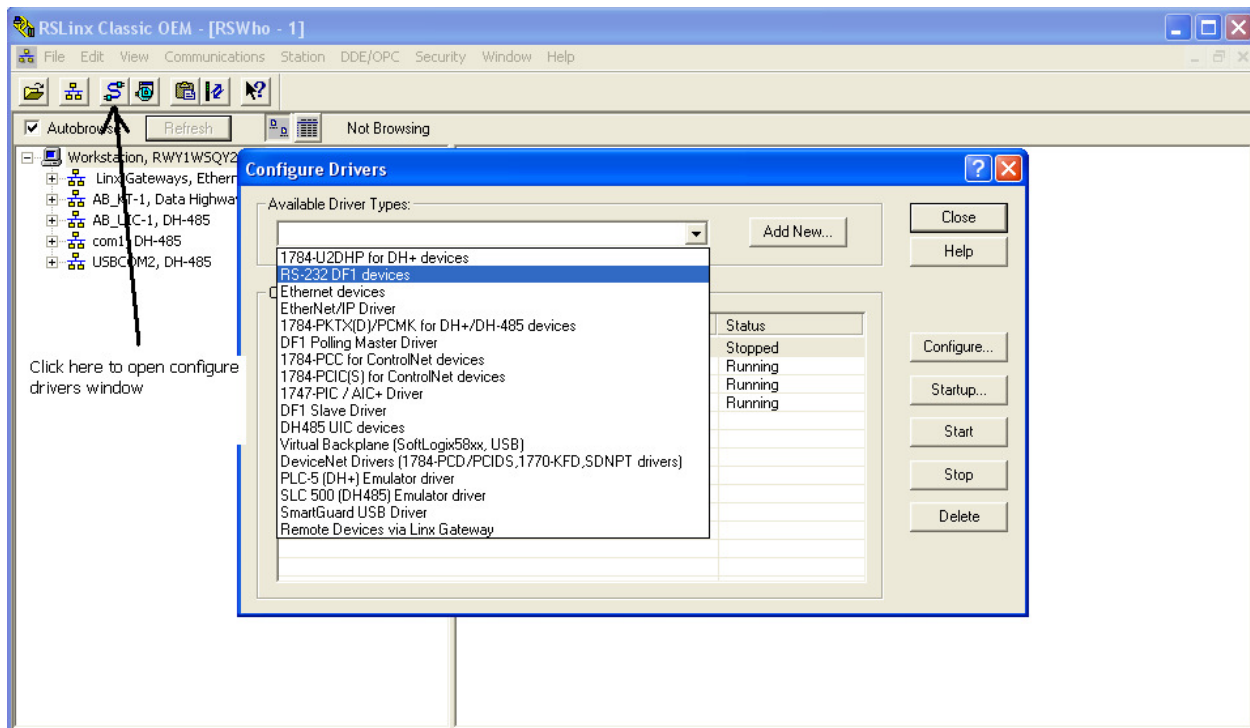


Communication Set-up

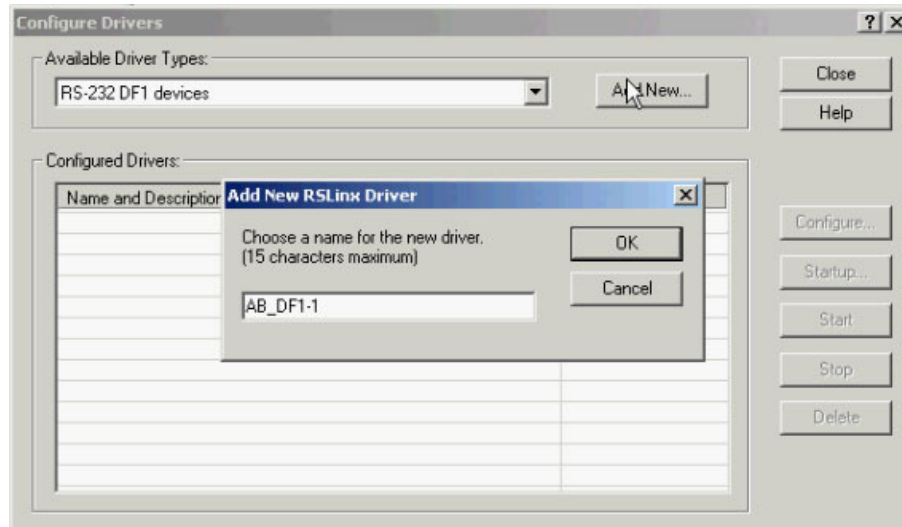
You'll need two communication software packages to program your Allen Bradley PLCs one of which is called RSLinx, and the programming package called RSLogix 500 if you are programming a SLC or Micrologix PLC. This Procedure will cover connecting to a Micrologix configured as DF1.

Out of the box the Micrologix is configured as DF1 or RS-232. We will connect to the PLC with the default parameters.

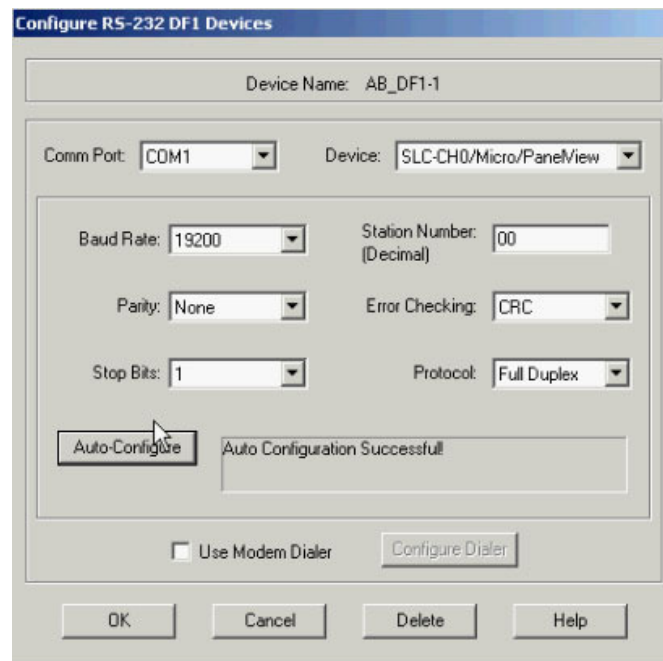
Start by launching RSLinx communication software. If you did not install RSLinx, please do so now. Once the software is started, try and not click on any of the "+" signs. This starts the last configured driver and activates this driver. A driver cannot be deleted in the configuration portion once it's running. Most generally, you have to close RSLinx and re-start if you want to delete a driver that is active or running already or stop the driver.



Click on Communications, then Configure Drivers. You'll see this popup window



Click on Add New and find RS-232 DF1 devices in the pull down menu, and leave the default driver name as AB_DF1-1. Click OK, then you'll see the driver configuration screen.





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The DF1 driver configuration screen is nice because at this point you should have your programming cable connected and you can click on Auto-Configure. RSLinx will run through all the baud rate settings and try and auto detect the PLC settings. Most of the time this works pretty good. If it did a good job you'll see an Auto Configuration Successful message appear in the box to the right of the button you just pressed. If you get an error, try restarting RSLinx at least once and try Auto Configure one more time. Once you have your driver configured you can go back to the RSWho window and now click on the "+" sign. This will start the driver. If all is well you should see your computer and the PLC you are trying to communicate with in the menu tree list.

If everything is equal or matches in the PLC, RSLogix will display the green power rungs on the left and right. If it's not a match, generally you'll probably want to do an upload at this point. Go ahead and click upload and then once the program is uploaded RSLogix should go online.

To go on line with your CPU, open RSLogix and open your program that you want to use then click on the top menu bar COMMS then System Comms.... Then click the new driver that you just configured (you may have named it something other than DF1) on the right you should see your CPU, click on it then click Online/Upload/Download (one of the three) if you are going to upload then you will need to create a new file. If you are downloading or going on line you should have had the correct program loaded, if not you will need to before downloading.

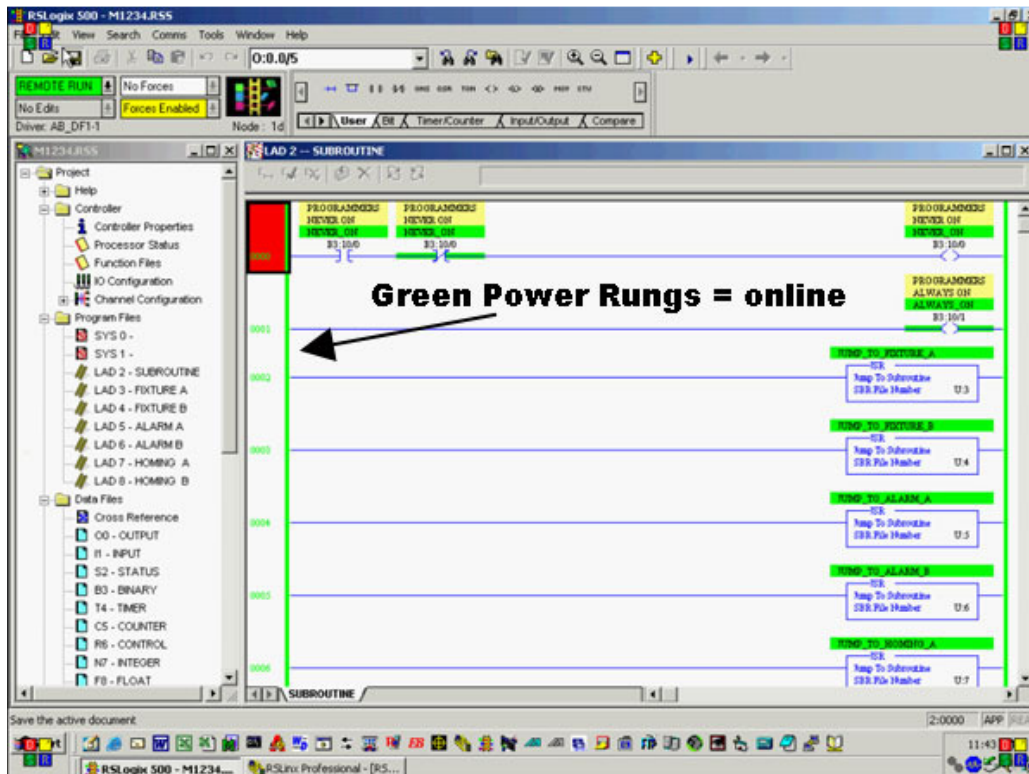
The next screen shot is what your program should look like after you are one line, the green lines indicate that the logic is true/on



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If the last driver was the not that same as the driver you just used, you might get a warning from RSLogix if it's ok to change the last driver used. Just read the warning prompt and you'll start to understand what RSLogix is trying to tell you.

I'll offer a couple of tips. If you plan on connecting to another PLC or protocol, I always suggest that you close RSLogix and RSLinx. Then restart RSLinx, do not click on the "+" signs and go to configure drivers. Highlight the DF1 driver and click DELETE. Now you can configure a new driver or different protocol. If the driver is giving you problems, close and restart RSLinx. Sometimes RSLinx will try and take over the computer com port while it is running. If you notice this has happened, shutting RSLinx down will release the com port back to the windows system.

Remember to download RSLogix user manual, as this will cover many of the basics that we have skipped, we are trying to teach you something that is not covered in any manuals or books.

http://literature.rockwellautomation.com/idc/groups/literature/documents/gr/lg500-gr002_-en-p.pdf

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