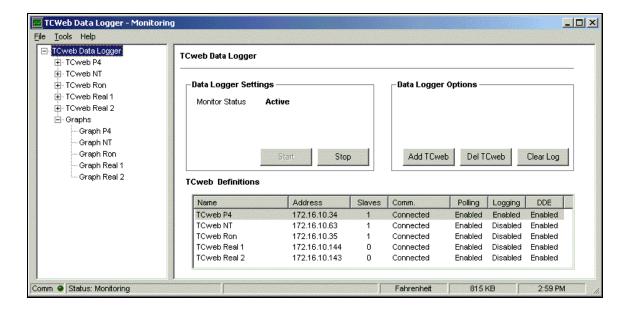
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# **TCweb Data Logger**





# **TCweb Data Logger** November 9, 2005 Rev D

# **Quick Start Guide**

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#### **Quick Start Guide**

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#### Overview

Tidal Engineering's TCweb Data Logger is an off-the-shelf, cost effective and efficient software application designed to capture data from multiple TCweb Thermocouple monitors and presenting it in various forms for analysis and control. The TCweb Data Logger runs on a standard Windows PC and communicates over TCP/IP to any number of TCweb units.

While connected, data is gathered from multiple remote TCweb's and stored in a data base. This data can then be exported to an Excel file for analysis or graphed directly in the Data Logger. Additionally, the TCweb Data Logger functions as a DDE (Dynamic Data Exchange) server which makes it compatible with a large number of industrial HMI/MMI applications including Wonderware™. An unlimited number of sensors can be DDE enabled and read from external applications. The TCWeb Data Logger also has an OPC server that allows OPC monitoring on all its sensors via any standard OPC client.

The full version of the TCweb Data Logger adds support for multiple configurations, sensor alarms and the e-mail/fax alarm notification system.

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#### **Features**

#### General

- TCweb Data Logger monitors an unlimited number of TCwebs.
- Multiple user configurations can be loaded. Each configuration has its own list TCwebs, graphs and logs for simple organization of large monitoring systems. (Full Version)

#### **Tree View**

- The TCweb's tree view provides a powerful and intuitive user interface for configuring and monitoring a complex network of TCweb units.
- Tree view hierarchy goes four levels deep:
  - o Root level: TCweb Data Logger settings & information.
  - o 1<sup>st</sup> level: TCweb settings & information and graphs.
  - o 2<sup>nd</sup> level: module settings & information
  - o 3<sup>rd</sup> level: sensor settings
- All screens and actions are accessible from main tree view.
- Main tree view displays icons for tracking the Logging and DDE state of all the TCwebs, modules and sensors defined in the Data Logger, providing the user with full configuration information in one location.
- TCweb, module and sensor names are editable for easy identification of items attached to the sensors.

## Logging

- Unlimited number of sensors can be logged to a database.
- Log can be exported to text file for analysis in programs such as Excel.
- Log can be displayed in a grid for immediate review.

#### Graphing

- Multiple graphs can be added to the tree view for quick visual analysis of sensor readings.
- Up to 32 sensors can be viewed on any given graph.
- Graphs can update in real time to show past 24 hours of sensor readings.
- Graphs can show historical graphs of past week, month and year.

#### DDE

- TCweb DDE server supports Wonderware and other HMI applications
- Unlimited number of sensors can be DDE enabled for remote data capture.

#### OPC

- TCweb OPC server supports standard OPC conventions used in industrial automation and the enterprise systems that support industry.
- Unlimited number of sensors can be OPC enabled for remote data capture.

#### Alarms (Full Version)

- Programmable list of recipients.
- Eight alarm categories.
- Built in E-Mail capabilities (Requires e-mail account)
- Built in Fax capabilities (Requires fax modem and telephone line)

## **Quick Start Guide**

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# **Specifications**

**Table 1: TCweb Specifications** 

Item	Range (Light Version)	Range (Full Version)	
PC Requirements	Pentium II 300 MHz or higher	*	
RAM	128 MB or higher	*	
TCweb	0 – 512 TCweb master modules	*	
Slaves	0 – 15 modules per TCweb	*	
Sensors	17 / module, 272 / TCweb max	*	
Communication	TCP/IP	*	
Polling Sample Rate	Once every 5 seconds	*	
DDE Monitoring	Unlimited Sensors	*	
OPC Monitoring	Unlimited Sensors	*	
Logging Rate	5, 10, 30 or 60 seconds	*	
Log File	CSV text file	*	
Database	MS Access 2000	*	
Graphing	0 - 24 Sensors	*	
Graphing Real-time Range	0 - 24 hours	*	
Graphing Database Range	7, 30, 365 days & All readings	*	
User Configurations	1	1 – 64	
Sensor Alarms	NA	High / Low Limits & Disconnect	
Application Alarm Notification	NA	Audio & Visual	
Remote Alarm Notification	NA	Email & Fax	
Price	Free	Contact Tidal for price quote	

<sup>\*</sup> Identical ranges for light and full versions

**Table 2: RAM Requirements** 

Defined TCwebs & Slave Modules	Amount of RAM Used		
TCweb w Master Module Only	600 K		
Each additional Slave Module	600 K		
1 TCweb with all 15 Slaves Enabled	9.6 MB		
16 TCweb with only Master Slaves Enabled	9.6 MB		
16 TCwebs each with all 15 Slaves Enabled	154 MB		

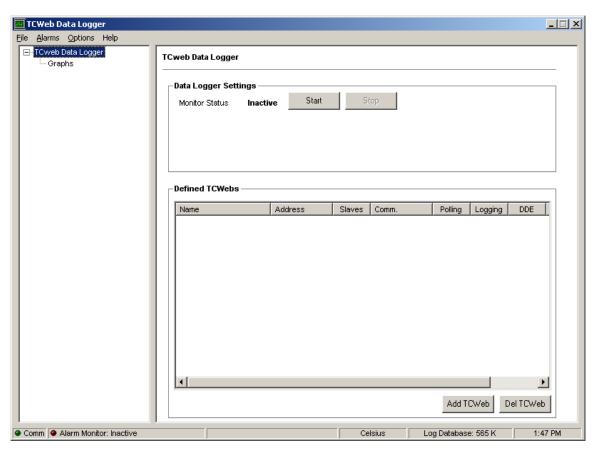
<sup>\*</sup> The amount of RAM needed is dependent on number of TCwebs & slave modules enabled.

**Table 3: Sensor Reading & Log Value Constants** 

rable of collect from an ig a log rather collectants			
Text Displayed	Reading Logged	Description	
Open	-1000	Open Sensor	
ComEr	-2000	Communications Error	
N/S	-3000	No Sensor	
N/C	No Reading Logged	Not Connected	

# **Navigation**

## **TCweb Data Logger Application**



TCweb Data Logger - Home Screen

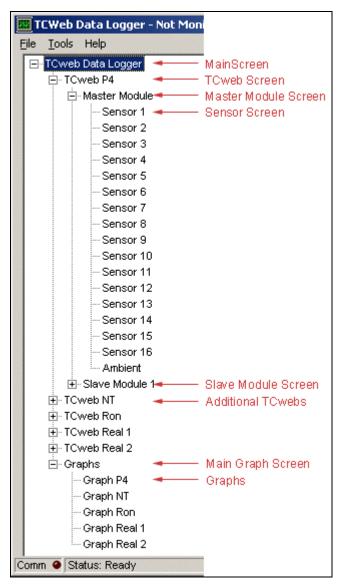
The TCweb Data Logger is divided into 2 sections, the left side is the navigation panel, the right side is the information panel. By clicking items in the navigation panel, you can view corresponding data in the information panel.

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#### **Quick Start Guide**

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## **Navigation Panel**



The TCweb Data Logger has 6 main screens that appear on the information panel. The 6 main screens are:

- Main Home
- TCweb
- Module
- Sensor
- Graphs Folder
- Graphs

Click on the desired item in the navigation panel to display its data and settings in the right side information panel. For example, click on the second tree view item "TCweb P4" to display the TCweb screen. Click on the fourth tree view item "Sensor 1" to view the sensor screen.

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#### **Quick Start Guide**

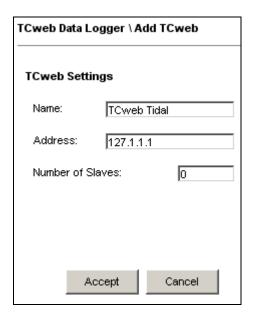
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## **Getting Started**

#### 1. Define a TCweb

In the navigation panel, click on the first tree view item TCweb Data Logger. The Home screen will appear in the information frame. Press the Add TCweb button.

You will then see the Add TCweb screen. Enter a descriptive name for the TCweb you are monitoring. In the example to the right, we named our TCweb "TCweb Tidal". In the beginning it is helpful to precede the name with TCweb so that the TCwebs in the navigation screen have an identifying label.

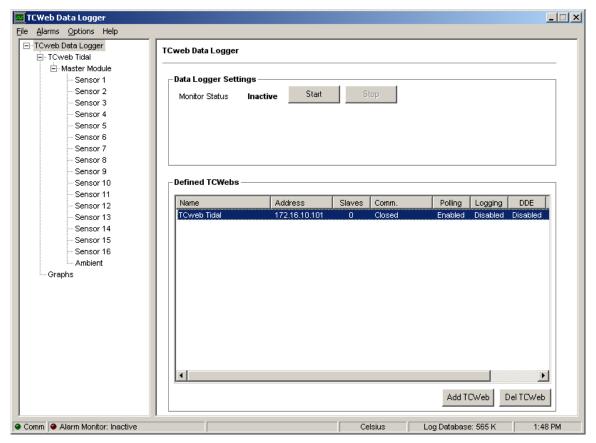


Add the IP Address of the TCweb you wish to monitor. Then add the number of slaves that are attached to the TCweb, provided you wish to monitor those too.

You can change these settings later by going to the TCweb screen and pressing the Edit button.

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Your screen should now look like the one below. The TCweb Definitions list displays the TCweb's Name, IP Address, Number of Slaves, Communication Status, Polling State, Logging State and DDE State.

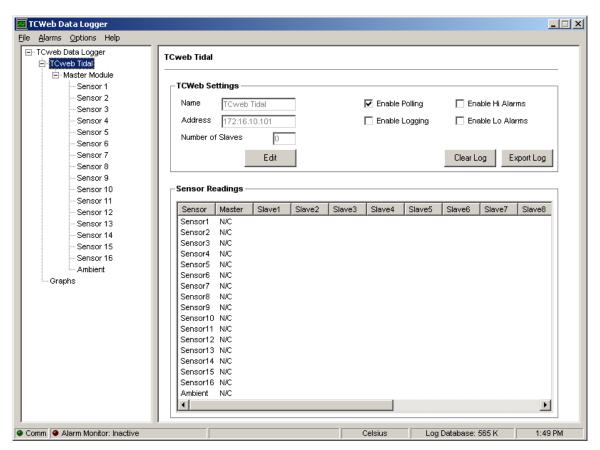


Home Screen: One Defined TCweb

If you want to delete a TCweb, select its row in the TCweb Definitions list, then press the Del TCweb button on the Home screen.

## 2. Enable Polling

Click on your TCweb name in the navigation panel to display the TCweb Screen.



**TCweb Screen** 

To enable polling for this TCweb, tick the Enable Polling. You not be able to monitor this TCweb if the polling checkbox is left unchecked.

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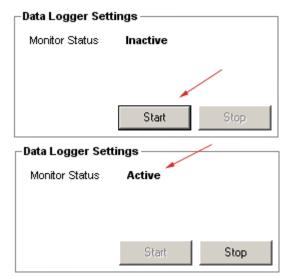
## **Quick Start Guide**

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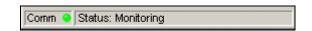
## 3. Start Monitoring

To start monitoring your TCweb, navigate to the Home screen and press the Start button.

After pressing the Start button the Monitor Status label will read Active.



The status bar at the bottom of the application has a flashing green light that indicates that all TCwebs are currently being polled for data every 5 seconds, provided they have the Polling Enabled box checked.



If you suspect a connection may have failed, go to the Home screen and locate your TCweb in the TCweb Definitions list. Follow the row to the right until you see the communications column (Comm.) If the connection is live it will read Connected. If the connection didn't work, it will either read Error or Closed. If the connection failed, confirm that polling is enabled for this TCweb, check the IP Address setting for the TCweb and make sure your connection to the internet is working. If all your settings are correct, press the Stop monitoring button, wait a few seconds, the press the Start button again. Under normal conditions, if a TCweb was connected and is remotely disconnected, the Data Logger will try to reconnect automatically every 15 seconds.



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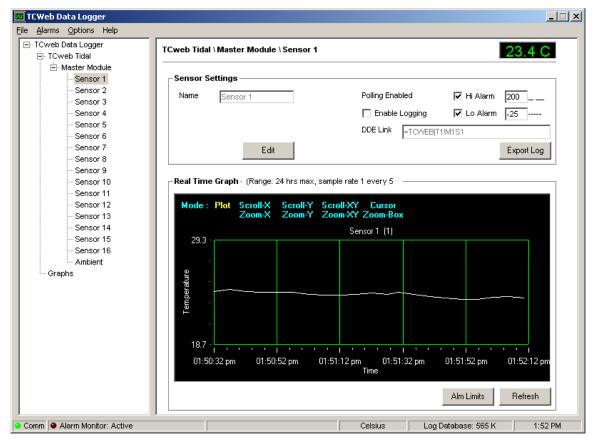
## 4. TCweb Temperature Readings

You can view the temperature readings for the whole TCweb from the TCweb screen. The list is refreshed once per second. If the TCweb is not connected the readings will display N/C (Not Connected). If the TCweb is missing a sensor, it will read N/S (No Sensor). If a sensor is open it will read Open. If a sensor is an error state, it will read ComEr (Communications Error). See the Sensor Reading & Log Value Constants table for a complete list of system constants.

Sensor Readings			
Sensor	Master	Slave1	I
Sensor1	298.0		
Sensor2	298.1		
Sensor3	298.2		
Sensor4	298.3		
Sensor5	298.4		
Sensor6	298.5		
Sensor7	298.6		
Sensor8	298.7		
Sensor9	298.8		
Sensor10	298.9		
Sensor11	299.0		
Sensor12	299.1		
Sensor13	299.2		
Sensor14	299.3		
Sensor15	299.4		
Sensor16	299.5		
Ambient	299.6		
1			

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## 5. Individual Sensor Temperature Readings



#### **Sensor Screen**

You can view individual Sensor temperature readings from the Sensor screen. The Reading text box displays the sensor's current temperature reading. The Real-Time graph displays all the readings for this sensor taken over the last 24 hours. The sample rate is once every 5 seconds. If the application has been running less then 24 hours, it will only display the readings gathered from when the application started. If you close the application and restart it, the graph buffer is cleared and the Real-Time logging starts from time zero again. Real-Time graphing is different then database logging. Real-Time data is kept in RAM an is lost when you close down the application. Database logging is stored in a database is remains intact after you close down and restart the application.

You can manipulate the graph display by selecting one of the graph controls at the top of the graph (the items in blue).

- *Scroll XY* scroll the graph horizontally or vertically.
- Zoom XY zoom in or out of the graph along either the X or Y axis.
- Cursor place the vertical cursor on the graph line to get the reading.
- Zoom Box mouse down on the graph, drag down and right to create a zoom box, then release the mouse button. The boxed in area is expanded to the size of the entire graph.

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## 6. Enable Logging

If you wish to log the temperature readings for a specific sensor, for later export to a CSV text file, navigate to the Sensor screen by pressing the Sensor tree view item in the navigation panel. Check the Enable Logging box. The sensors readings are logged to a database once every 60 seconds. You can change the logging rate to 30, 10, 5 or 1 seconds from the Options window discussed later in this guide.

If you wish to log the temperature readings for an entire TCweb module, you do not have to individually select logging for each sensor. Instead, simply go to the Module screen (by clicking on the navigation panels module tree view item) and tick the module's Enable Logging checkbox. This will automatically check all the Enable Logging checkboxes for all associated sensors. If you wish to log all the sensors in every module within a TCweb, go to the TCweb screen and tick the Enable Logging checkbox. This will automatically tick all the checkboxes for all modules and sensors within the TCweb. You may uncheck, or disable, the Enable Logging checkboxes in a similar fashion in the Sensor, Module and TCweb screens.

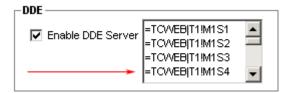
If a TCweb's Enable Logging checkbox is checked and grayed out, it means that some of the sensors are checked and some are unchecked.

You can clear a log file for an entire TCweb by navigating to the TCweb screen an pressing the Clear Log button. You can also clear all logs in the entire database from the Options screen, covered later in this guide.

#### 7. Enable DDE

If you wish to use an external application such as Wonderware<sup>™</sup> to monitor the TCweb via DDE (Dynamic Data Exchange), go to the Options screen and tick the Enable DDE Server checkbox.

After ticking the box you will see the DDE link list box display the DDE connection link names. You will need to copy each link exactly and past it into you external DDE application.



On the TCweb Data Logger installation CD, there is a Microsoft Excel file (TCDDE.xls) that functions as a remote DDE application. Simply start monitoring with the TCweb Data Logger then open the TCDDE.xls file. It will automatically refresh the sensor's temperature readings in the Excel file.

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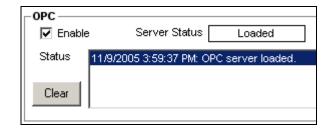
#### 8. Enable OPC

If you wish to use an external OPC client to monitor the TCweb, go to the Options window and, in the OPC frame, select the Enable checkbox.

Note: MODBUS TCP/IP OPC is also available for the TCWeb using an external program called TOP Server. Please contact Tidal Engineering for more information on MODBUS TCP/IP OPC.



After ticking the box you will see the OPC status box display a confirmation that the TCweb's OPC server was loaded successfully.



Next, start your OPC Client software. In this manual we use ExpertTune's OPC Test Client. ExpertTune's interface allows you to select the sensors to read through a graphical interface similar to Windows Explorer. If you need to manually type the connection address, follow these OPC naming conventions:

#### Node.Server.Item

**Node** is the application name (value is fixed). **Server** is the OPC server name (value is fixed).

**Item** is the TCwebName.ModuleName.SensorName (values are user modifiable fro within the TCweb Data Logger).

Node	Server	TCweb Name	Module Name	Sensor Name
TCWebDataLogger	OPCSerever	TCweb99	Master Module	Sensor1

In our example we named our TCweb "TCweb99" and left the names of the module and sensor at their default value "Master Module" and "Sensor1". The resulting connection string is:

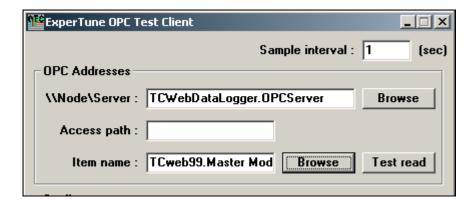
"TCWebDataLogger.OPCSerever.TCweb99.Master Module.Sensor1"

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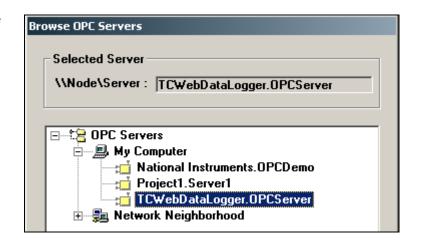
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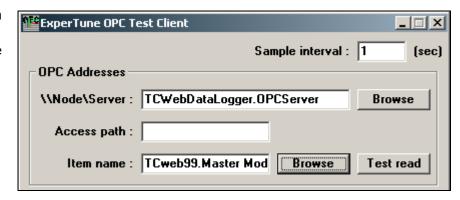
Using the ExpertTune OPC Client, in the Node Server area, Press the Browse button.



Select the name of the TCweb Data Logger's OPC server.



Next, in the Item Name area, press the Browse button.

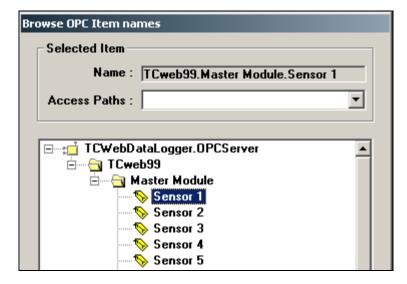


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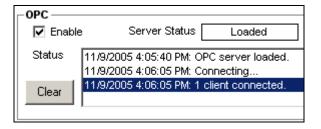
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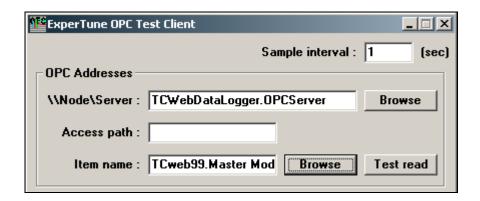
Select the name of the sensor or sensors you would like to monitor.



The TCweb's OPC status window will display a connection confirmation message.



Next, press the Test Read Button.

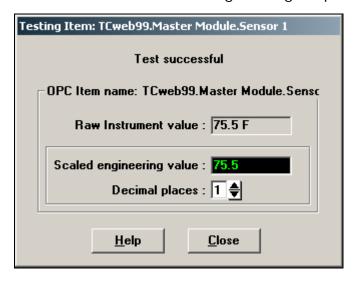


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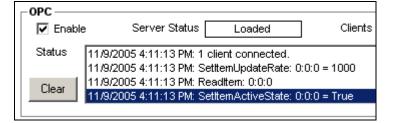
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The monitored sensor's value will be updated in your OPC clients window. Here the value of the sensor is 75.5 degrees Fahrenheit.



The TCweb's OPC status window will display a read item confirmation message.

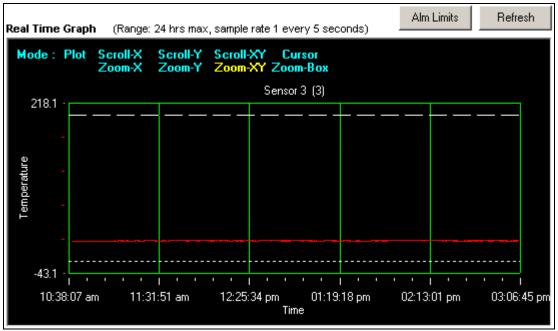


# 9. Enable Alarms (Full Feature Version Only)

To enable alarm monitoring, add a value to the Hi Alarm field and check the Hi Alarm checkbox. Repeat the process for the Lo Alarm, if desired. When change the alarm range, it will automatically clear the checkbox, you must recheck the checkbox to enable alarm monitoring for that sensor. You may enable alarm monitoring from the TCweb and Module screens too. The actual temperature values, however, can only be entered in the Sensor screen.

To view the alarm limits in the graph, press the Alm Limits (Alarm Limits) button. The upper alarm limit is represented by a white dashed line, the lower limit is represented by a white dotted line. Press the reset button to set the graph back to its original display mode.

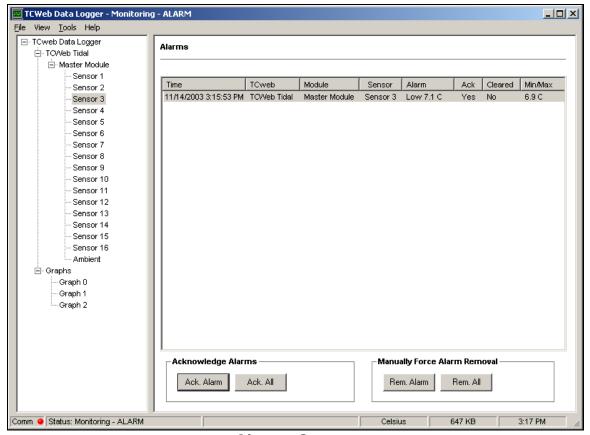
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Sensor Graph with Alarm Ranges

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## 10. Alarms Screen (Full Feature Version Only)



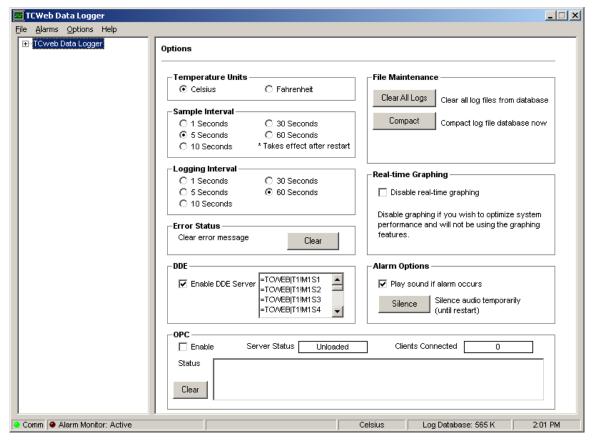
**Alarms Screen** 

When an alarm occurs, the title bar will flash alternately between blue and gray and an audible beeping alarm will sound. Go to the Alarms screen by clicking View on the menu bar and select Alarms. The Alarms screen displays the time the alarm occurred in the first column. The next three columns display the TCweb, module and sensor in alarm condition. The Alarm column shows if it is a high alarm and the sensor reading that was out of range. The Ack (Acknowledge) column shows if a user has seen the alarm yet. The cleared column shows if the alarm condition has cleared. The Min/Max column shows the sensor reading that was most out of range since the alarm occurred.

If an alarm occurs and is added to the alarm list, it will remain until the alarm condition has cleared and the user has acknowledged the presence of the alarm. The user must press the Ack Alarm button to let the TCweb Data Logger know that a user has seen the alarm. If an alarm clears itself, such as the temperature coming back in range, then the Cleared column will read Yes. With both the Ack and the Cleared columns reading yes, the alarm will automatically be removed. The alarm will not clear itself unless both the Ack and Cleared columns read Yes. If you press the Stop Monitoring button, all alarm conditions will have their Cleared fields set to Yes.

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## 11. Options Screen



#### **Options**

There are several system wide options that are user configurable. To change these options, go to the main menu bar and select Options.

Use this window to set the temperature units to either Celsius or Fahrenheit. The temperature units setting is displayed in the status bar at the bottom of the application.

You can set the sample interval to 1, 5, 10, 30, or 60 seconds. A change in the sample interval does not take affect until after you shutdown and restart the application. Internal buffers that store the real-time sensor readings are created during the applications load sequence. Small sample intervals (5 seconds) create large storage buffers and require a larger memory footprint and utilize more system resources. Larger sample intervals (60 seconds) create smaller buffers and thus require a smaller amount of system memory and resources.

Caution: The one second interval should only be used when only one TCWeb is defined, and without any slaves. Enabling one second sampling with more then one TCWeb or multiple slaves may overload the system.

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You can set the logging frequency to 1, 5, 10, 30 or 60 seconds. Logging at 5 second intervals provides greater resolution, but will increase the size of the database considerably quicker. When the database gets large (grater than 50 MB) it degrades to performance of the TCweb Data Logger and lengthens the time is takes to draw graphs and export log files. Logging at 60 second intervals results in less resolution, but maintains a smaller database file for longer periods of time. We suggest you set the frequency to 60 seconds unless you determine the increase in resolution is worth the cost in performance.

Caution: The one second interval should only be used when only one TCWeb is defined, and without any slaves. Enabling one second logging with more then one TCWeb or multiple slaves may overload the system.

The size of the database is displayed in the status bar at the bottom of the application, on the lower right, next to the time.

If the log file becomes large, you may clear a TCweb logs by pressing the Clear Log button in the TCweb screen. If you press the Clear Log button in the Options screen, it will clear all the logs in the database for all TCwebs.

With Microsoft Access, deleting log files does reduce the size of the database. To reduce the size of the database you must first delete the log files you desire, then you must also compact the database. To compact the database, press the Comp. button in the Options screen. It may take several seconds to a full minute for the database to complete the compacting process. Check the database size in the status bar before and after compacting to monitor the results of the compacting.

If you tick the Compact Database Automatically at Startup checkbox, the database will automatically compact every time you start the TCweb Data Logger application. The benefit of this is that your database is always optimized. The drawback is that it may take several seconds to a full minute for the TCweb Data Logger application to start.

The TCWeb Data Logger offers OPC monitoring capabilities on all the sensors. To enable the OPC server check the Enable box in the OPC frame. Once the server is activated, you may connect to it using any standard OPC client application.

The Alarm Options section is only available in the Full Featured version. To enable audible alarms, check the Play Sound if Alarm Occurs checkbox. If you wish to temporarily turn off the audible alarm, press the Sound Off toggle button. This will turn off the sound until the next time you restart the application. To turn the sound back on, press the toggle button which will now read Sound On. When you restart the TCweb Data Logger, it will adopt the Play Sound if Alarm Occurs checkbox setting regardless of the state of the toggle button.

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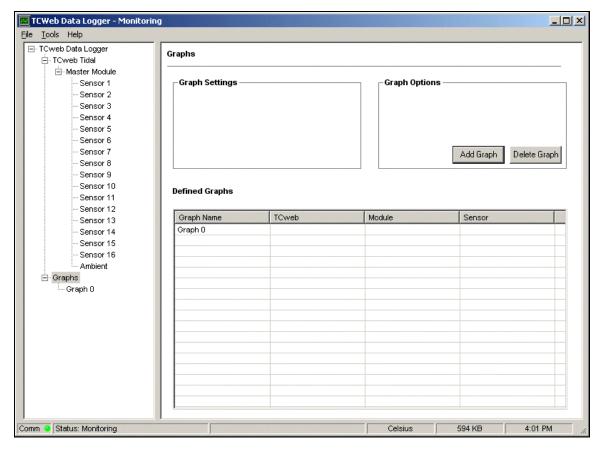
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The Real-time Graphing option allows you to disable the real-time graphing component of the TCWeb Data Logger. Real-time graphing requires the majority of the resources in the data logger. If you intend to use the data logger as simply a DDE or OPC server then you may want to disable real-time graphing to free up your computers resources.

The bottom center of the status bar will display an error light and error ID if an error should occur. A more detailed description of the error is logged to the ErrLog.dat file in your application directory. To clear the error light and error ID in the status bar, go to the Options window and press the Clear button in the Error Status frame.

The DDE frame is used to enable the DDE server. Refer to the DDE section of this document for a more detailed description.

## 12. Creating a New Graph



**Graphing Folder** 

To add a graph to the TCweb Data Logger, go to the Graphing Folder by clicking on the Graphs item of the navigation panel. Press the Add Graph button in the Graph Screen. A graph named Graph 0 will automatically be added to both the Defined Graphs list and the tree view navigation panel.

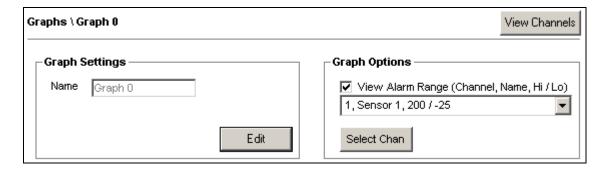
## 13. Selecting Channels to Graph



#### Graph

To view the new graph click on the Graph 0 item in the navigation panel.

To select specific sensors (or channels) to graph, press the View Settings toggle button at the top right. The top half of the graph will be replaced by the Graph Settings and Graph Options frames and the button will now read View Channels.



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Press the Select Chan button to open the Select Channels screen.

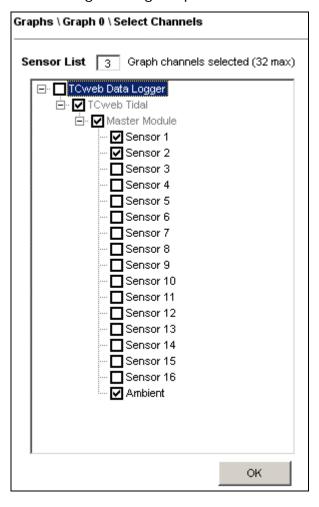
The Select Channels tree view control is displayed it the information panel on the right. This tree view control contains all the defined TCwebs, their modules and sensors. Check any sensors you want to graph. You may select sensors from the same TCweb or multiple TCwebs. The graph has an operating limit of 32 sensors. Functionally, however, any more then 8 sensors on graph may become graphically cluttered. If you need to graph more then 8 sensors, consider creating multiple graphs.

After you select the desired sensors to graph, press the OK button. You will be returned to the Graph window.

Note: Any sensor that is in a graph will be logged to the database regardless of whether or not its Enabled Checkbox is ticked.

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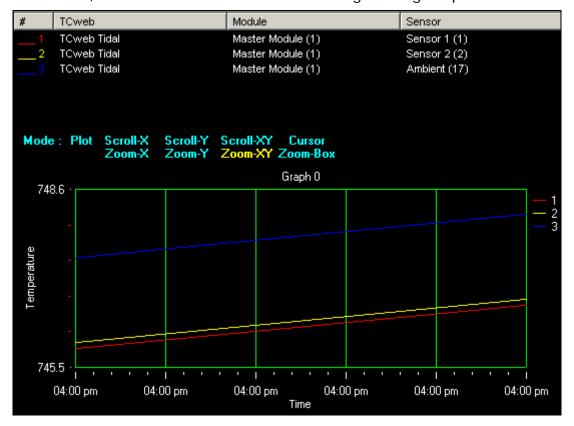
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Press the View Channel button in the upper right to remove the Graph Settings and Graph options frames and return to the full graph mode.

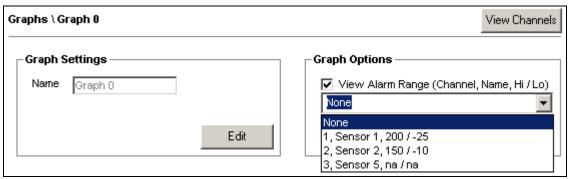
The graph now displays the selected sensor's readings. Listed at the top of the graph are the 3 sensors channel numbers we selected, the color line, and the TCweb, module and sensor that the line represents. The graph is manipulated in the same way as previously explained under the Individual Sensor Temperature Readings section. Press the Refresh button to bring the graph back to its original display state.

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**Graph with Data** 

The default History setting, at the bottom of the graph window, is set to read the Real-Time 24 hour buffer. You may optionally select to display the readings form the database. You can select to show the readings logged from the past 7, 30 or 365 days. You may also select then All button to see all of the date logged since the first record was logged to the latest record. If there is a large amount of logged data, the graph may take a few moments to draw. A progress bar is displayed to track the progress of the drawing of the graph.



Alarm Ranges in the Main Graph

The main graph screen lets you display alarm ranges the same as the Sensor screen's graph can. The only difference is that in the main graph you must select which alarm ranges you want displayed. Press the drop-down box and

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select the sensor's ranges you wish displayed. The drop-down box shows three comma separated fields: the channel number, the name of the sensor and its hi/lo ranges. Sensors that have no ranges specified will display "na" (Not Available). Tick the View Alarm Range checkbox to view the range limits on the graph. To reset the graph to show the hi and low alarm limits, press the Alm Limits (Alarm Limits) button.

#### 14. Saving Settings

To preserve your settings you must go to the main menu bar, select File and Save Settings. Your settings are saved to a dat file. The next time you load the TCweb Data Logger application, your settings will be loaded too. When you shutdown the TCweb Data Logger, the application will ask you if you want to save your settings before closing. Select yes if you want to save your settings, no if you do not.

If you make changes and do not save your settings before you close down the TCweb Data Logger, you will lose your changes the next time you load the application.

#### 15. Loading a Configuration

When you load the TCweb Data Logger application it loads the settings you last saved. If you have many TCwebs defined, each with many slave modules enabled, it may take a few moments to load. A progress bar will track the loading process and keep you informed of it status.



About TCweb Data Logger Screen Application Loading Progress

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**Quick Start Guide** 

16. Help

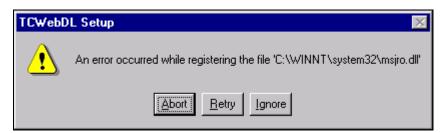
The screen above is also available from the main menu bar. Select Help, then About. The About TCweb Data Logger screen displays the name, part number, version, copyright and contact address for upgrades and trouble shooting.

## **Appendix A: Installation Issues**

**1**. If during your installation you see the following error, you will need to reboot your computer and start the installation again.



**2**. If during your installation you see either of the following error, you will need to Abort the installation process. Go the Support folder on the installation CD and double click on the MDAC\_TYP.EXE file. This will install updated database system files. After that installation completes, start the TCweb Data Logger installation again.



**3**. If during your installation you see the following error, press the **IGNORE** button. You installation should complete successfully. This Error will occasionally occur on some Window 98 and NT machines. If you later find that the TCweb Data Logger is not saving configurations, you will need to uninstall the TCweb Data Logger. Go to the Support folder and double click on the MSXML.MSI file. This will install XML support for the TCweb Data Logger. After that installation completes, start the TCweb Data Logger installation again.

