to communicate with the alarm store with object reference S5, label the AlmView window 'New Alarms', communicate with ObServer on channel 61, and use font Arial size 8 on the window.

Beware: these example settings may not work for your system - you may need to specify a different object reference and ObServer channel value

Refer to the 'Command Line Parameters' section of this document for full details of possible parameters.

Step 4 – Running AlmView

Double-click the AlmView shortcut to run the application with the parameters supplied. The AlmView window will appear, showing any alarms currently within the specified alarm store.

Step 5 – Configure AlmView using Objects

Once AlmView is running and connected to ObServer, other applications can access objects within AlmView to control the window title, and the alarm colours. Use your object engineering software to view and modify AlmView objects as necessary.

Step 6 – Add Other Views

Add shortcuts or other files to the alarm decode database, so that the user can choose to show other information when an alarm occurs. Refer to the 'Alarm Database' section of this document for more details.

Step 7 – Acknowledging Alarms using AlmView

When an alarm appears in the AlmView window, it can be acknowledged by double-clicking on the alarm. You may need to log on to ObSys if necessary.

Refer to the '[AlmView v10 Window User Guide](#)' document for more information on using the AlmView window.

Engineering Reference

Command-Line Parameters

The command line for running AlmView uses the following parameters

Parameter	Use	Necessary?	Values
O	Alarm store object reference	Yes	Object Reference
L	Window label	No	Text: up to 32 chars
OC	Observer Channel	No	Number: 0=Find a free ObServer channel 1...199= Use specified channel
CI	Close Inhibit flag	No	Flag: 0=Close allowed 1=Close inhibited
AAI	Action All Inhibit flag	No	Flag: 0=Action All Allowed 1=Action All Inhibited
F	Font name and size	No	Font and Size
IU	Interrupt User – restore iconised window when alarm occurs)	No	Flag: 0=No Interrupt 1=Interrupt
WS	Window Style	No	Text: indicates section within INI file to use for colour storage
IU	Popup Window on New Alarm	No	Pops up minimised AlmView window

Example command lines include:

```
C:\Program Files\North Building Technologies\ObSys\AlmView.exe O=S5  
C:\Program Files\North Building Technologies\ObSys\AlmView.exe O=S1.D10;L=New  
Alarms;OC=61;CI=1;F=Times New Roman 12;IU=1
```

Alarm Database

Whenever the user right-clicks on an alarm in the window, AlmView checks for files associated with the alarm in the Alarm Database, and builds a menu of the options. The Alarm Database is stored within the ObSys 'AlmInfo' directory. Files associated with the alarm are stored within the directory:

```
<ObSysDir>\AlmInfo\<AlarmDevice>\<AlarmPoint>\
```

Any files within the directory are listed for the user (without the file-type), including shortcuts, text-files, etc. If the user selects a file, it is opened.

Refer to the '[ObSys Alarm Database Engineering Guide](#)' for more information.

AlmView.ini File Contents

The AlmView applications that run from an ObSys directory share the same Ini file, which is used for storing colours of the different alarm priorities and the widths of the columns, which display the device, point and condition.

Each section holds details of colours to use for different styles; the command-line can be used to select a style. If no style is specified, the default style "Window" is used.

Each section [...] contains the following keys:

Text<p> - Colour code for the text of alarms with priority <p>

Back<p> - Colour code for background of alarms with priority <p>

Where

<p> is an alarm priority in the range 1...9, or 0

For example: an AlmView.ini file might contain

```
[Window]  
Text1=0  
Back1=255  
Text2=255  
Back2=0  
Text3=191  
Back3=12632256  
WidthDevice=16  
WidthPoint=20  
WidthCondition=30
```

Any unspecified text colours are shown using the default window text colour, and any unspecified background colours are shown using the default window colour.

Objects

When the AlmView application is run the following objects are created within ObServer. Use object software to view or modify these objects.

Object	Label	R/W	Type
Sc ^[1]	System on channel <i>c</i>	-	[AlmView v10]

Notes

[1] The ObServer Channel, *c*, is a number in the range 1...199.