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## **AlphaStringUpdateCtrl Interface**

### **1.1 Properties**

#### **Enabled**

Returns or sets the enable flag within the Alpha String Update Control.

Data type = boolean

#### **ConnectMode**

Returns or Sets the type of communication the Alpha String Update Control uses to communicate with displays.

Data type = short

- 0 – Serial Communication
- 1 – TCP/IP (SOCKETS) communication.

#### **NetworkAddress**

Returns or sets the network address used for communicating with displays.

Data type = string

A TPC/IP address (e.g. 207.67.12.57) string to locate a display on the network. If the ConnectMode is set to 1 (TCP/IP) this must be a valid IP address.

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# Alpha String Update Control

## Alpha String Update Control API

### NetworkPort

Returns or sets the network port.

Data type = short

The NetworkPort property is used to connect to a display using TCP/IP. The default value is 3001.

### SerialComPort

Returns or sets the serial communication port that is used to communicate with a display,

Data type = BSTR (string)

“COM1”

...

“COM16”

This property must be set to a valid COM port if a ConnectMode of serial (2) is selected. The default is COM1.

### SerialBaudRate

Returns or sets the baud rate used by the Alpha String Update Control during serial communications.

Data type = long

Valid values:

110

300

600

1200

2400

4800

9600

14400

19200

28800

38400

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## Alpha String Update Control Alpha String Update Control API

56000  
57600  
115200  
128000  
256000

This property must be set to **19200** when the ConnectMode is serial (0).

### SerialParity

Returns or sets the parity used during serial communication.

Data type = BSTR (String)

Valid values:

Even  
Odd  
None  
Mark  
Space

This property must be set to **None** when the ConnectMode is serial (0).

### SerialStopBits

Returns or sets the stop bits used during serial communication.

Data type = short

Valid values:

1 or 2

This property must be set to **1** when the ConnectMode is serial (0).

### SerialDataBits

Returns or sets the data bits used during serial communication.

Data type = short

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# Alpha String Update Control

## Alpha String Update Control API

Valid values:  
4, 5, 6, 7, 8

### **SignAddress**

Returns or sets the sign address of the display.

Data type = short

Valid values:  
00 - 255

## **1.2 Methods**

### **Initialize**

Forces the Alpha String Update Control to initialize or re-initialize the serial or TCP/IP connection with a display.

### **UpdateString**

[in] BSTR bstrLabel,  
[in] BSTR bstrText,  
[in] short nColor,  
[in] short nFlash

The UpdateString method sends string updates to a display.

BSTR bstrLabel – The string label that is to be updated. Valid values are A-Z, a-z and 1-9.

BSTR bstrText – The string value that will be associated with the string label.

Short nColor – The color of the string text. Valid values are 1=Red, 2=Green and 3=Amber.

Short nFlash – If the string text should flash. Valid values are 0=Flash Off and 1=Flash On.

Return Values:

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## Alpha String Update Control Alpha String Update Control API

S\_OK - Method succeeded.

E\_FAIL – Method failed.

E\_INVALIDARG – Method failed because of an invalid argument to UpdateString.

### Known Issues

If the Alpha Ticker Control is used within Excel97 the control is not displayed in design mode until the user resizes the rect of the control.