MetLogix



GxLink User's Guide

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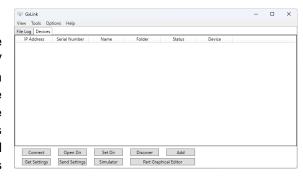
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Introduction

GxLink is a powerful application that can be installed in Windows OS system and used to interface communication between one or more MetLogix Gx200 readouts and the computer. This connection is established via a wired or wireless network connection. Once connected, measurement results can be transferred from the Gx200 to the GxLink application over the network.

What Can You Do With GxLink?

The GxLink application allows users to configure one or more Gx200 devices to send a measurement results file, in CSV or TSV format, directly to a specified folder on the target PC. This folder can be local to the GxLink PC, or a mapped network folder, accessible by the GxLink PC. Data received in the GxLink application will be displayed in a separate tabbed window for each device that is connected. This data can then be sent directly to a Microsoft Excel sheet, or it can be copied to, and pasted from, the Windows clipboard.



Using the GxLink

To use the GxLink application with a Gx200 readout, the GxLink software must be installed on a computer running the Windows operating system. The computer should also be connected to a local network via a wired or wireless network device.



To send data from an Gx200 to an instance of the GxLink software, the Gx200 must have GxLink enabled in setup and the readout connected to a network.

Setting up the GxLink application

With the Gx200 readout connected to the PC's network and the GxLink option enabled in Setup, connecting one or more readouts to the GxLink application is accomplished by *Discovering* the readout from the **Devices** setup page in the GxLink software. The devices are identified by their serial number. To connect to a specific Gx200 readout, highlight the target device and then press the Connect button. This process can be summarized as:

1 Press the **Discover** button to locate and list all the Gx200 connected to the network (if the target device is not already listed). The target readout will now be listed. Alternatively, use the Add button to add to the list the target Gx200 readout if the IP address is known.



Discover

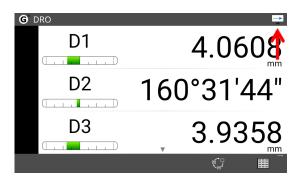
- 2 Rename the target device to a more meaningful name, if desired, by double-clicking on the name field of the target device and typing in the new name. Then press the ENTER key on the PC.
- Highlight the target device and press the Connect button. The status of the device in the list will change from Not connected to Connected.

Connect



NOTE

If the device discovery fails to successfully locate target readout, verify that the Gx200 is connected to a network. If the Gx200 is discovered but fails to connect, verify that a valid IP address is reported in the Export setup menu (Setup -> Export).

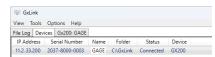




Setting target directory

A local or networked directory can be set on the computer to save the transferred data files. The GxLink sets the default to directory to a subdirectory called *GxLink* in the current Setup documents directory. To set the default to a different directory:

- 1 Highlight the target device in the Devices tab list then press the **Set Dir** button.
- 2 Browse to the target directory using Windows files explorer.
- 3 Select the desired directory and press the **OK** button. The path to the selected directory will be shown on the *Folder* field of the device.



Set Dir

The Open Dir button can be used to open the directory assigned to the currently selected Gx200 device.

Data Operations

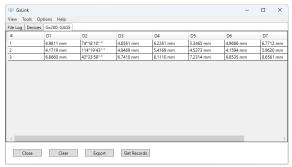
Each connected Gx200 device has its own data tab within the GxLink main window. If the tab of a connected Gx200 readout is not open, double-clicking on the device in the device list will open the tab.

Device data tab

The device data tab contains the name of the device in the tab title, a set of data columns and tab manipulation buttons. The column names are set automatically to the data that has been imported into GxLink application. The tab manipulation buttons include:

- Close button Used to close the tab.
- Clear button Clears the contents of the tab when pressed.
- Export button Opens an Excel sheet and posts the current tab data.
- Get Records button Requests new data records from the Gx200 device associated with that data tab.

A device data tab can be *dragged* out of the main GxLink window, creating its own standalone window. The individual device windows can be recombined with the GxLink application by *dragging* them back in, next to the existing tabs.



Sending Gx200 Data to GxLink

Data is sent to GxLink using the Export Data function in Gx200 or by requesting new data from GxLink using the **Get Records** button. Received data is formatted according to the selected setting in the Export setup page of the Gx200.





NOTE

When data is sent from an Gx200 to the GxLink application, only the most recently transferred data will be displayed in the corresponding device tab and a file is saved in the assigned target directory. When new data is received from the Gx200, it replaces currently displayed data, and a new file is saved in the assigned directory.

Copy/Paste

Results rows within the tab views can be selected using the left mouse button. Selected data rows can be copied to the Windows clipboard according to standard windows convention.

Sortable columns

Ordered sorting of the data columns can be achieved by clicking on the column header label. Column contents will be toggled between ascending and descending order.

Send selected data to Excel

Selected rows in the tabbed view can be sent directly to Microsoft Excel. This feature requires that Microsoft Excel is installed on, and licensed to, the same computer the GxLink is running on. Select the rows of data you would like to send and press the **Export** button. Pressing the **Export** button with no rows selected will send the entire contents of the data tab.

Gx200 Simulator

GxLink contains a simulator function that emulates Gx200 functions. The Gx200 simulator is a powerful tool that can be used to set up the Gx200 readout, test formulas and emulate input and output operations. The simulator contains most functions found in the Gx200.

Get Settings

Before starting to use the simulator, connect to a target Gx200 readout by following the steps above. Once GxLink and the target Gx200 device are communicating, highlight the target Gx200 device in the list and then press the **Get Settings** button to fetch its current settings.



Using the Simulator

To use the simulator, press the Simulator button. A Gx200-like application will open with settings and parts of the target Gx200 readout. If this is the first time the simulator is being used on the PC, GxLink will prompt for the installation of the simulator. Select YES to continue with the installation or NO to cancel. Ensure the Launch after installation checkbox is checked. Otherwise, press the Simulator button again. Once the simulator is running, perform settings and parts edits as desired.





NOTE

The simulator MUST first be installed on the PC before it can be used. Exporting/importing settings/parts from/into the simulator, the default location is the Gx200_Exports subfolder of the Documents system folder. So, to import a part/settings into the simulator, the part/settings file must be copied into the Gx200_Export subfolder.

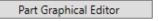
Sending Settings

After making changes to settings and parts in the simulator, test the workflow to ensure they perform the desired operations. Once satisfied with the changes, you can send the edited settings and parts back to the target Gx200 or to a different unit that is in the list and currently connected, by highlighting the unit in the list and pressing the **Send Settings** button. The simulator will close, and a message will be displayed showing the result of the settings and parts transmission to the selected device.

Part Graphical Editor

It may be necessary to prompt the readout operator on how to place the part under measure into the gage fixture using visual cues. This can be accomplished using the intuitive *Graphic* gage type display. To design the graphical gage, use the *Part Graphical Editor* in GxLink. To use the Part Graphical Editor, follow these steps:

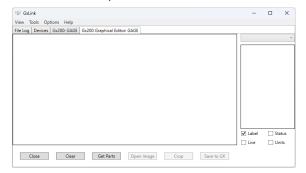
- 1 Run GxLink and connect to a target Gx200 readout.
- 2 Highlight the target Gx200 readout and then press the **Part Graphical Editor** button. A tab named *Gx200 Graphical Editor:* <*Readout name>* will open.



Gx200 Graphical Editor tab

The Gx200 Graphical Editor tab contains the name of the device in the tab title, an image marking area, a parts dropdown list field, a dimensions column, and tab manipulation buttons. The tab manipulation buttons include:

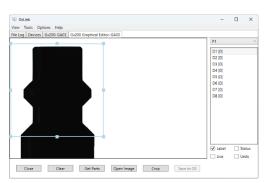
- Close button Used to close the tab.
- Clear button Clears the contents of the tab when pressed.
- **Get Parts** button Gets all parts in target Gx200 readout.
- **Open Image** button Opens Windows file browser for browsing to an image to be used.
- **Crop** button Crops the image to the size of bounding square.
- Save to Gx button Saves the graphical data to the Gx200 device associated with the tab.

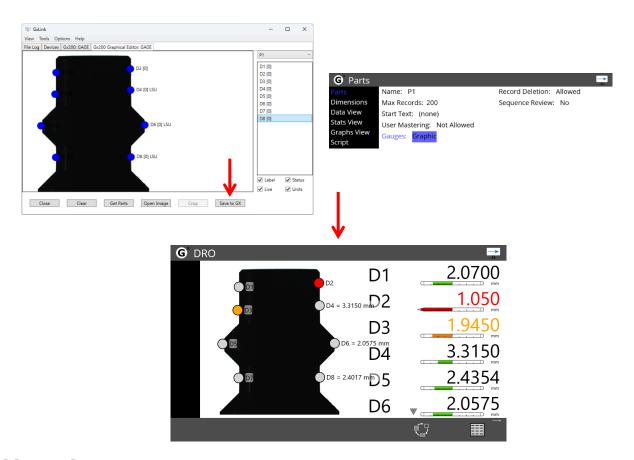


Marking the Part Graphics

The first step to marking a part graphics is to get the parts from the Gx200 device. Press the **Get Parts** button to get the parts. Then:

- 1 Select the desired part from the dropdown list.
- 2 Press the Open Image button and browse to the desired image.
- 3 Resize and move the marquee bounding square to include the desired regions of the image.
- 4 Press the **Crop** button to crop the image under the square.
- 5 Add dimensions information to the image by selecting the dimension and clicking on the image.
- 6 Drag the dimension to reposition on the image as desired.
- 7 Once done, press the **Save to Gx** button to send the information back to the Gx200 device.
- 8 To display the graphic on the Gx200 device, set the part gauges field to *Graphic*.





Additional Functions

Listed below are some additional settings and controls in the GxLink software:

<u>View menu</u>

Select the corresponding item from the view menu to add a new tab for the *File Log* and *Devices* if the tab has been dragged out. Otherwise, it brings the tab to the forefront.

Tools menu

The GxLink software contains tools to restore the previous status of the unit. The submenu tools include:

- **Simulator** This menu item opens the simulator using the settings from previous session unlike when opening it using the **Simulator** button. If it is the first time, the simulator will start with default settings.
- Backup The backup function gets settings and parts from the connected Gx200 and saves them to the PC.
- **Restore** The restore function loads the connected Gx200 with unmodified settings and parts. These configuration parameters are from the last backup.

Options menu

The Options menu provides a way to set the preferences for the GxLink application. The submenu include:

- Launch on Startup When checked, GxLink will launch when Windows OS starts.
- **Language** Brings up a language selection dialog. Select the desired language and press the OK button. The application restarts to apply the language change.

<u>Help menu</u>

Access a copy of the User and Setup guide in PDF format by selecting the *Help...* item from the **Help** menu. Software version information can be found in the **Help -> About** menu item.

File Log

A tab displaying a history of all transferred data files from connected Gx200 devices to the GxLink application. The file log is cleared on program shutdown.

Run in the Background

The GxLink application can be minimized to the Windows Taskbar system tray. The application can be restored by single-clicking the tray icon. The application can be closed by right clicking on this tray icon. When exiting the application, you will be given the option to run in the background, close the application entirely, or to return to the GxLink window.

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If any part of this Agreement is found void and unenforceable, it will not affect the validity of the balance of this Agreement, which will remain valid and enforceable according to its terms. This Agreement may only be modified in writing, signed by an officer of MetLogix, Inc. The English version of this Agreement will be the version used when interpreting or construing this Agreement. This is the entire Agreement between MetLogix and you relating to the Software and it supersedes any prior representations, discussion, undertakings, communications, or advertising relating to the Software.

11. Notice to U.S. Government End Users

For U.S. Government End Users, MetLogix agrees to comply with all applicable equal opportunity laws including, if appropriate, the provisions of Executive Order 11246, as amended, Section 402 of the Vietnam Era Veterans Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974 (38 USC 4212), and Section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the regulations at 41 CFR Parts 60-1 through 60-60, 60-250, and 60-741. The affirmative action clause and regulations contained in the preceding sentence will be incorporated by reference in this Agreement.

12. Compliance with Licenses

If you are a business, company, or organization, you agree that, in addition to any license compliance checking performed by the Software, MetLogix or its authorized representative have the right, no more than once every twelve (12) months, upon ten (10) days' prior notice to you, to inspect your records, systems, and facilities to verify that your use of any and all MetLogix software is in conformity with your valid licenses from MetLogix. For example, MetLogix has the right to those of your records useful to determine whether installations of the Software have, or have not, been serialized, and you shall provide such records to MetLogix promptly upon request by MetLogix. Additionally, you shall provide MetLogix with all records and information requested by MetLogix in order to verify that your use of

any and all MetLogix software is in conformity with your valid licenses from MetLogix within thirty (30) days of MetLogix' request.

13. Peer to Peer Communications

The Software may use your connection to a local area network, without additional notice, automatically connect to other MetLogix software and, in doing so, may indicate on the local area network that it is available for communication with other MetLogix software. These connections may transmit the IP Address of your connection to the local network but no personally identifiable information is ever transmitted or received through such network connections (except to the extent that IP addresses my be considered personally identifiable in some jurisdictions).