



ATEX PLOG

Version 4.1



User manual

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Introduction

The Atex PLOG 4.1 is a configuration and diagnostic software for the ATEX exCONTROL explosion protection units. For explosion protection units with a panel PC, it is used for visualization and enables the system states to be shown on the display of the ATEX exCONTROL.

The software communicates with the protection system via USB - RS 485 adapter. Individual exGUARD modules can also be connected directly via the USB port on the top with a USB cable.

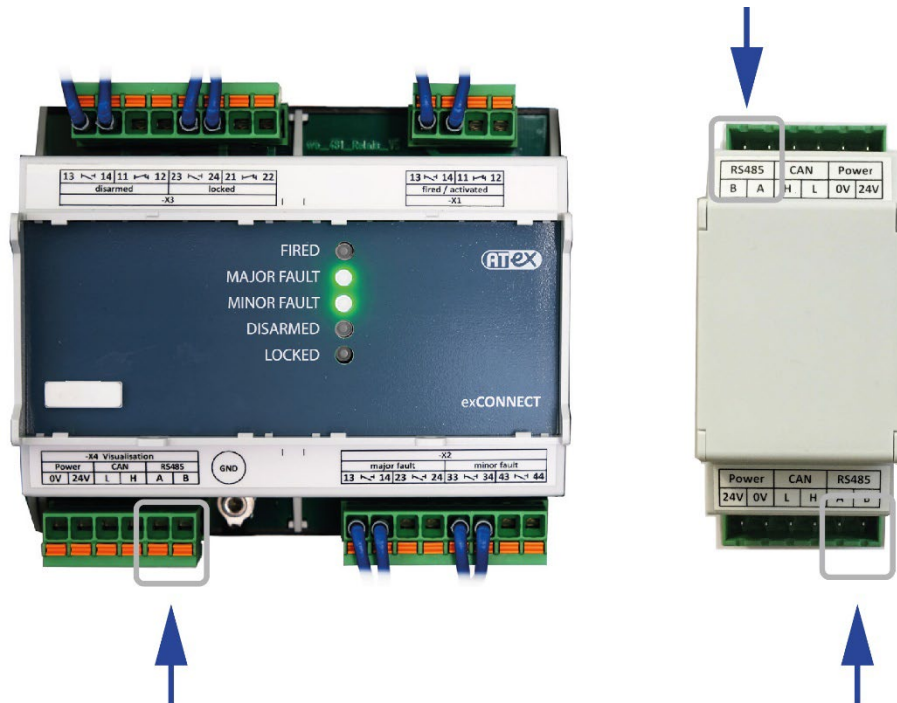
NOTE: The PLOG 4.1 software must be unlocked by an activation code during the initial setup.

It is not downward compatible with previous ATEX explosion protection systems. For the configuration of protection systems with ATEX LOG components, the PLOG3 software is still required.

Connecting to the exCONNECT module in the exCONTROL control unit

A connection must be established between the PC and the exGUARD evaluation unit.

For this purpose, the USB to RS-485 adapter cable is connected to the exCONNECT module or the breakout adapter:

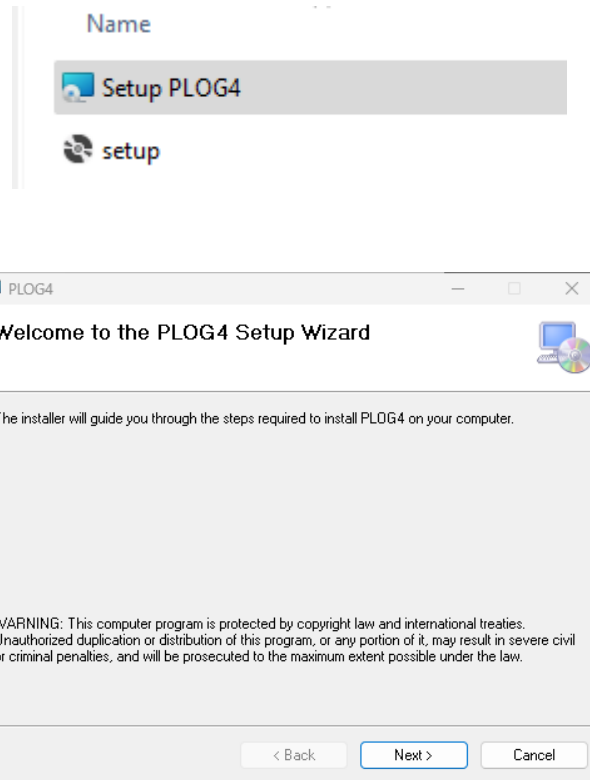


The connection can also be established with a USB cable directly via the USB port on the top of the exGUARD module. (USB 2.0 A male to mini B cable):



Installing the PLOG 4.1 software

Open the file “Setup PLOG 4.1” and follow the instructions of the Installation Wizard:



After successful installation, the software is located at the location previously defined in the installer.

Updating the PLOG 4 software

On systems on which a PLOG 4 version has already been installed and activated, the software is installed as described above. The previous activation code (which you received from ATEX for the previous version) is not valid any longer. A new activation code is required. Please follow the instructions given in the order form.

Update on exCONTROL Panel PC

Important note: After the update, it is necessary to enter the activation codes for both Admin mode and "Kiosk/ATEX" mode. Without these codes, the software will no longer function. Therefore, the software may only be updated if the existing activation codes are available and it is ensured that a new one can be generated immediately if the codes do not work.

The PLOG 4.1 software on the panel PCs in the exCONTROL control units must be updated in ADMIN mode.

PLOG 4.1 upgrade procedure on panel PCs

Note: To make the update process as smooth as possible, it is advisable to have the following items to hand:

- PLOG 4.1 installation software on a USB stick
- external keyboard and mouse (possibly the ATEX password keyboard)

In addition, both the Administrator and the (ATEX) software release key must be available. It is advisable to save this on the USB stick that is also used for the software installation. After starting the newly installed software, the layout file must be eventually configured and saved again.

To be on the safe side, the current layout file should also be copied and saved on the USB stick.

By default, the ATEX PLOG 4.1 software runs on the panel PC in "Kiosk mode" under the "ATEX" user account. For changes to the PLOG 4.1 software or for updates of the operating system, it is necessary to change from the standard user "ATEX" to the user "Administrator".

This is usually done with the key combination CTRL+ALT+DEL.

For this purpose, either a keyboard can be connected or the "Handle Keyboard" can be used:



The Handle Keyboard has four keys with pre-programmed functions and connects to any free USB port on the Panel PC:

1
Strg+Alt+Del.
Opens selection page and
enables restart

3
Strg+Shift+Esc
Opens the Task-Manager

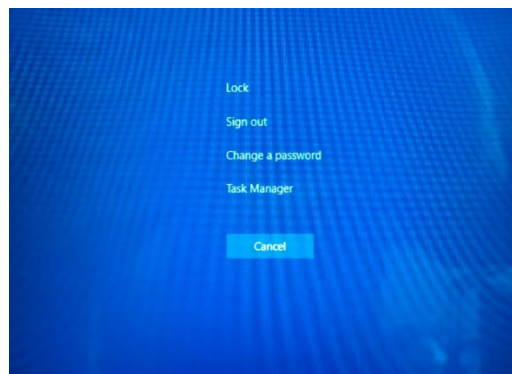


2
.....
Inserts the administrator
password

4
Alt+F4
Closes the active application

Switch to administrator mode with the Handle Keyboard:

1. start PC, wait until PLOG 4.1 software is displayed
2. Connect the Handle Keyboard (HK) to a free USB port > Red indicator lights up on the HK
3. Press key **1**, blue selection page appears:



4. select the "sign out" menu item here

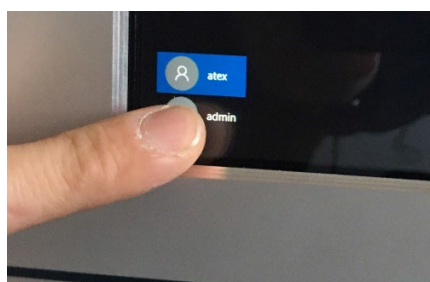
Lock screen is displayed



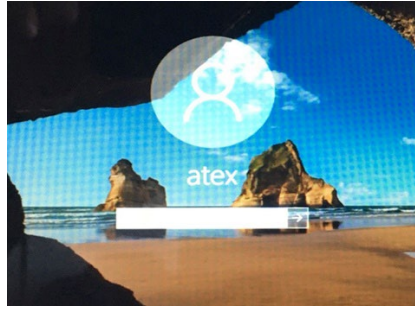
5. Press key **1** at „Handle Keyboard“ again, or "swipe up" in the touch display. Login screen with input field for the password is displayed:



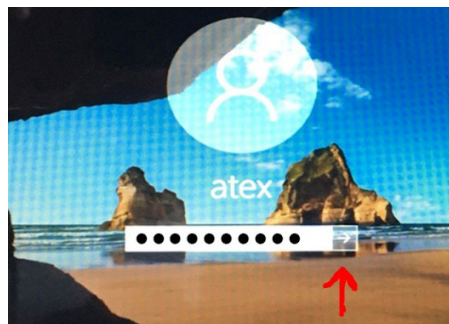
6. Select "admin" in the lower left corner.



7. If necessary, activate the input field by touching it.



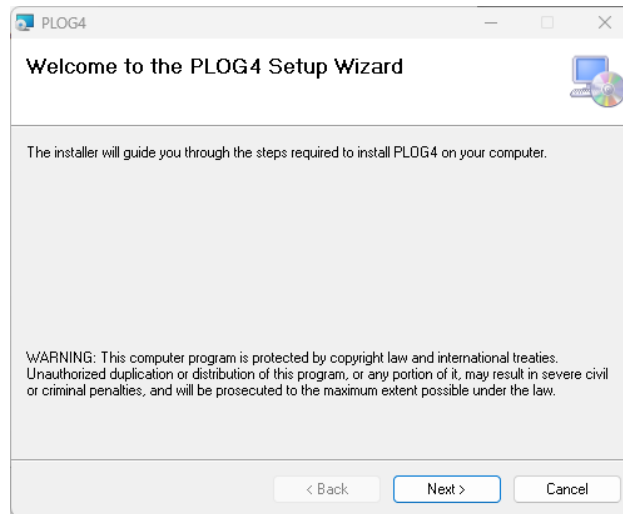
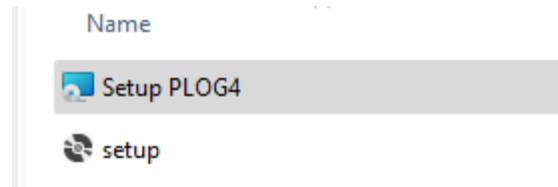
8. Press key **2** at the „Handle Keyboard“, the administrator password will be inserted automatically.



9. Confirm the password by tapping the arrow in the input field.
Panel PC starts in administrator mode



The software update can now be carried out from the USB stick. To do this, start the PLOG 4.1 installer and follow the instructions of the installation programme.



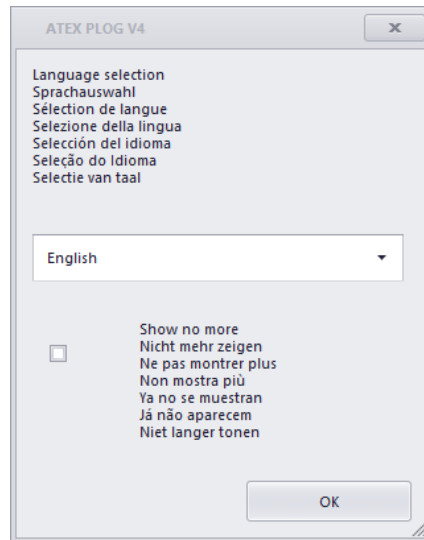
The installation location must not be changed, as the default settings for the software are also stored here. Once the installation is complete, the software will be located in the “ATEX” subfolder within the “Programs” folder.

Note: Previously, the PLOG software was installed in the “Programs (x86)” folder because the preliminary version did not yet support 64-bit systems. In addition to the software, the “ATEX” directory also contains the firmware for the exGUARDs (including the bootloader) and the latest FTDI driver.

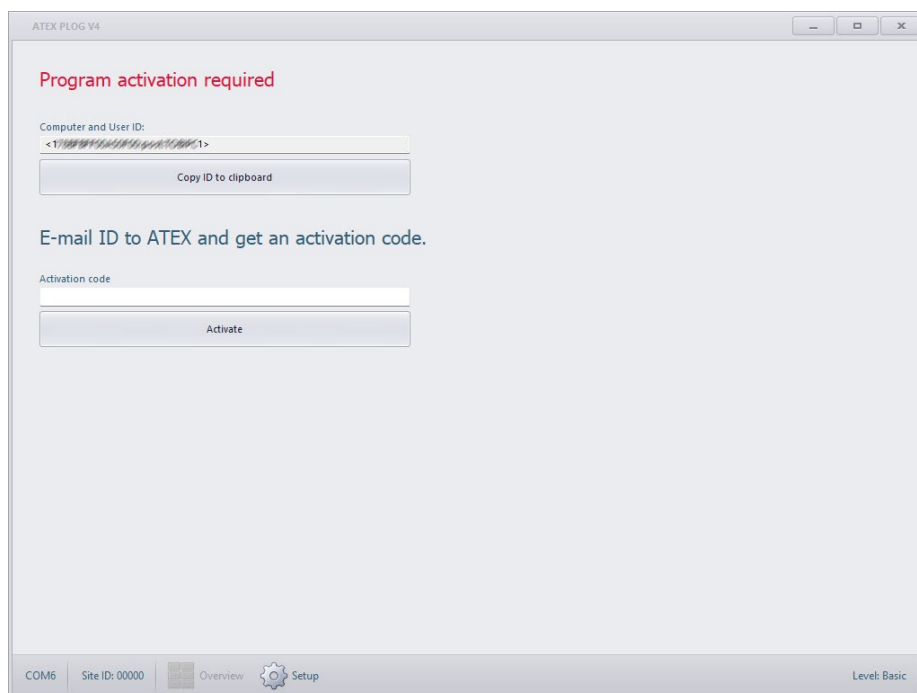
Start the software by clicking on the desktop icon.



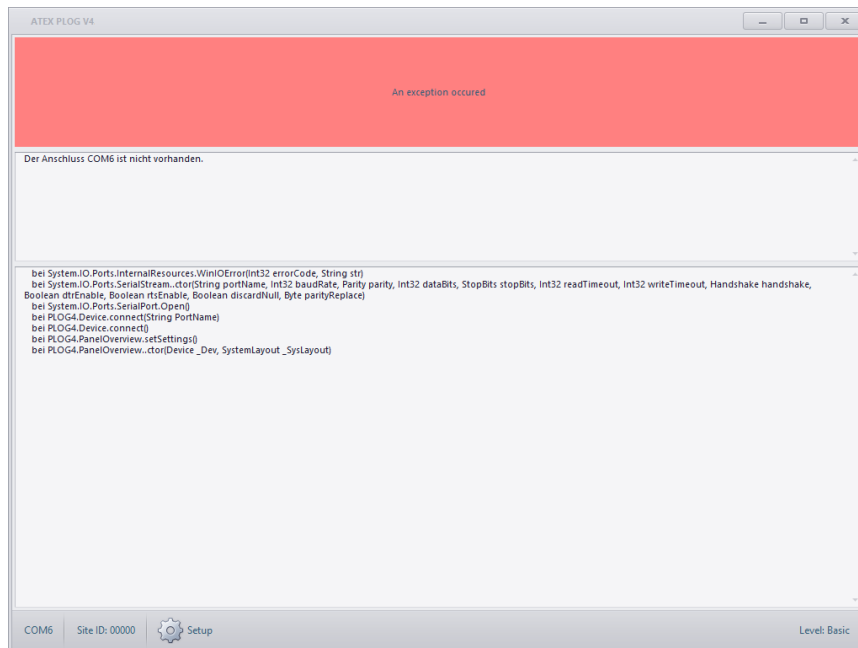
A double-click starts the software with the language selection window. Note: If the “show no more” checkbox has been ticked in the software before, the language selection will not appear.



Select your language here and click on the "show no more" button if you want to set the language permanently. If you do not click on the button, the language selection window will appear every time you start the program. The language can be changed at any time in the admin menu under the Miscellaneous tab. After setting the language by clicking on the "OK" button, the software registration window appears:



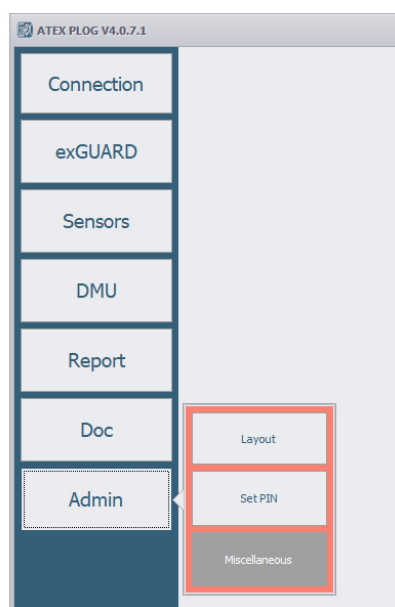
After entering the registration code a error message may occur. This message can be ignored as it is caused by a missing layout file



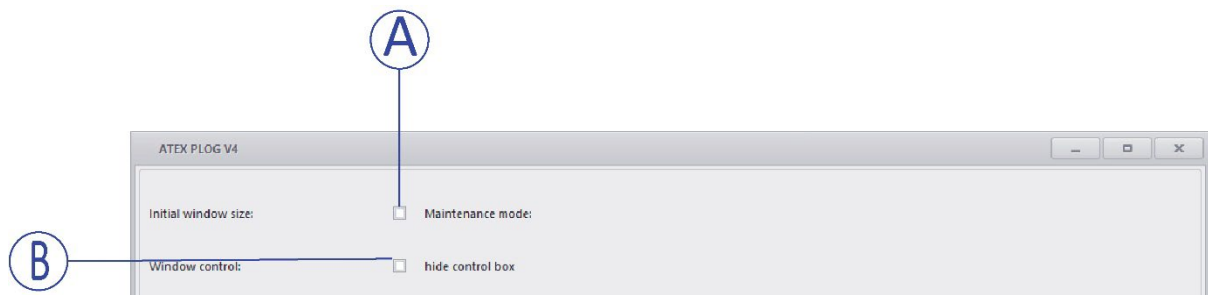
click on the "Setup" button at the bottom of the window:



Then go to Admin / Miscellaneous



And tick the checkboxes (A) (B). This is necessary to set the window size and visibility of the window for displaying the PLOG 4.1 software in full screen mode:



Make sure that the other parameters such as language and layout file are also set correctly. You can find the descriptions for this in the PLOG 4.1 user manual.

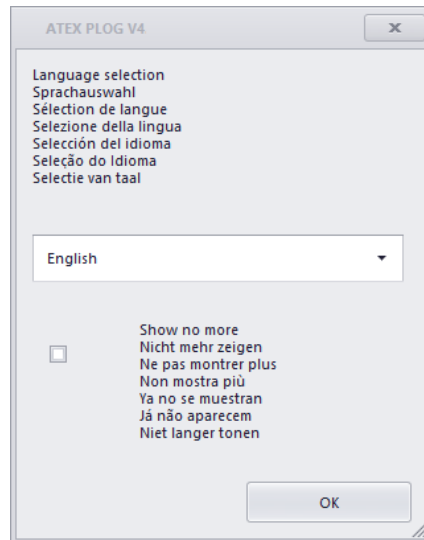
Once the software has been successfully installed and configured, the Panel PC must be switched back to kiosk mode (user ATEX). Changing the user is carried out as described above either via a connected keyboard or again via the "Handle keypad".

Please note that the password for the "ATEX" user is "atex".

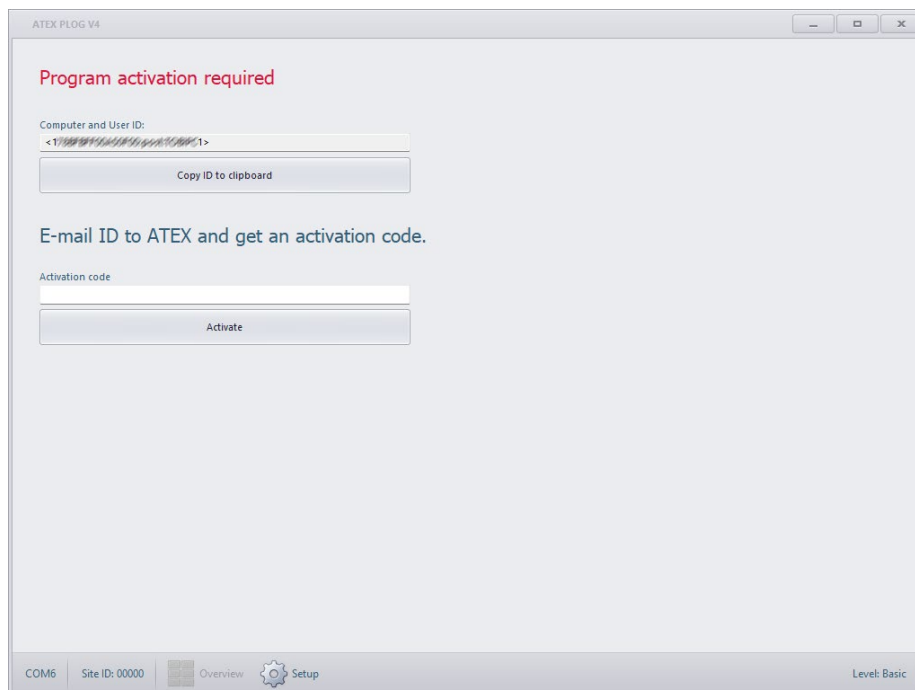
Now start the software in kiosk mode and enter the PLOG 4.1 software registration key for the user "ATEX".

Initial setup and activating the software

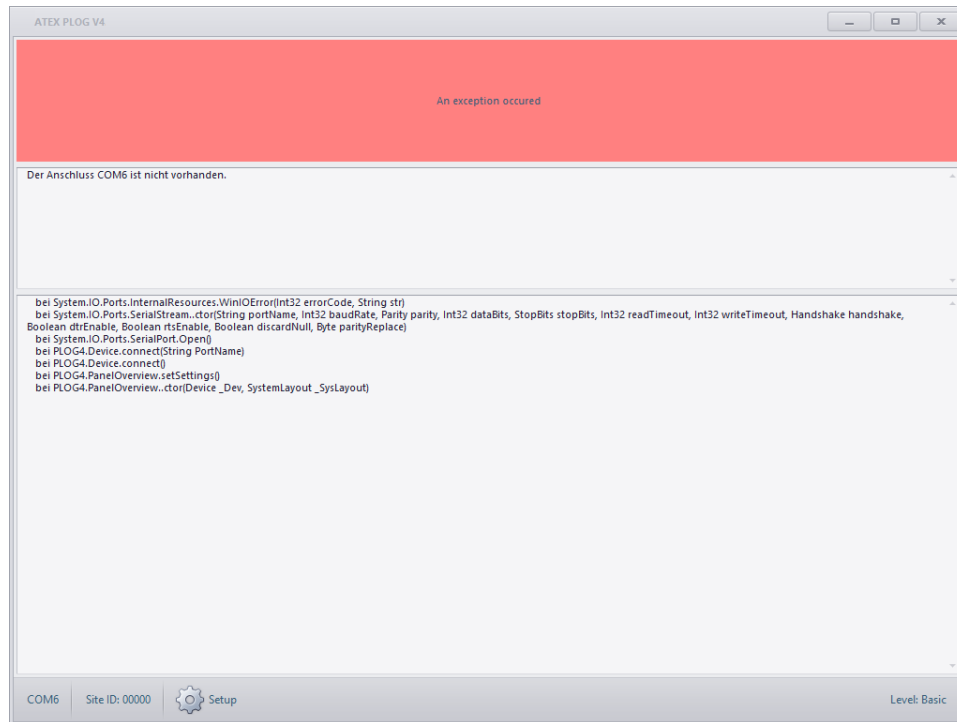
A double-click starts the software with the language selection window:



Select your language here and click on the "show no more" button if you want to set the language permanently. If you do not click on the button, the language selection window will appear every time you start the program. The language can be changed at any time in the admin menu under the Miscellaneous tab. After setting the language by clicking on the "OK" button, the software registration window appears:



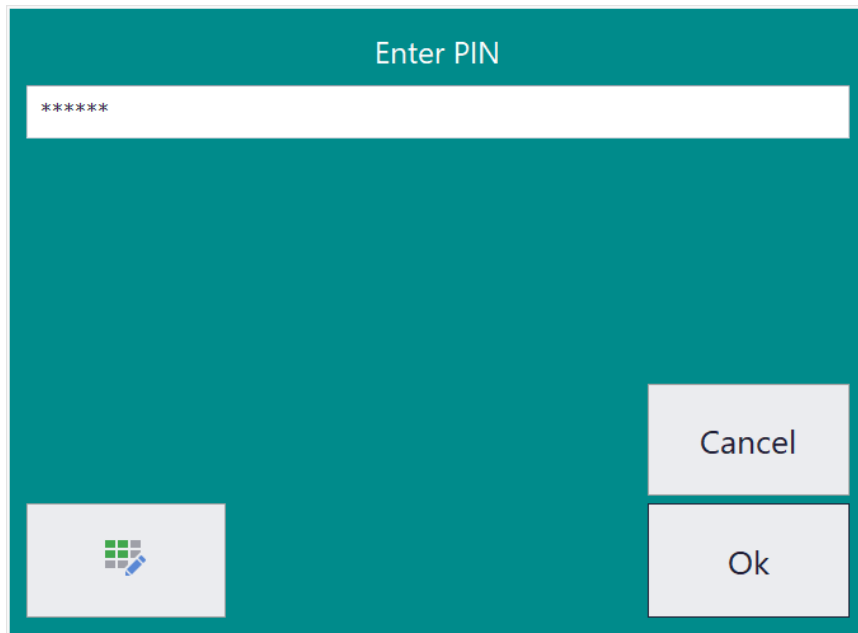
After entering the registration code which you have received from ATEX after sending your user ID, the software starts with an error message. This is because no connection with the exCONTROL or exGUARD has been set up yet:



First make sure that your computer is connected to the exCONTROL and then click on the "Setup" button at the bottom of the window:



The PIN must be entered to access setup mode:



Note: There are different access rights. Depending on the authorization level, certain functions are possible. There are three authorization levels, two of which require password entry.

Basic:

The system states of the exGUARD modules, sensors and actuators can be read out without entering a password. In addition, the type of sensors, their configuration and the configuration of the exGUARD modules (Remote enable / Crossfire are displayed).

This authorization level enables the view of all information displayed on the start screen.

Standard

For the standard user with restricted access rights, the PIN 000000 is preset. This can be changed in the menu item ADMIN > SET PIN

Administrator

Any change to the triggering parameters or the stored data can only be made after passwords have been entered.

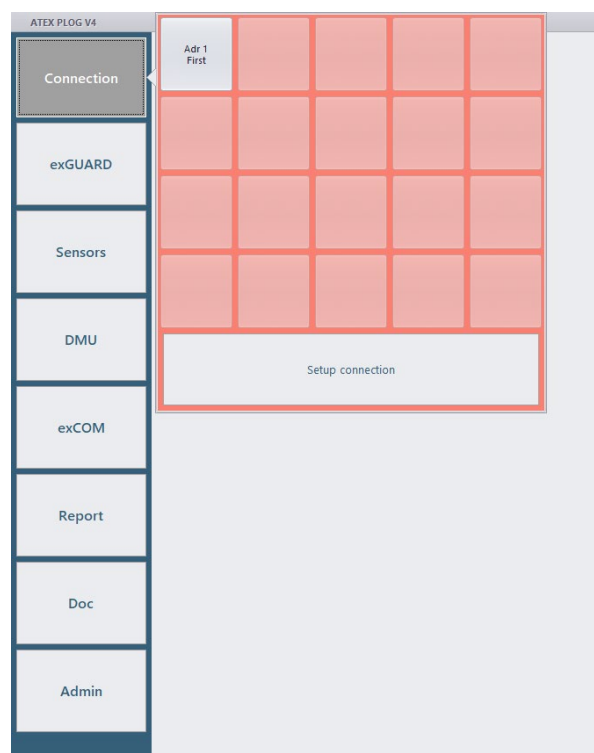
These changes can only be made by employees of ATEX or, in special exceptional cases, by specially trained operator personnel and simultaneous assumption of liability by the operator.

After entering the PIN the so called “setup” window opens:



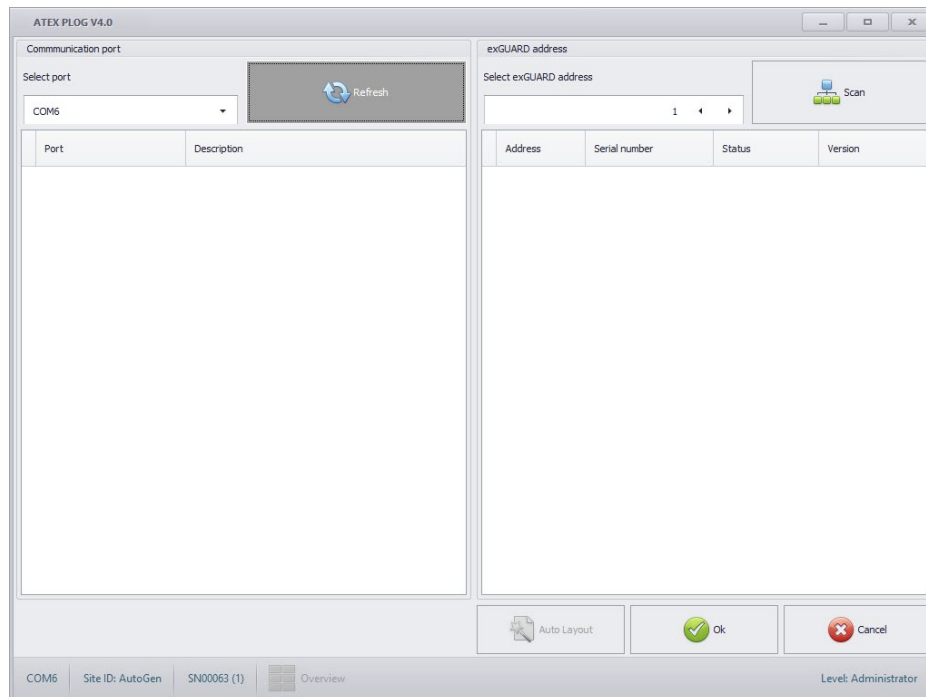
Now the connection to exGUARD must first be established and then a layout file must be applied so that the PLOG4 software can display the system: The PLOG 4.1 software requires a so-called layout file for correct display. This is already created in the delivery state of the protection systems. For systems where a layout file has not yet been created, a rudimentary "Auto layout" can be generated as follows:

Go to the “Connection” tap in the upper left corner of the window. Then click “Setup Connection” in the popup-window:

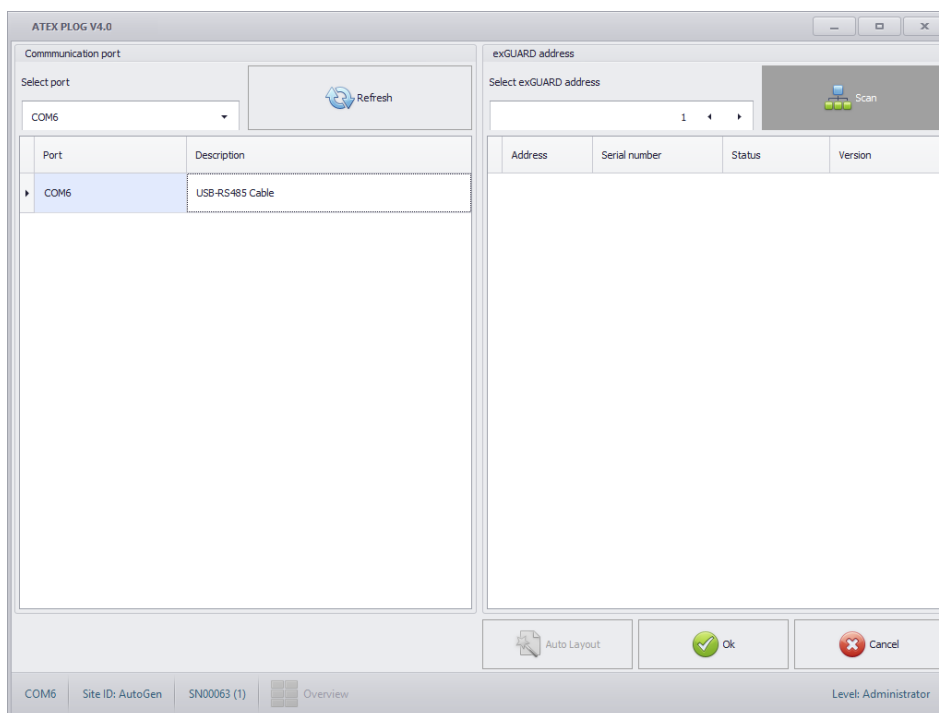


In the next window the connection can be established.

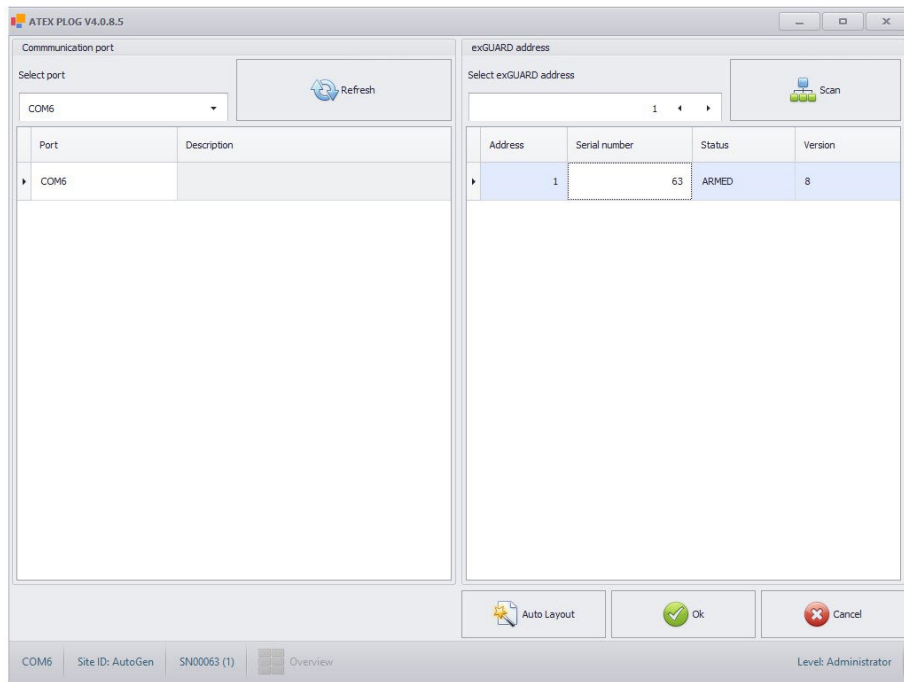
Click “Refresh” – Button on the Top of the communication port window:



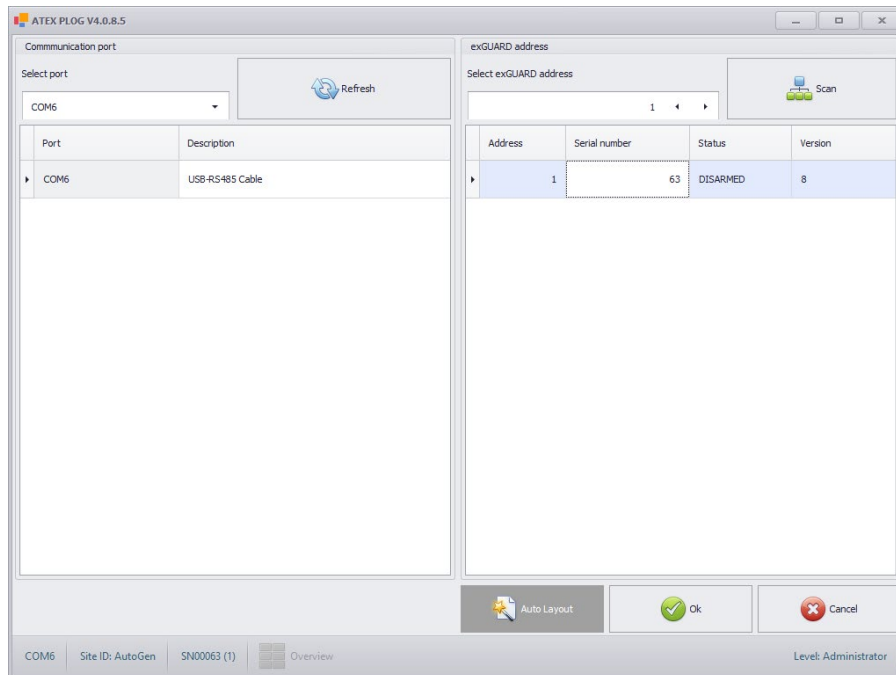
The available port will appear in the field below (In this example COM6). Choose the port by clicking on it (the colour will change to blue) Then Click “Scan” in the right upper Button of the exGUARD address field to see the connected exGUARDs:



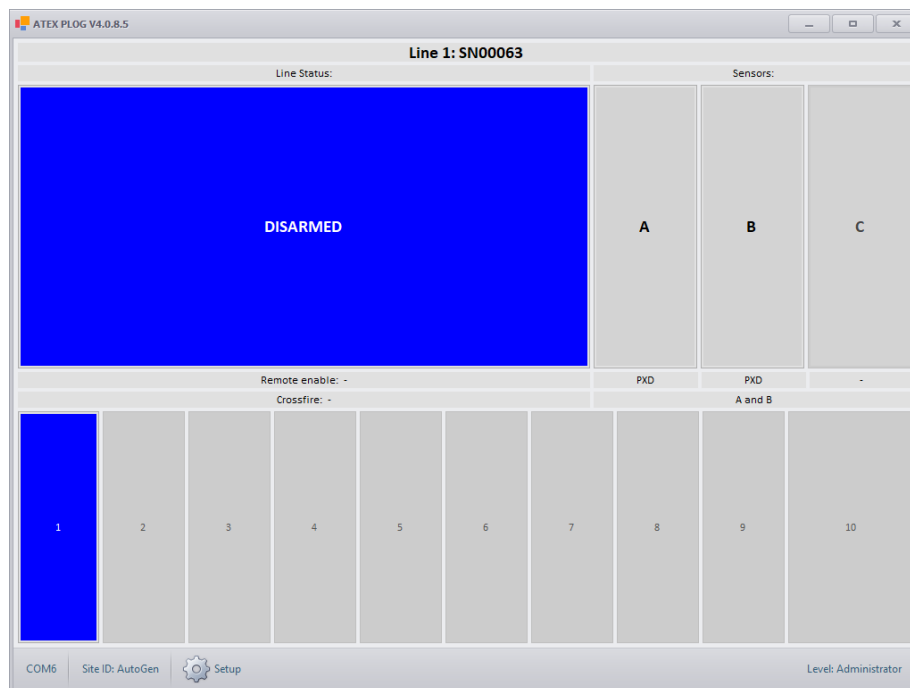
The connected exGUARDS will appear in the field below (in this example only one is shown):



Choose the exGUARD by clicking on it, then click “Auto Layout” button at the bottom of the window:



After clicking “Auto Layout” button the view changes to the Overview mode, using the generated auto Layout. The example shows only one exGUARD with one actuator in disarmed mode:



Loading an existing layout file

Instead of creating an auto layout file, an existing layout file can also be loaded as follows:

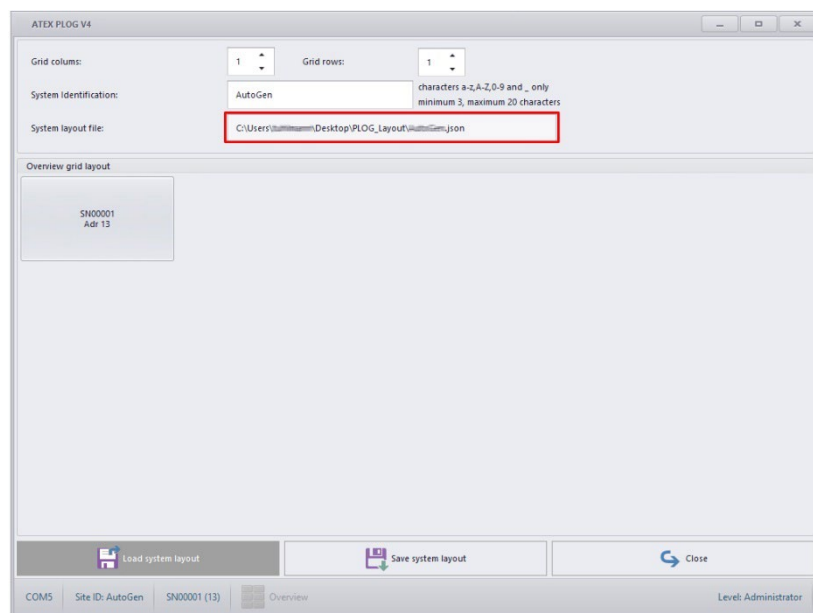
Enter the setup – view by clicking the "Setup" button at the bottom of the window:



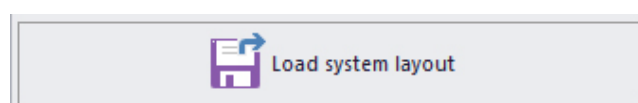
Then enter the layout configuration window by clicking Admin > Layout:



Enter the location of the layout file in the "System layout file" field:



Then click the "Load system layout" button at the bottom of the window:

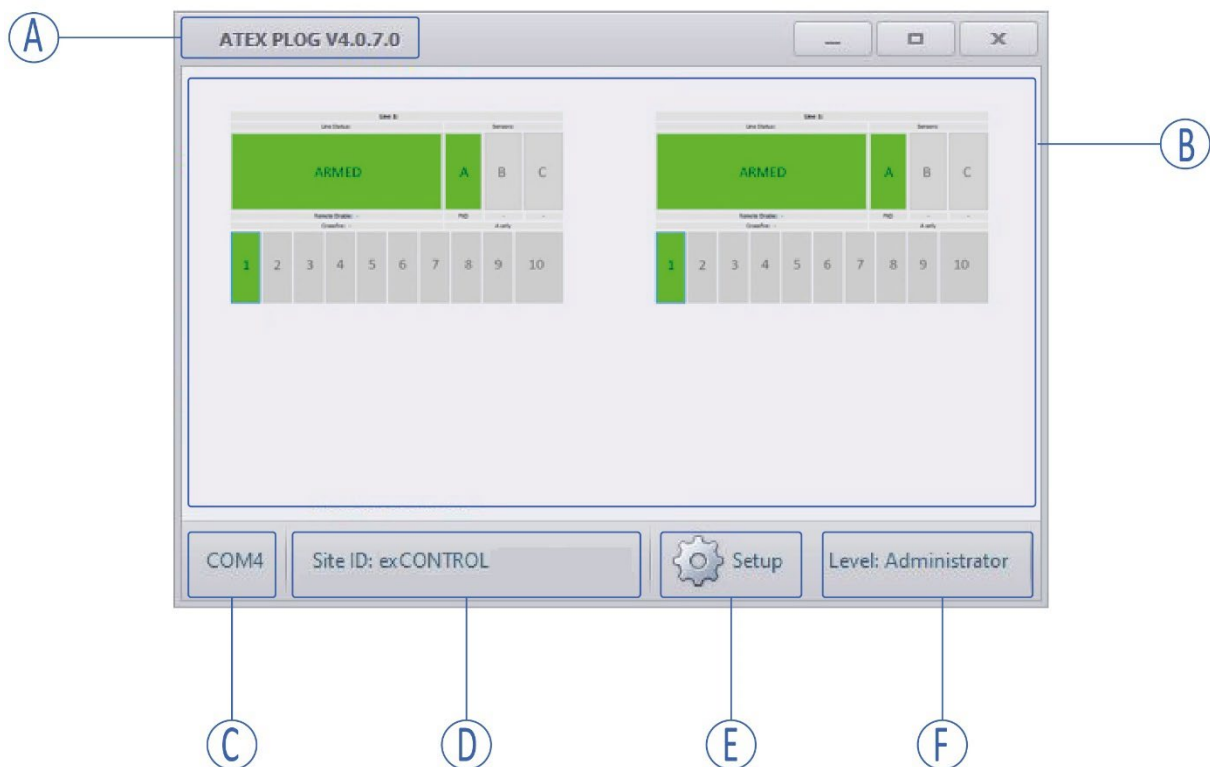


Mode „Overview“

The software starts in the "Overview" mode.

In this mode, it shows the current status of each explosion protection line as well as the states of the sensors and actuators connected to it.

At the same time, the configuration of the individual lines, their designation and basic information on the data connection are displayed in the Overview mode:



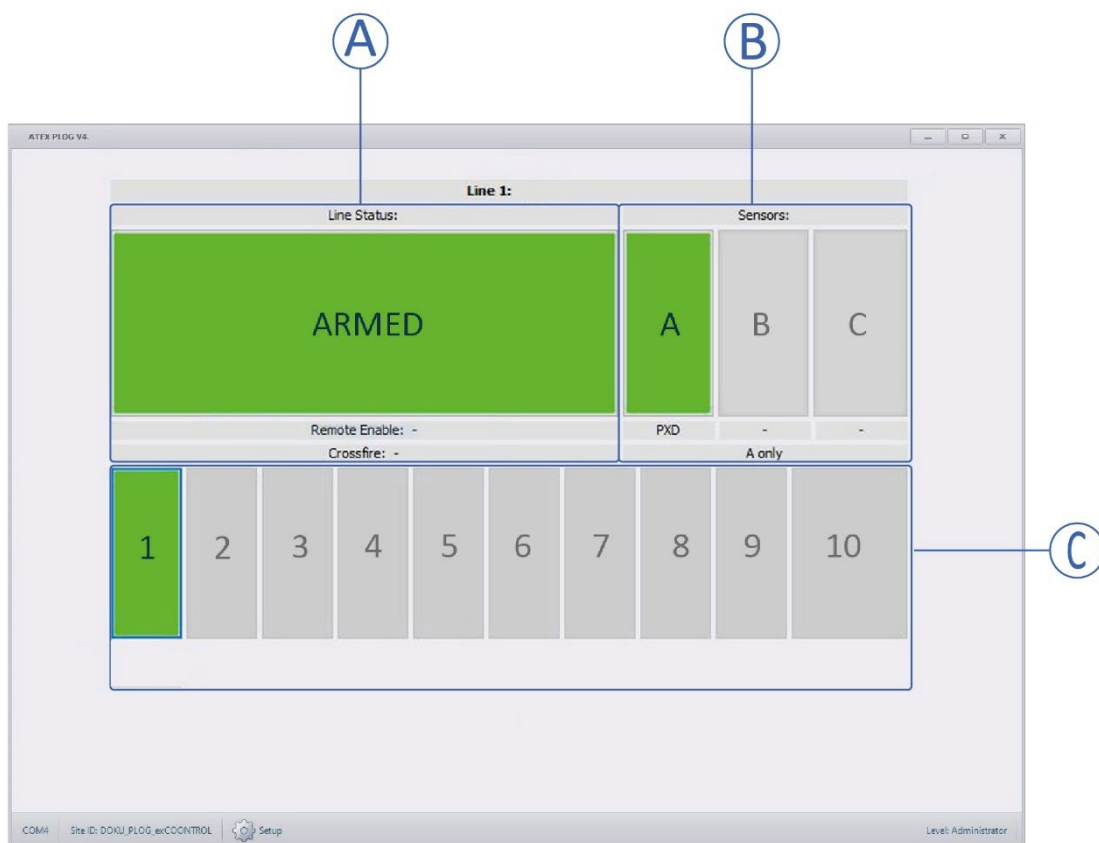
- A Software version
- B Main info area
- C COM port used
- D Plant number / Site ID
- E Button to access setup screen
- F Authorization level

Main info area

In this area, the information of up to 20 explosion protection lines can be displayed.

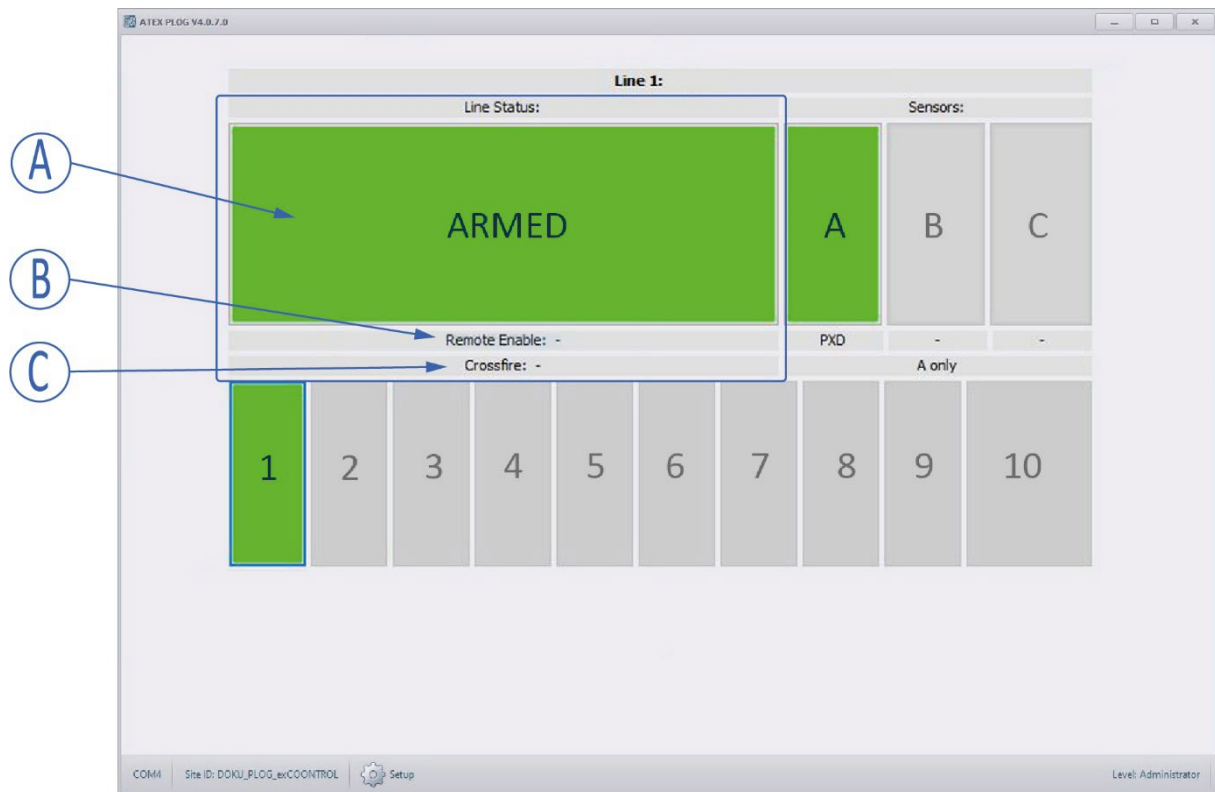
For a better overview, only one line with a connected sensor and a protection unit is shown below.

The overview for each line is divided into three sections:



- | | | |
|---|-------------|--|
| A | Line Status | exGUARD status |
| B | Sensors | Explosion detection sensors |
| C | Actuators | Protective unit, such as suppressor or quick-closing slide valve |

Line Status



(A) Current status of the exGUARD module of the line concerned. This is shown in colour.
(see next page)

(B) Remote Enable: arming (protected object is monitored) or disarming by one or more other lines (exGUARDS) of the explosion protection system. The enabling lines are displayed here.

Example:

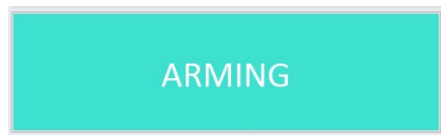
Remote Enable: 3 Linie 3 arms/disarms the current line.

(C) Crossfire: Triggered by one or more other lines (exGUARDS). The crossfiring lines are displayed here.

Example:

Crossfire: 5;6 Lines 5 and 6 trigger the current line as well.

Status display Line Status / State of the exGUARD module:



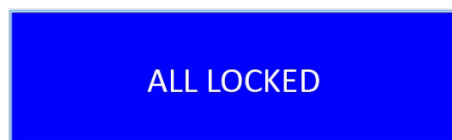
The system starts up



System is ready to protect



System is in disarmed mode, protection devices will not be activated



All protection devices are mechanically locked



System has detected a Minor Fault
Error is not safety-relevant



System has detected a Major
Error is safety-relevant

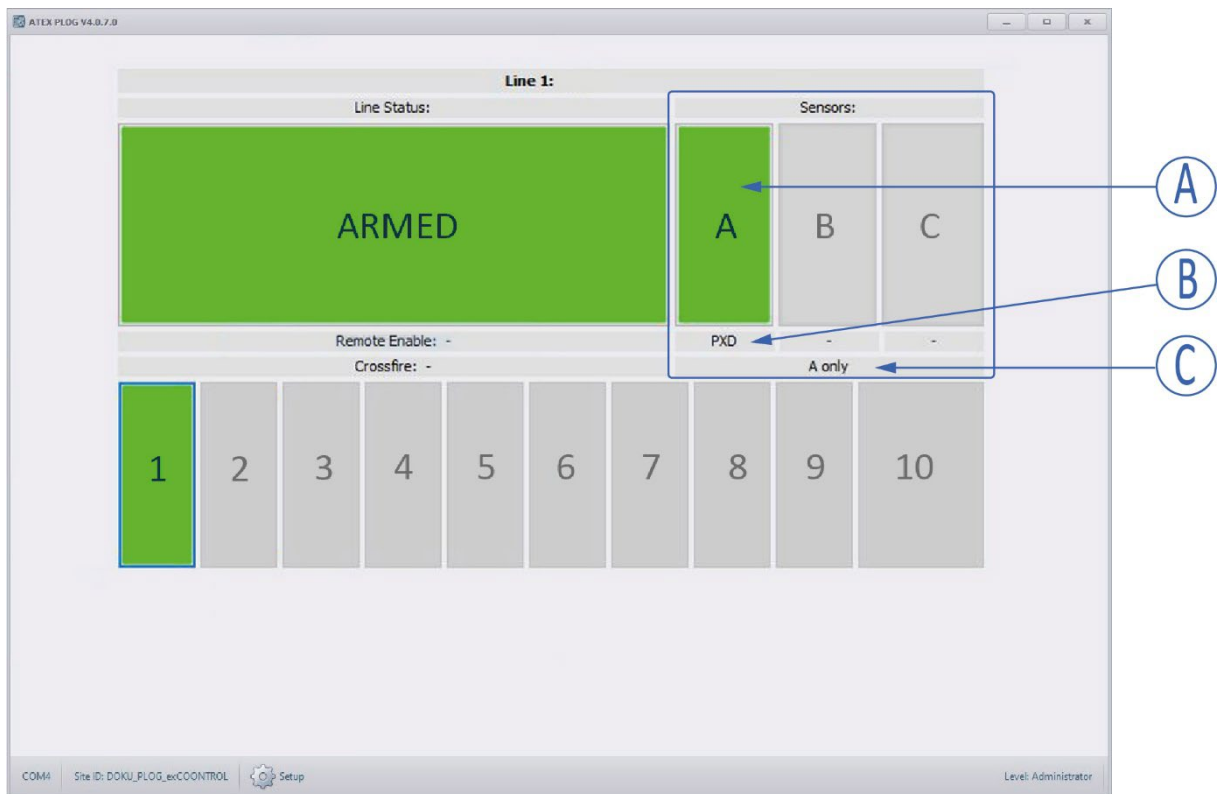


Explosion detection System has been activated



System has been crossfired by another exGUARD

Sensors status indication



(A) current states of the connected sensors, displayed in colour. (see next page)

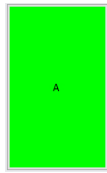
(B) Type of sensor - available display:

- PXD (Pressure sensor)
- NO (switch, normally open)
- NC (switch, normally closed)
- No Sensor connected

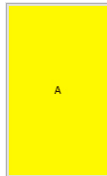
(C) Configuration (activation logic) of the sensors - available display:

- A only
- A and B
- A or B
- A and B or C
- 2 out of 3
- 1 out of 3

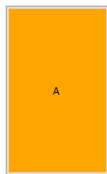
The sensor status is displayed in colour:



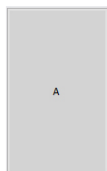
Sensor is ready for operation



There is a minor fault on the sensor
Error is not safety-relevant



There is a major fault on the sensor
Error is safety-relevant

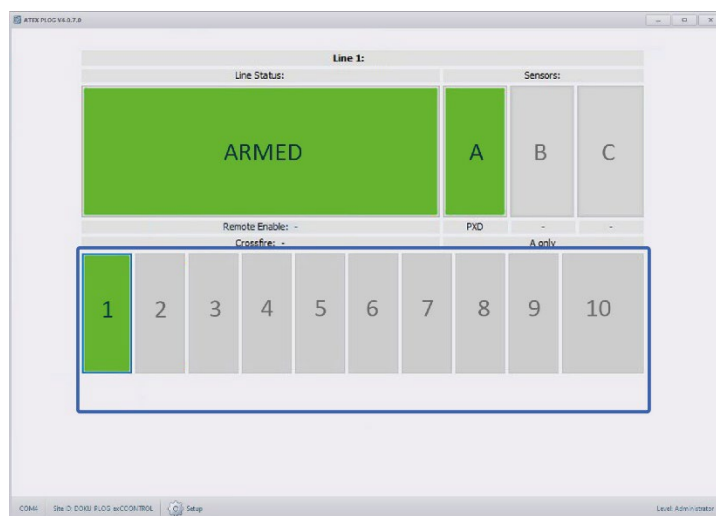


Sensor is not available

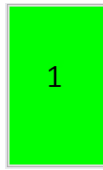


Sensor has detected an explosion

Actuators status indication



The status of the actuators is displayed in colour:



Actuator is ready for operation



There is a minor fault on the actuator
Error is not safety-relevant



There is a major fault on the actuator
Error is safety-relevant



Fault in both ignition circuits of the gas
generators on the actuator



Actuator is not available



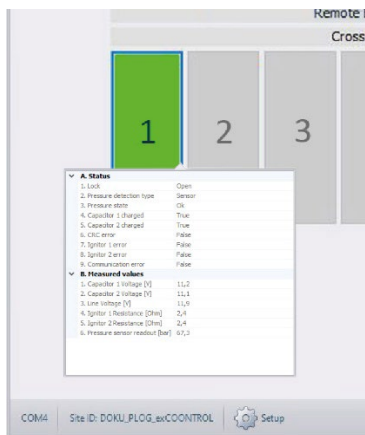
Actuator is mechanically locked



Actuator has been activated

Error message representation

Clicking on the display area for the actuators opens a window:



A. Status	
1. Lock	Open
2. Pressure detection type	Sensor
3. Pressure state	Ok
4. Capacitor 1 charged	True
5. Capacitor 2 charged	True
6. CRC error	False
7. Ignitor 1 error	False
8. Ignitor 2 error	False
9. Communication error	False
B. Measured values	
1. Capacitor 1 Voltage [V]	11,2
2. Capacitor 2 Voltage [V]	11,1
3. Line Voltage [V]	11,9
4. Ignitor 1 Resistance [Ohm]	2,4
5. Ignitor 2 Resistance [Ohm]	2,4
6. Pressure sensor readout [bar]	67,3

All states of the actuator, detected by the DMU, are displayed here.

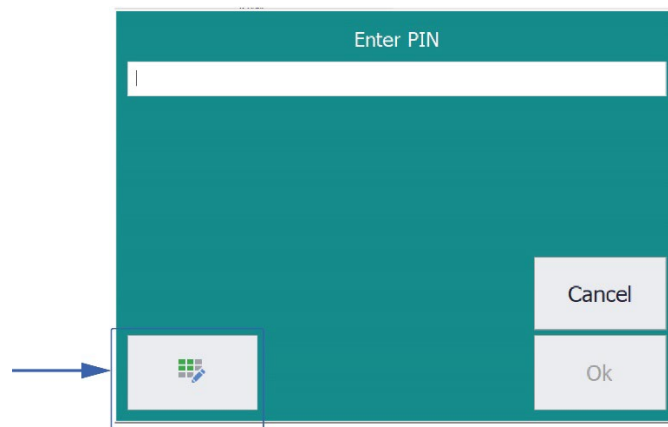
Reading out the stored data

Connect to exGUARD

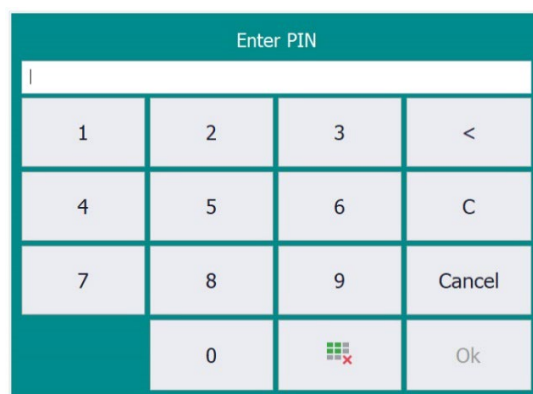
To switch to the operating level of the PLOG4 software, click on the gearwheel icon (Setup) at the bottom of the window:



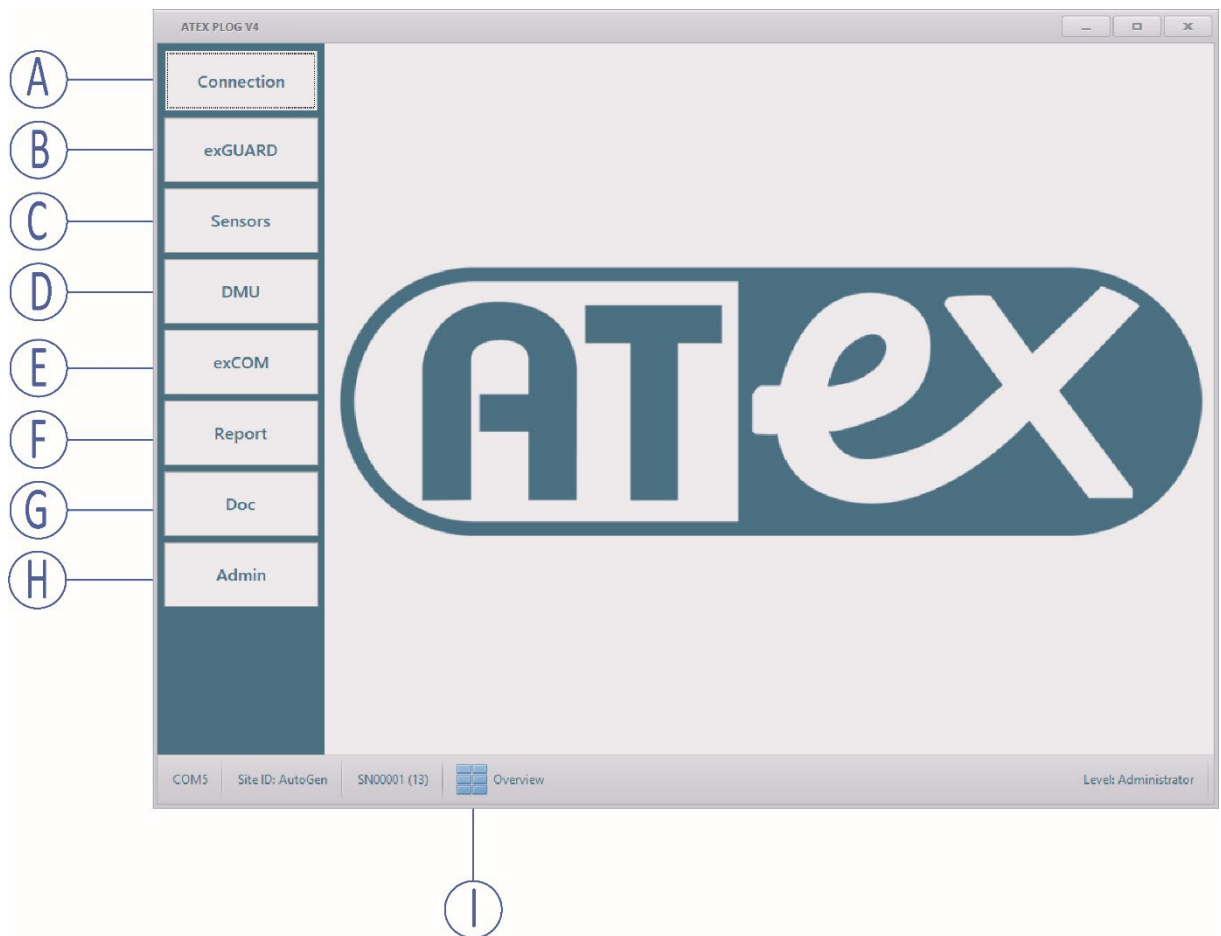
After this a window for password entry will open:



By clicking on the button at the bottom left (see arrow) an input field for touch screens can be activated:



After successful password entry, the "Setup" window opens. Settings can be made here:



There are seven submenus for the settings:

- A) Connection: Setting COM ports and device selection (exGUARD)
- B) exGUARD: Configuration and readout
- C) Sensors: Configuration and readout
- D) DMU (in the Actuator)
- E) exCOM (exCOM Interface)
- F) Report
- G) Doc: Documentation
- H) Admin: Administration

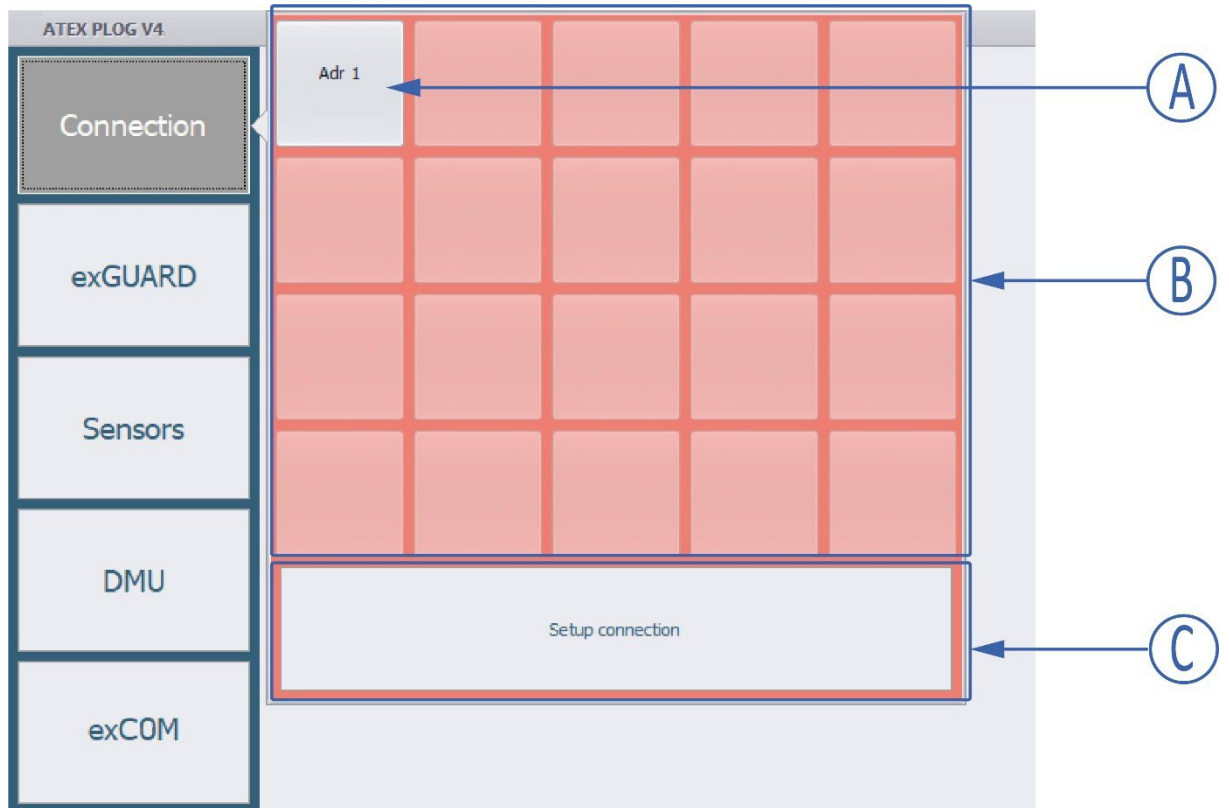


The "Setup" window is left by clicking on the "Overview" button (I) at the bottom of the window and the program then shows the overview page again.

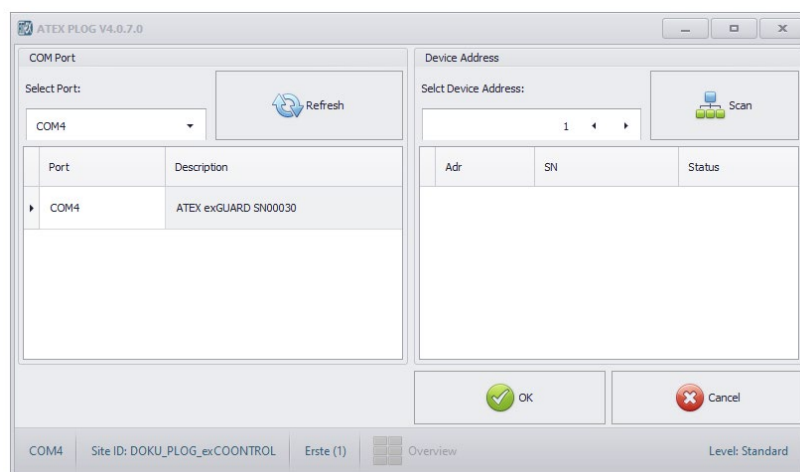
Connection

Clicking on the "Connection" button opens a window.

Here the exGUARD modules (A) defined in the configuration can be selected in the upper matrix (B).



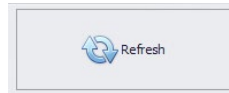
By clicking on the lower button (C), the user enters the settings area:



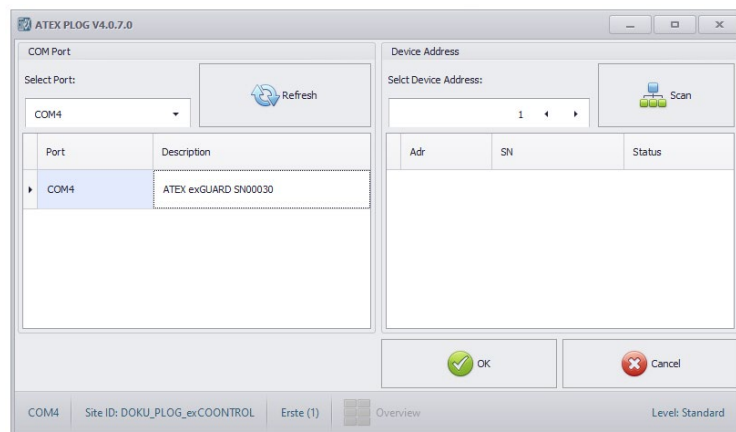
Choose COM port:

The available COM ports are displayed in the right half of the window.

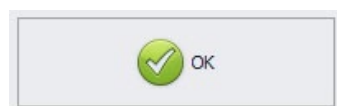
Clicking the "Refresh" button refreshes the list of ports in use.



Then the port can be selected:

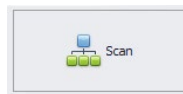


Confirmation is done by clicking the "OK" button.

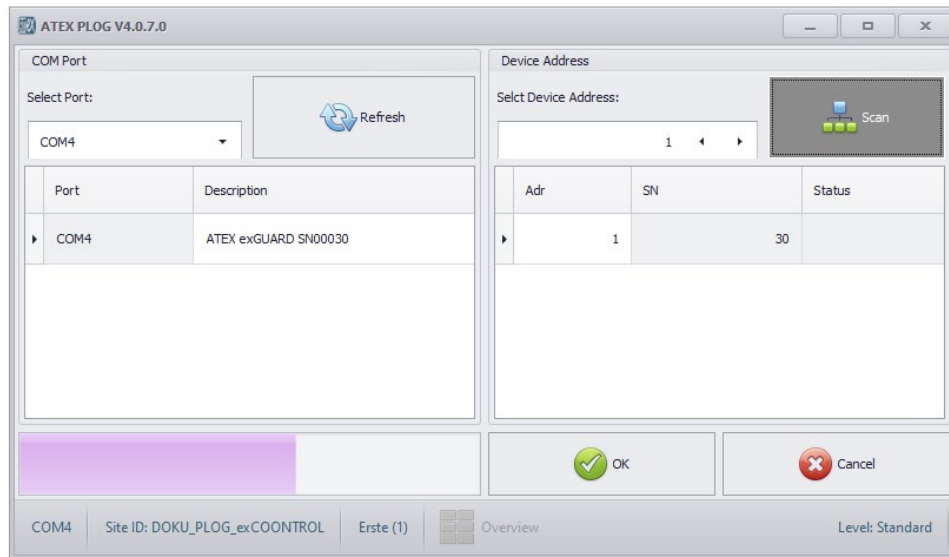


This closes the window and the configuration overview is displayed again.

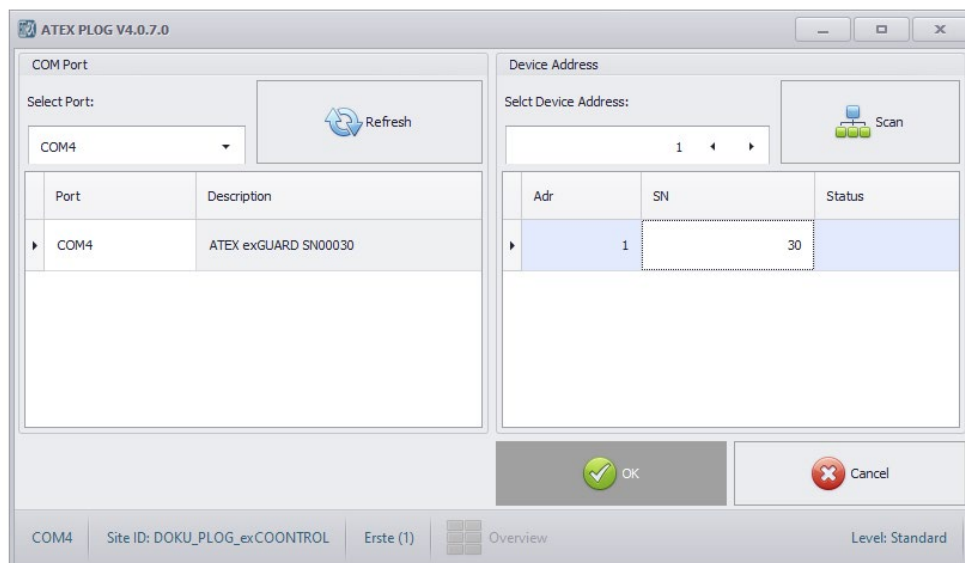
Select device (exGUARD)



By clicking the "scan" button, all connected exGUARD modules are scanned and displayed in a list. A loading bar indicates the duration of the scan process:

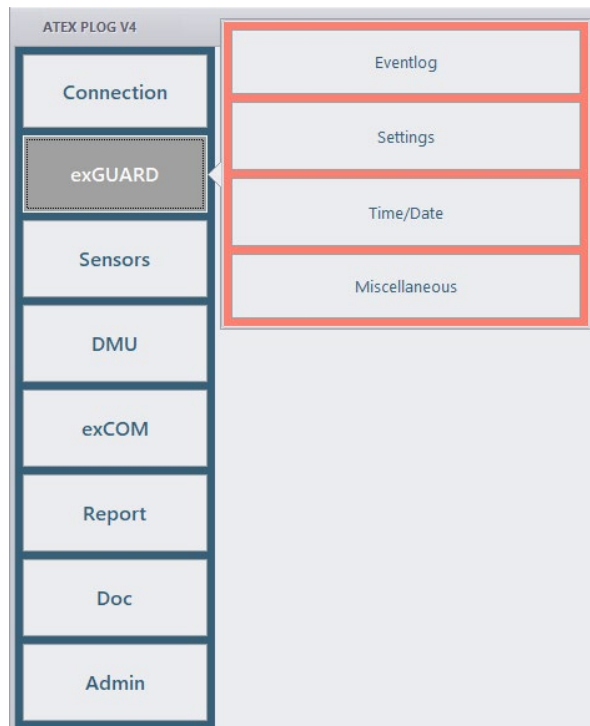


The exGUARD module to be configured is then selected from the list and the selection confirmed with "OK".



exGUARD – Read out and configure the module

Clicking on the "exGUARD" button opens a submenu:



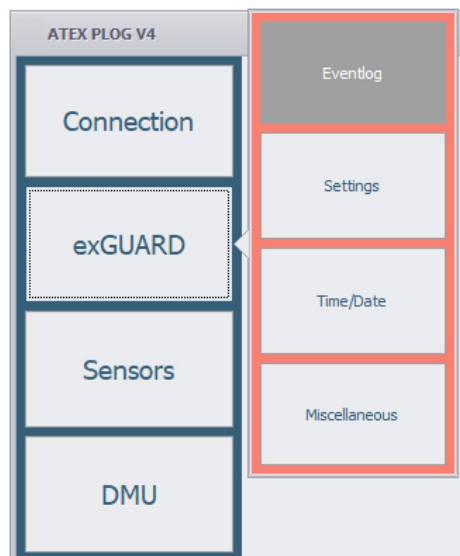
Under the menu item "exGUARD" the settings for the exGUARD module are made. Events can also be retrieved here and exported as a file.

Access to the exGUARD module is only possible in Disarmed mode. A warning message appears if this is not the case.

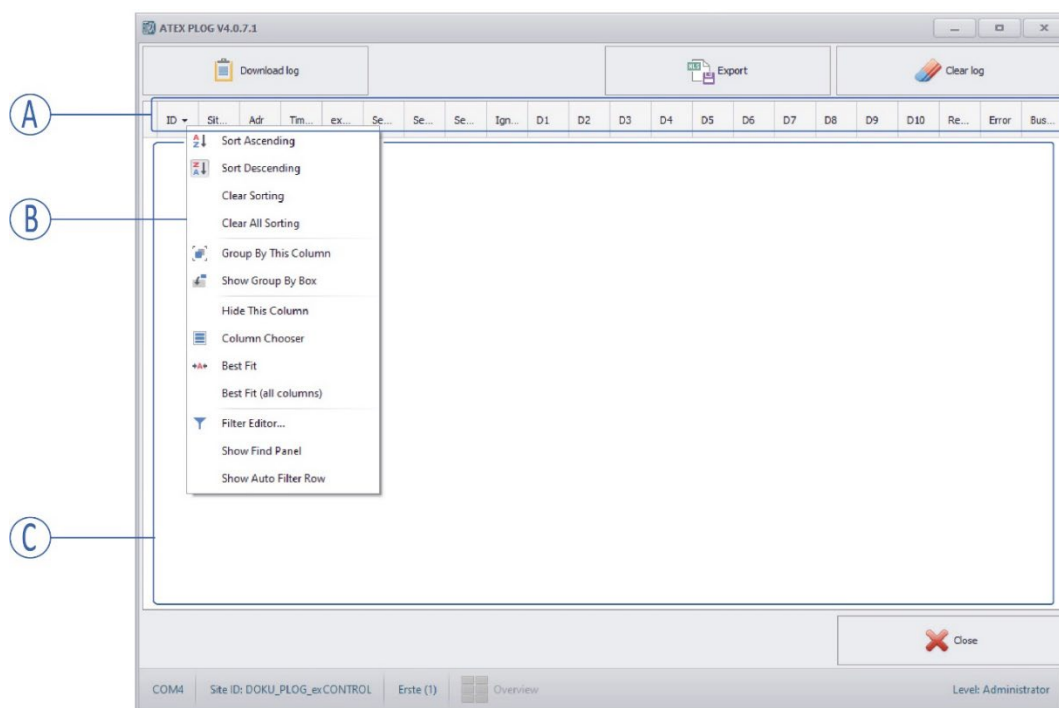
The following sections can be selected in the submenu:

Submenu	Function
Eventlog	Display and export of status changes (events) stored in the exGUARD module
Settings	Setting of sensors and actuators, line linkage, time synchronization
Time / Date	Time and date setting
Miscellaneous	Info section: Shows serial and identification number as well as the firmware version of the exGUARD module

Eventlog



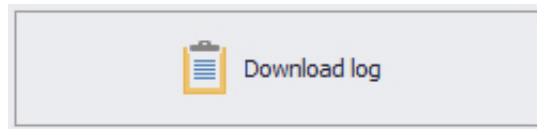
Clicking the "Events" button changes the view:



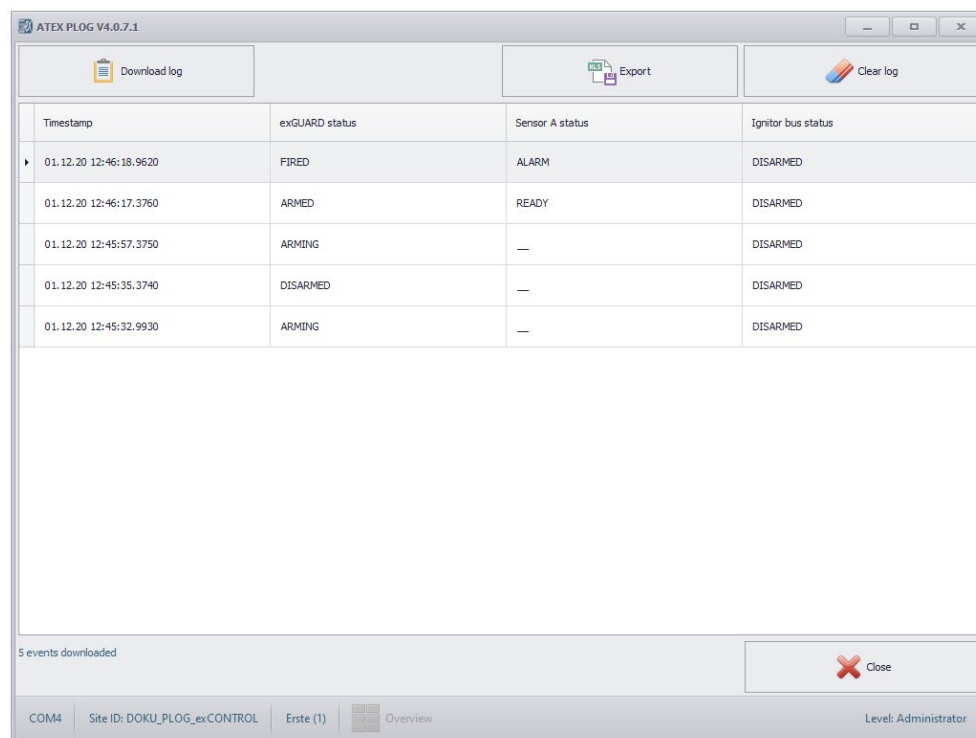
- (A) Header, shows all available event features.
- (B) Sorting menu, opens after right click in the header (A). This menu allows sorting the events
- (C) Display area. Here the events will be displayed from the exGUARD after a successful download

Events / log file download from exGUARD

Clicking the "Download log" button will download the log (event) file:



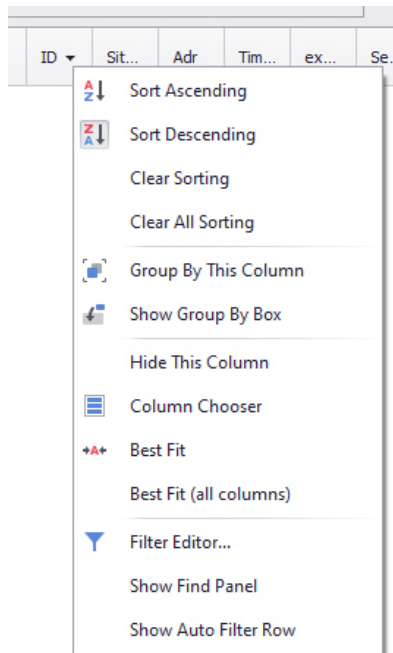
The following figure shows the simplified representation of a log file with only one sensor:

A screenshot of a software window titled "ATEX PLOG V4.0.7.1". The window has a standard Windows-style title bar with minimize, maximize, and close buttons. Below the title bar is a toolbar with three buttons: "Download log" (with a clipboard icon), "Export" (with a document and arrow icon), and "Clear log" (with an eraser icon). The main area of the window contains a table with four columns: "Timestamp", "exGUARD status", "Sensor A status", and "Ignitor bus status". The table has five data rows. Below the table, there is a status bar that says "5 events downloaded" and a "Close" button with a red X icon. At the very bottom of the window is a footer bar containing the text "COM4", "Site ID: DOKU_PLOG_exCONTROL", "Erste (1)", a small grid icon, "Overview", and "Level: Administrator".

Timestamp	exGUARD status	Sensor A status	Ignitor bus status
01.12.20 12:46:18.9620	FIRED	ALARM	DISARMED
01.12.20 12:46:17.3760	ARMED	READY	DISARMED
01.12.20 12:45:57.3750	ARMING	—	DISARMED
01.12.20 12:45:35.3740	DISARMED	—	DISARMED
01.12.20 12:45:32.9930	ARMING	—	DISARMED

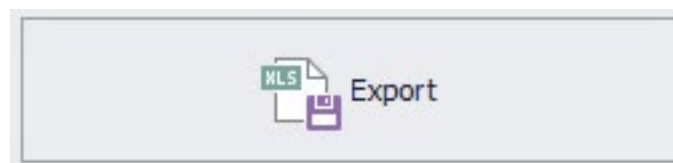
Events / log file sorting

By clicking in the individual column headings, the log file can be customized. Individual columns can be shown or hidden. Right-click in the column header to open a sort menu:

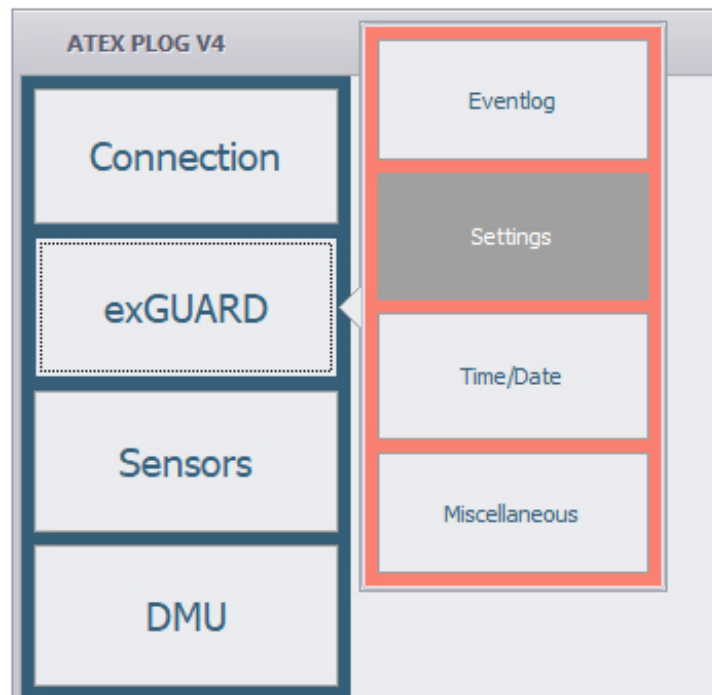


Events / log file export

By clicking the "Export" button, the log file can be saved in Excel format:

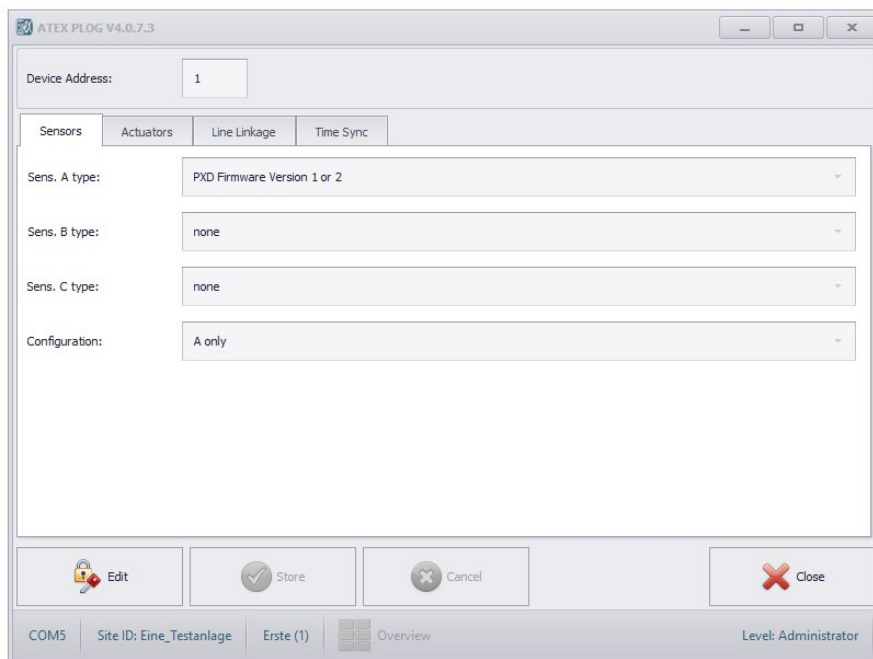


exGUARD Settings



With a click on the button "Settings" the view changes to the settings window for the exGUARD module. It has four tabs, each allowing to choose the type of sensors, actuators, the dependencies as well as the time synchronization.

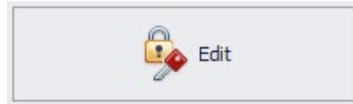
The first view shows the settings for the sensors:



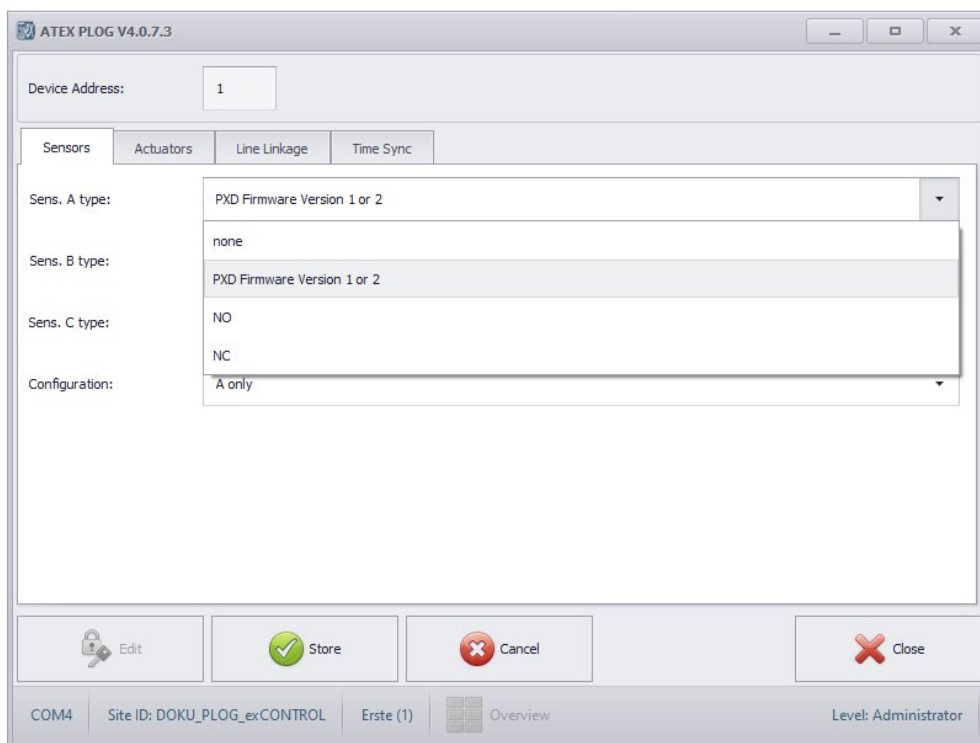
exGUARD Settings Sensors: Type and Configuration

exGUARD > Settings> Sensors/Type

To make settings, first click the "Edit" button at the bottom of the window:



In the first three lines of the settings menu, the type of sensor is selected for each of the three possible sensors. To do this, click on the triangular icon or in the field:



The following settings are provided:

none

No sensor connected

PXD Firmware Version 1 or 2

A PXD sensor with firmware version 1.04 or 2.00 is connected

NO

A switch is connected, normally open (NO contact)

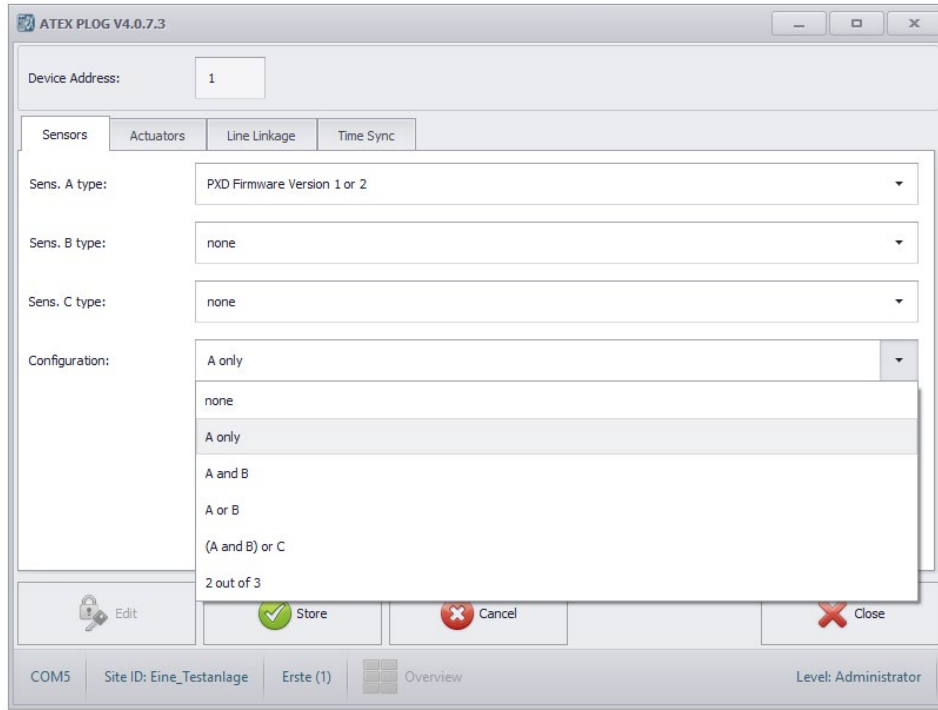
NC

A switch is connected, normally closed (NC contact)

exGUARD Settings Sensors: Logik/Logic:

exGUARD > Settings > Sensors

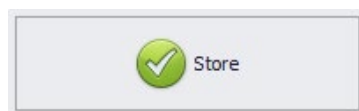
The Configuration field is used to select the activation logic for the sensors.



Possible settings:

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| A only | The exGUARD module triggers when sensor A detects a pressure increase. |
| A and B | The exGUARD module triggers when sensors A and B detect a pressure increase |
| A or B | Triggering occurs when either sensor A or B detects a pressure increase |
| (A and B) or C | The exGUARD module triggers when either sensors A and B detect a pressure increase or when sensor C reports a pressure increase. |
| 2 out of 3 | The exGUARD module triggers when two of the three sensors detect a pressure increase. |
| 1 out of 3 | The exGUARD module triggers when any of the three sensors detects an increase in pressure |

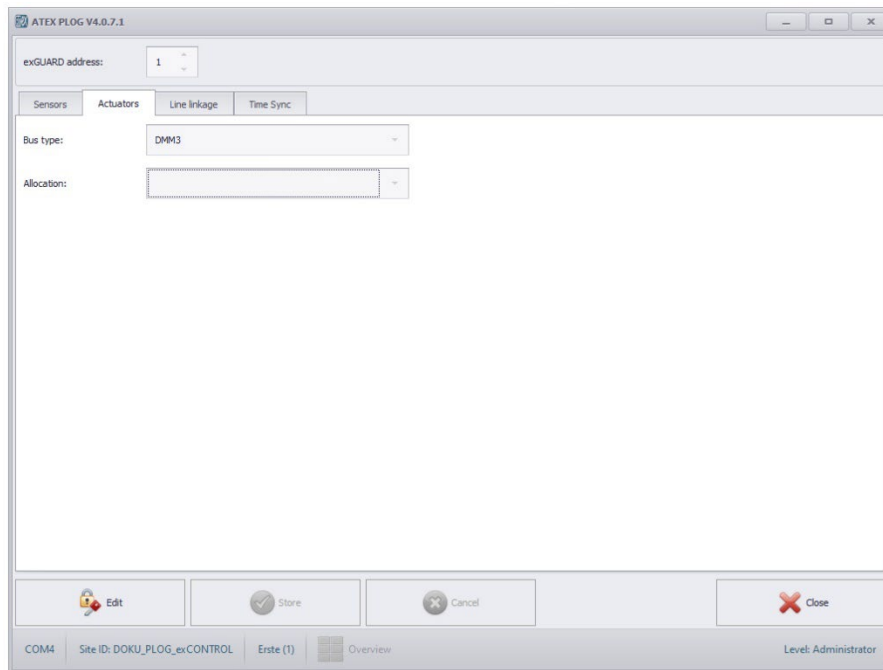
Click on the "Store" button to apply the settings.



exGUARD Settings Actuators:

exGUARD > Settings > Actuators

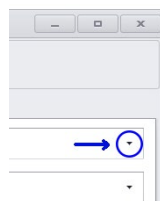
Clicking on the "Actuators" tab opens the settings window for the actuators:



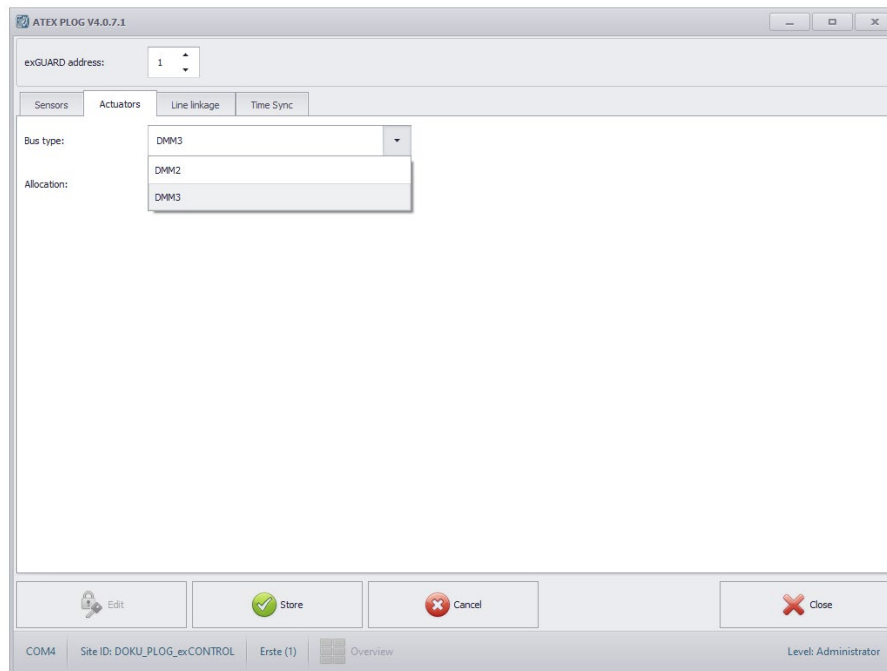
Here the BUS type (module type of the protection unit: DMM3 or DMM2) and the assignment of the actuators (protection devices/suppressors) can be set.

exGUARD Settings Actuators: Bus Type

In the first line of the settings menu the type of DMM modules in the actuators is set: To do this, click on the triangular icon:



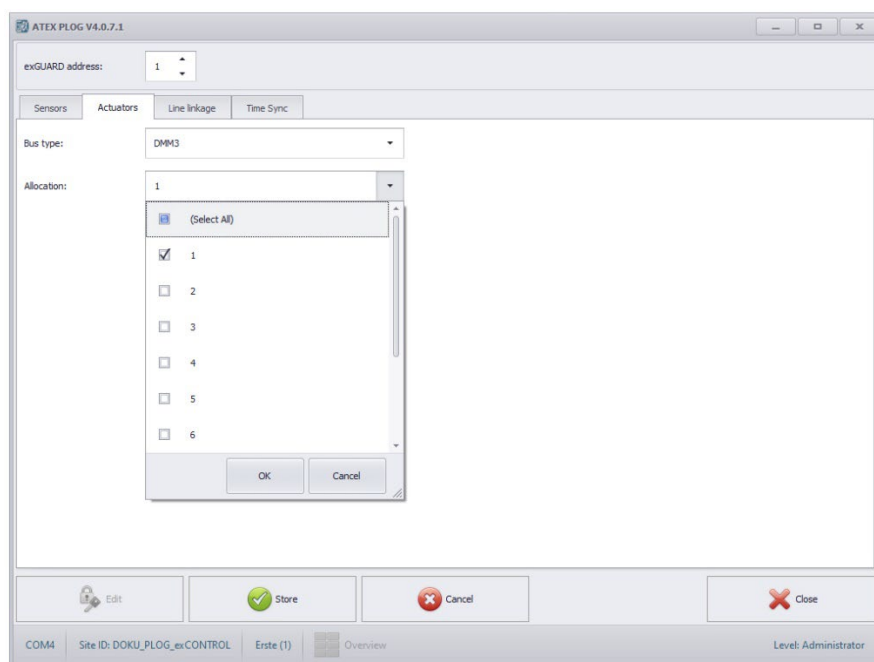
There is a choice between DMM3 and DMM2 type modules. The selection refers to the entire line for all actuators connected to it. DMM modules of types 2 and 3 cannot be used together on one line/one exGUARD module.



Selecting the DMM type

exGUARD Settings Actuators: Allocation

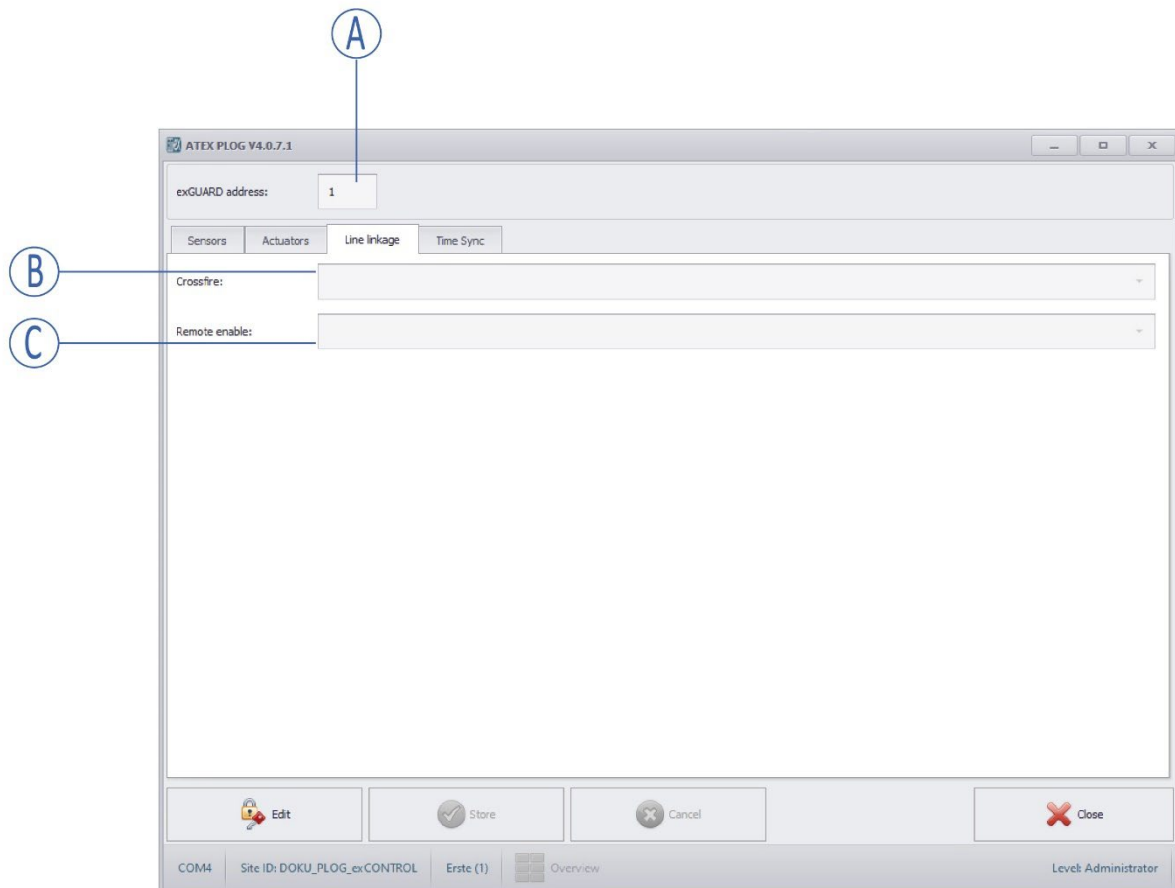
In the field labelled "Allocation" the connected actuators are "registered" (acc. to the DMU address setting) in the exGUARD module. To do this, click in the boxes to the left of the numbers. The selection is marked by a check mark and displayed in the "Allocation" line after closing the input field.



exGUARD Settings Line Linkage: Linking the lines

exGUARD > Settings > Line linkage

Clicking on the "Line linkage" tab opens the settings window for line linkage:

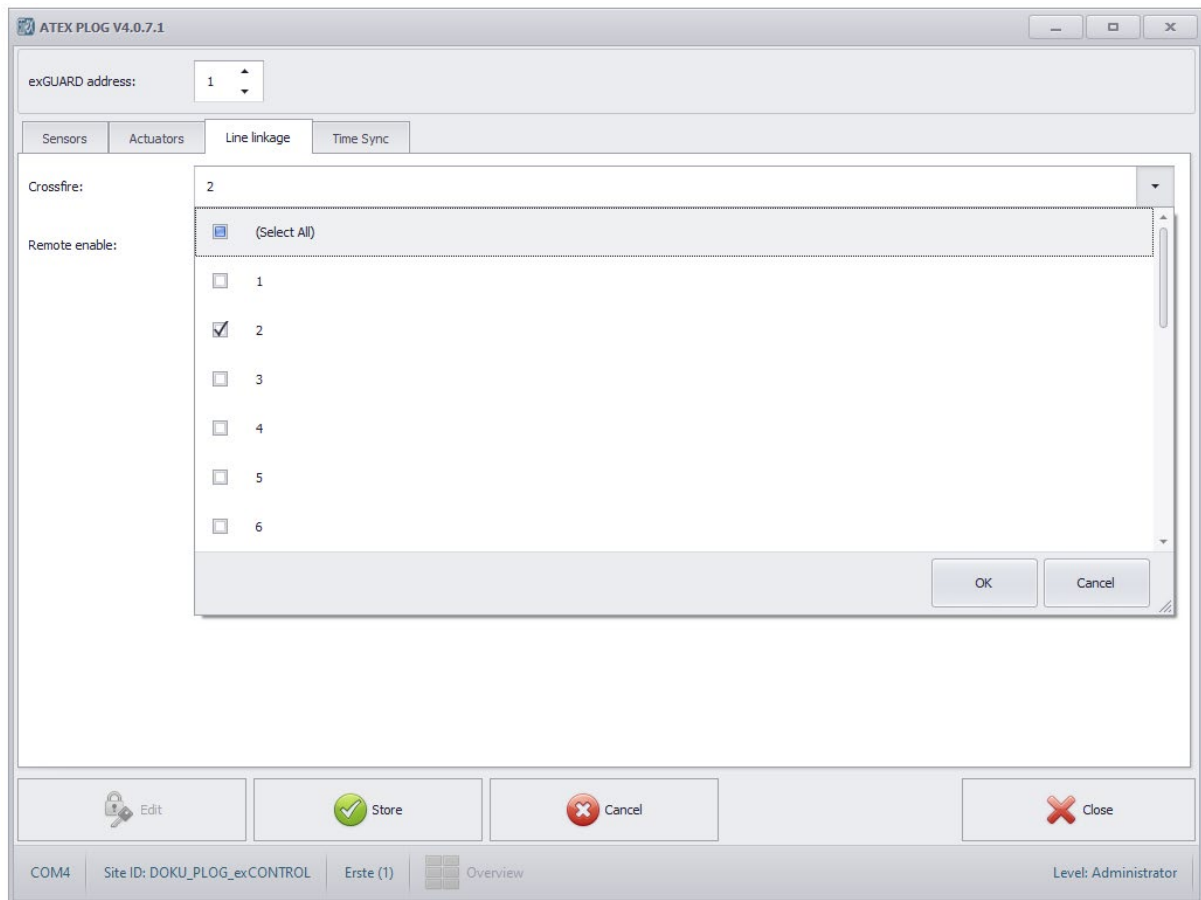


(A) Designation / number of the line in the system (cannot be changed here)

(B) The first input field is used to set the other lines from which the exGUARD module is triggered in the event of a detection (crossfire).

(C) The second input field is used to set the other lines from which the exGUARD module is armed or disarmed (remote enable).

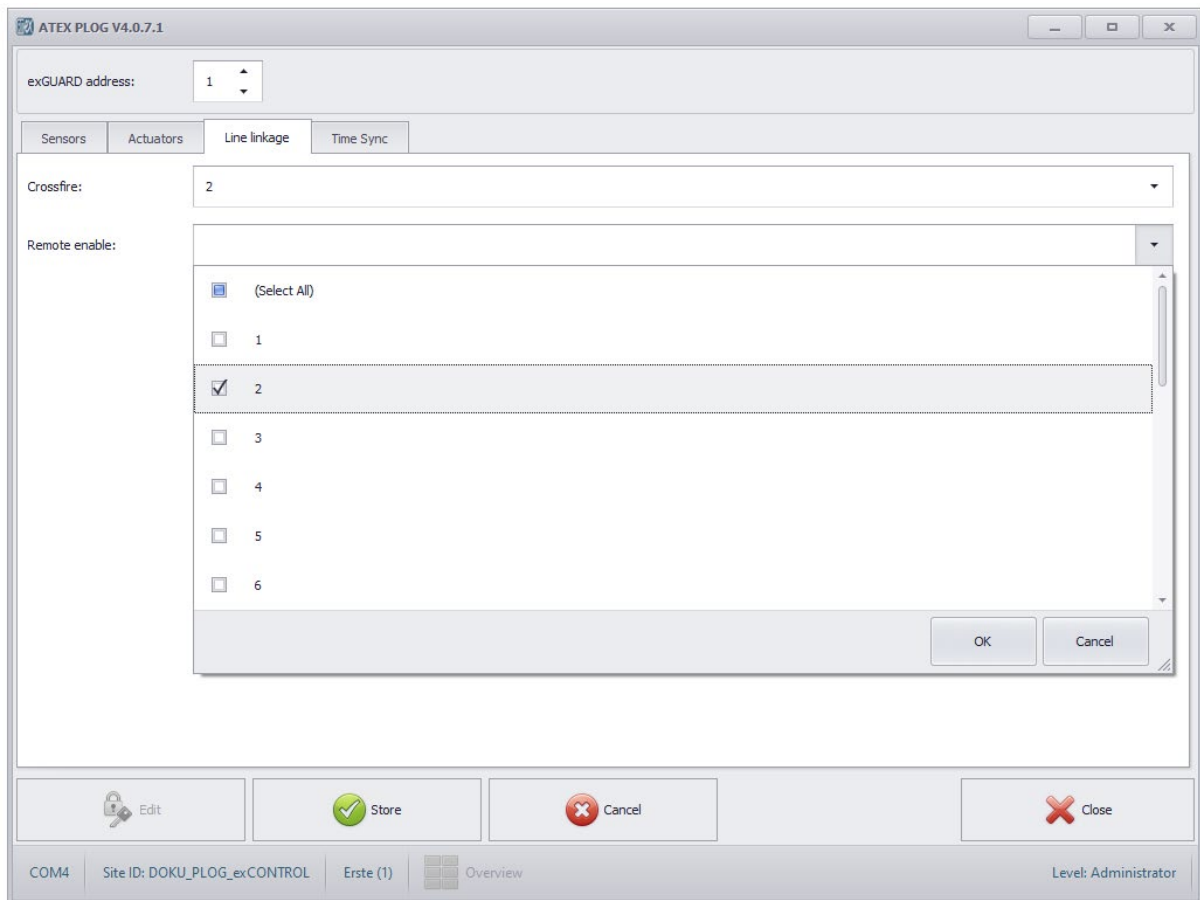
exGUARD Settings Line Linkage: Crossfire



Selection menu for the crossfire. Open "Crossfire" by clicking in the input field and mark the lines in the boxes to the left of the numbers.

The selection is indicated by check marks and appears in the "Crossfire" line after closing the input field. These are lines from which the exGUARD module is triggered in the event of a detection.

exGUARD Settings Line Linkage: remote enable



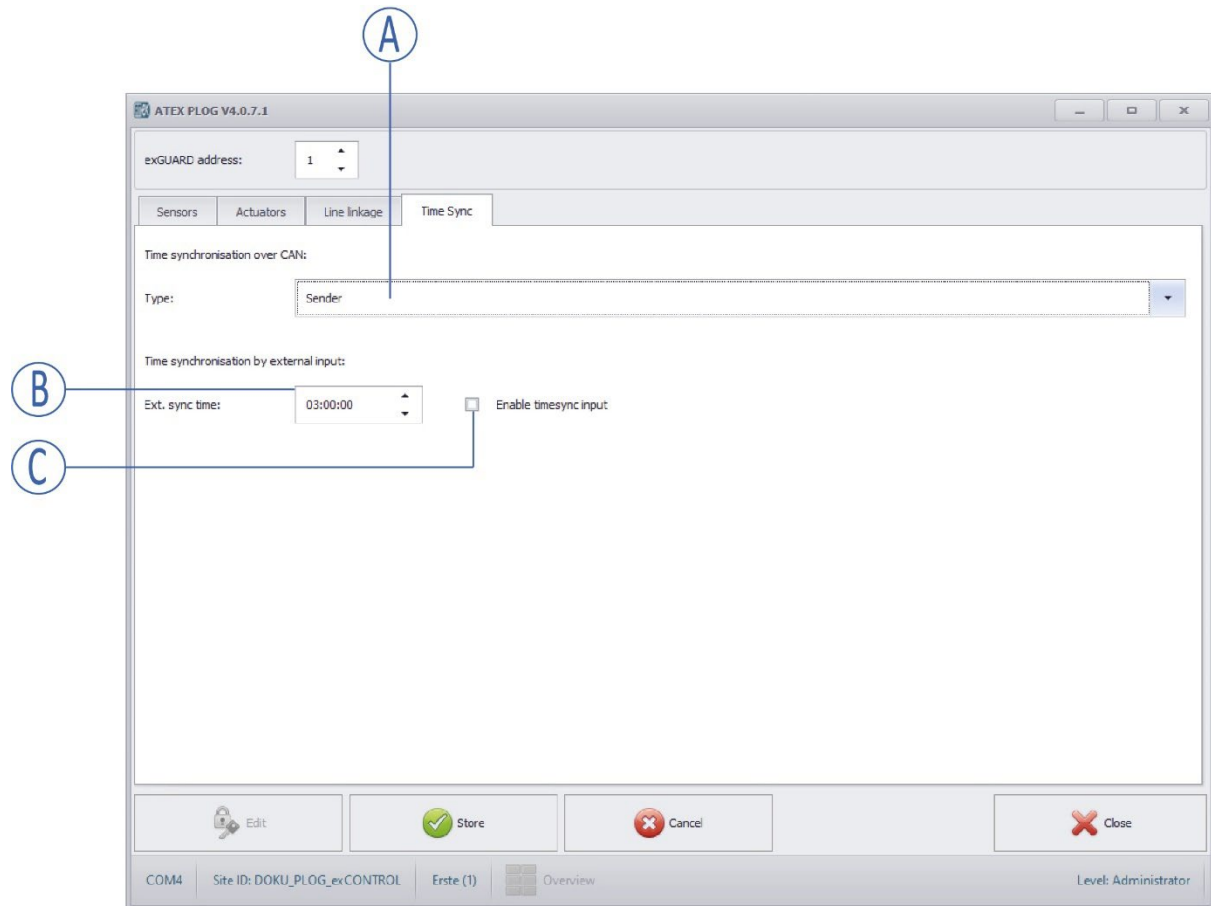
Selection menu for the remote enable function. Open "Remote enable" by clicking in the input field and mark the lines in the boxes to the left of the numbers.

The selection is indicated by check marks and appears in the "Remote enable" line after the input field is closed. These are the lines from which the exGUARD module is armed or disarmed.

exGUARD Settings Time Sync

exGUARD > Settings > Time sync

Clicking on the "Time sync" tab opens the settings window for time synchronization:



- (A) Time synchronization type: The type of time synchronization is set here.
- (B) External synchronization time
- (C) Checkbox for activating external time synchronization.

Time synchronization type:

An exGUARD module can be configured as a transmitter (sender) or receiver of a time signal: Clicking in the "Type" field opens a selection menu:



Note: there can be only one sender in a system. Alle other devices need to be set to receiver!

External synchronization time

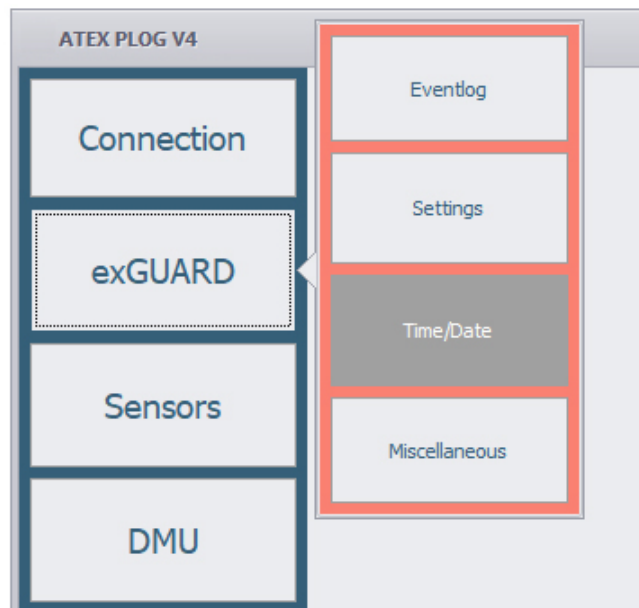
Here the time is defined to which the exGUARD module is automatically set when receiving the external signal

Activation of external time synchronization

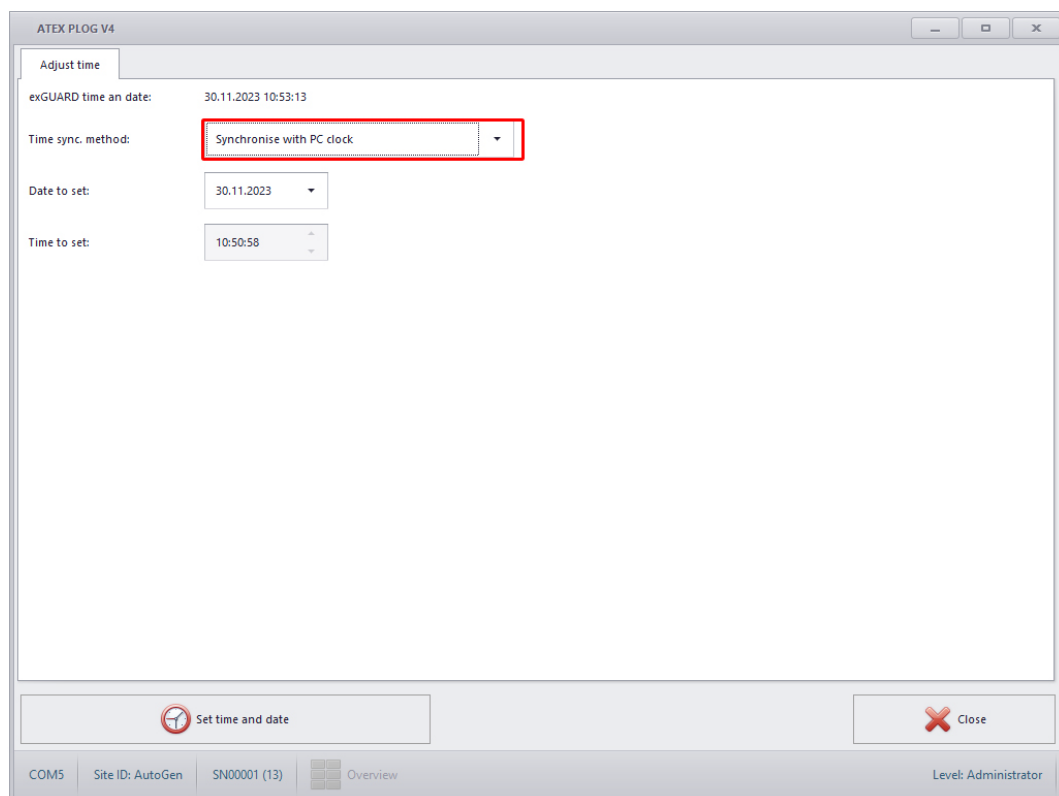
External time synchronization is enabled by clicking in the "Enable timesync input" field

exGUARD Settings Time/Date

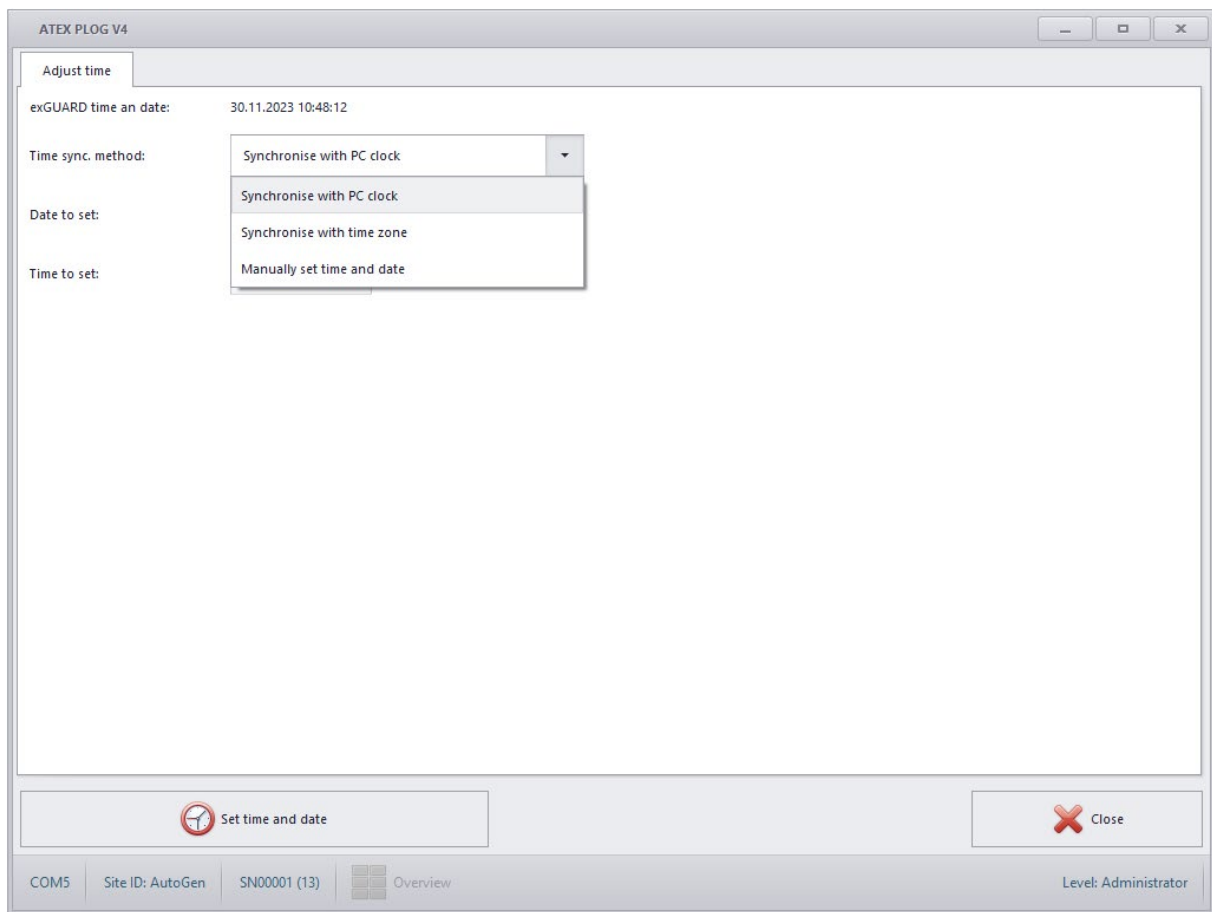
exGUARD > Time/Date



By clicking on the "Time/date" button, the view switches to the settings window for the time. This window has a drop-down menu at the top:



The drop-down menu offers various types of time settings:



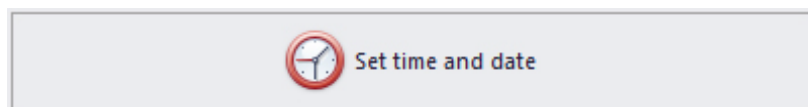
The following options are available:

Synchronise with PC clock: This sets the exGUARD's clock to the system time of the computer on which the PLOG 4.1 software is running. The time is set once, i.e. the exGUARD's internal clock then adjusts the time.

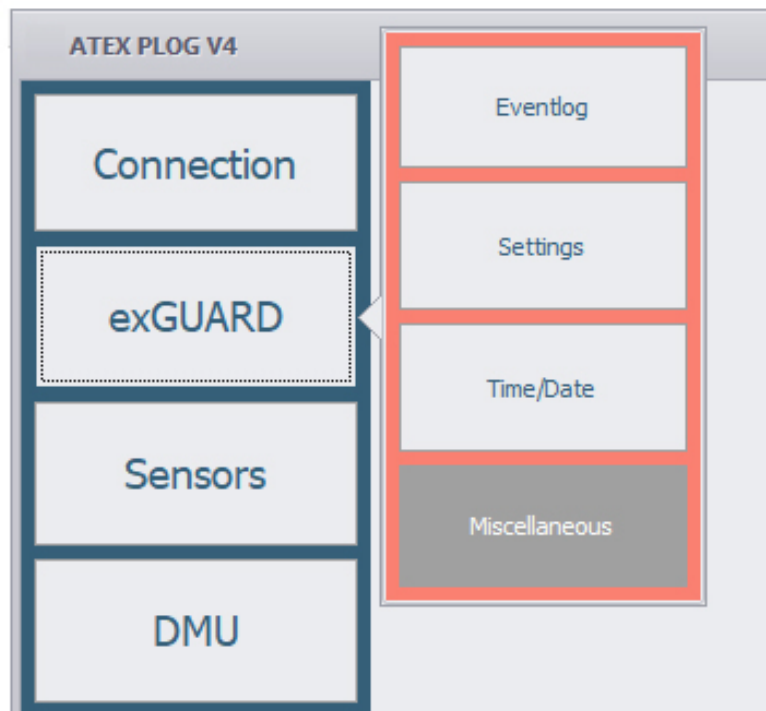
Synchronize with time Zone: The date and time zone can be set here. The time itself is then adjusted to the internal time of the exGUARD.

Manually set time and date: The time is set manually here.

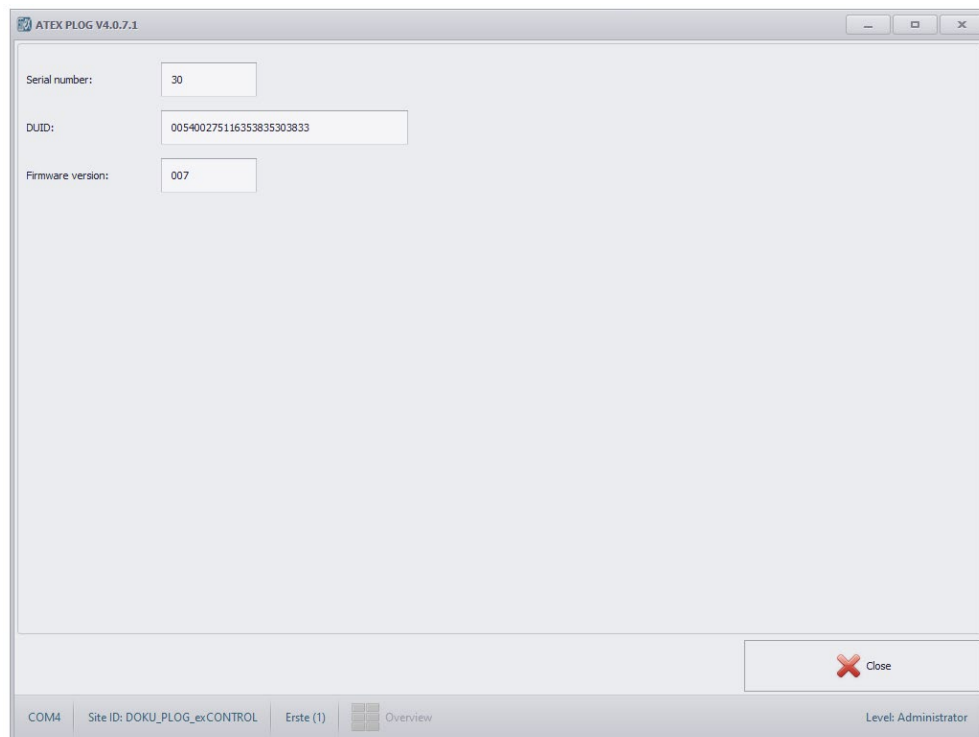
The settings are made by clicking on the "set time and date" button at the bottom of the window:



exGUARD Miscellaneous



Using this menu item, a window opens, in which the serial number, identification number and firmware version of the exGUARD module are displayed:



Sensors

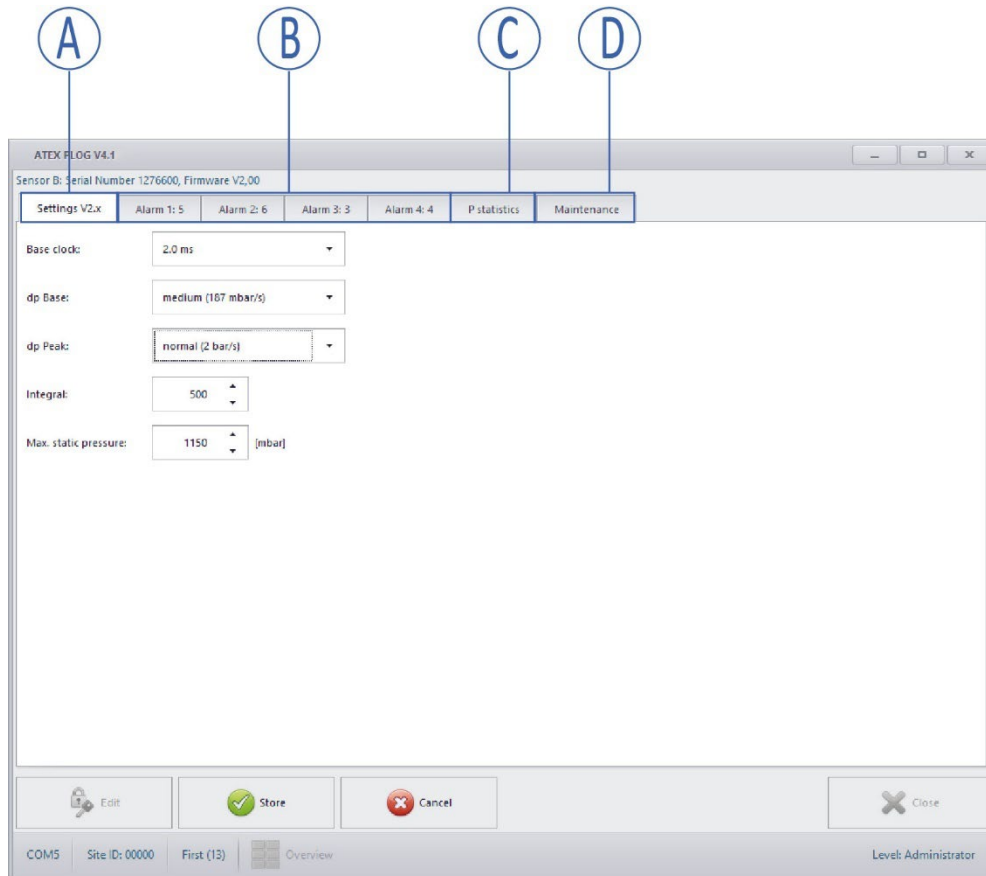
Clicking the "Sensors" button opens a submenu:

The sensor to be configured can be selected by clicking the "Sensors" tab. The non-configurable sensors are displayed in a lighter font. In this example only sensor A can be selected:



Sensors: Reading out and configuring sensors

After selecting the sensor, the overview window on the start page shows the settings for the selected sensor (A)



(B) Display of the stored alarms 1-4. The last four alarms are stored. If there are more than four alarms, the oldest one is overwritten.

(C) Recording program for reading out the current ambient pressures generated by the PXD sensor.

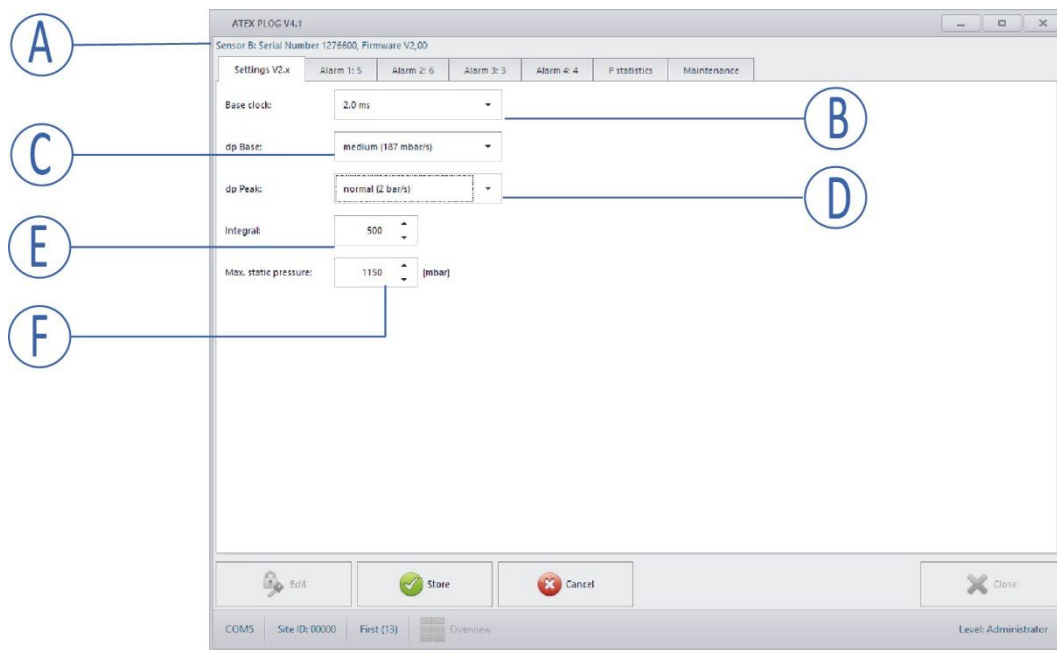
(D) Maintenance - allows to clear the alarms stored in the PXD sensor.

Sensor configuration: Settings window:

The display of the "Settings" window depends on the firmware of the selected sensor.

There are two firmware versions for PXD sensors, version 1.04 and version 2.0. The two firmware versions differ in the evaluation of the dynamic increase. (differential / integral)

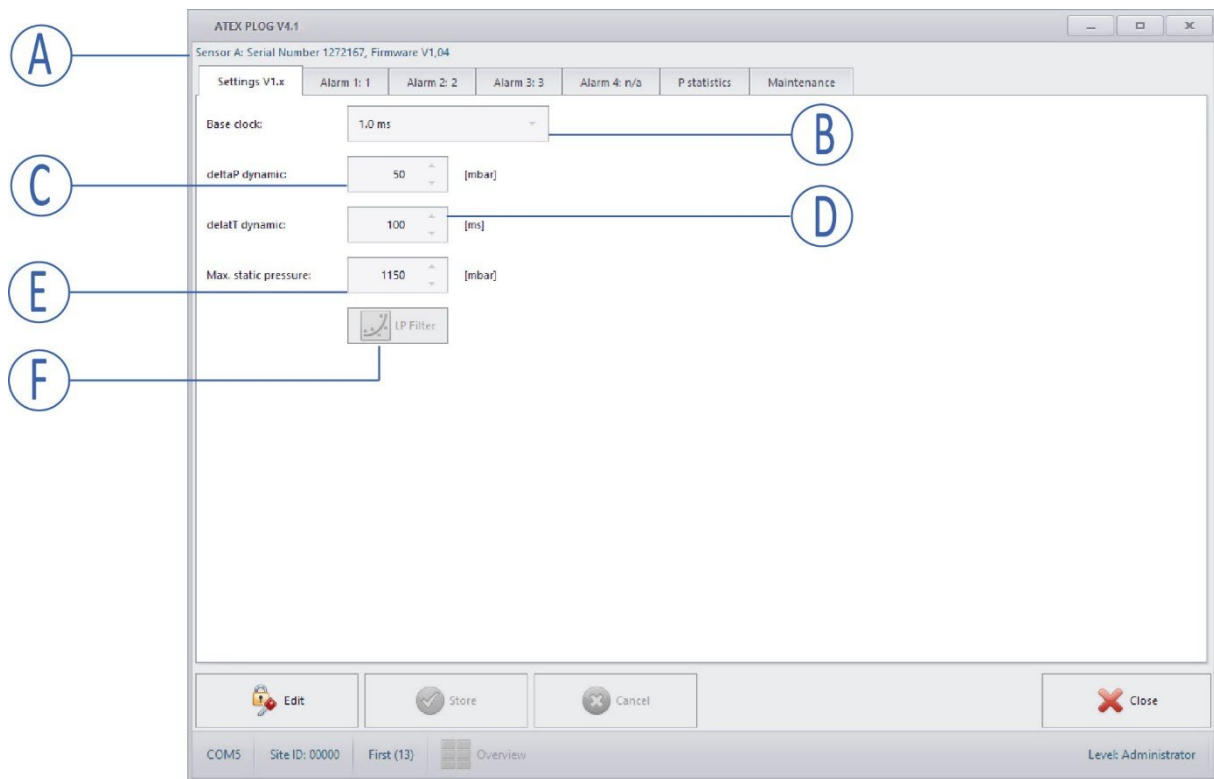
Due to the fact that firmware 2.0 is the latest, it is described first:



Sensor configuration firmware 2

- (A) Sensor number in the system (A/B or C), serial number, firmware version of the sensor.
- (B) Base Clock
- (C) dPmax Base
- (D) dPmax Peak
- (E) Integral
- (F) Max. static pressure

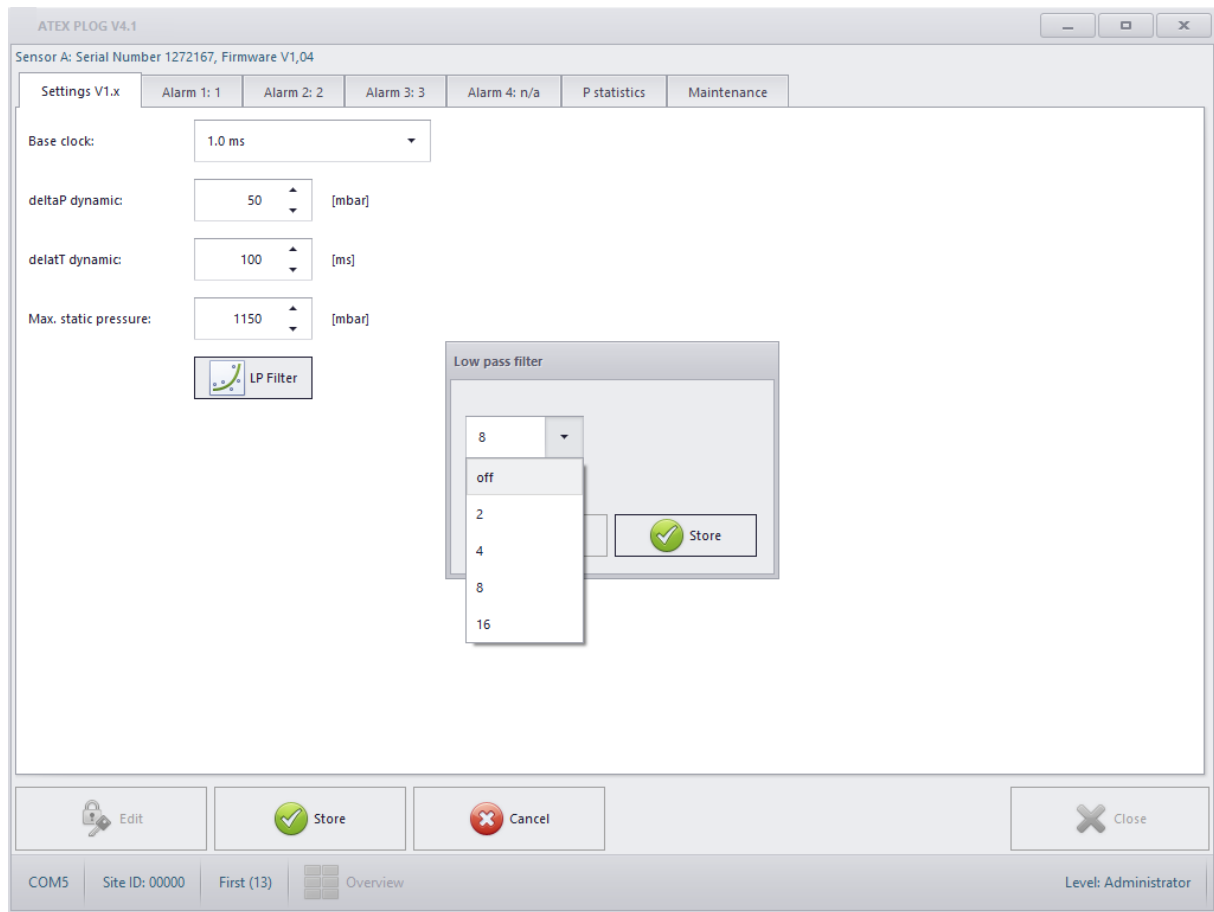
Sensor configuration window of firmware 1.04 looks like this:



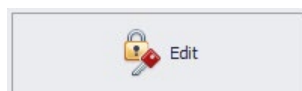
Sensor configuration firmware 1.04

- (A) Sensor number in the system (A/B or C), serial number, firmware version of the sensor.
- (B) Base Clock
- (C) dP dynamic
- (D) dT dynamic
- (E) Max. static pressure
- (F) Low pass filter

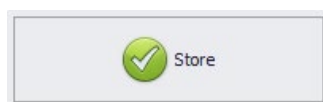
The lowpass filter can also be set here:



To make settings, click the "Edit" button

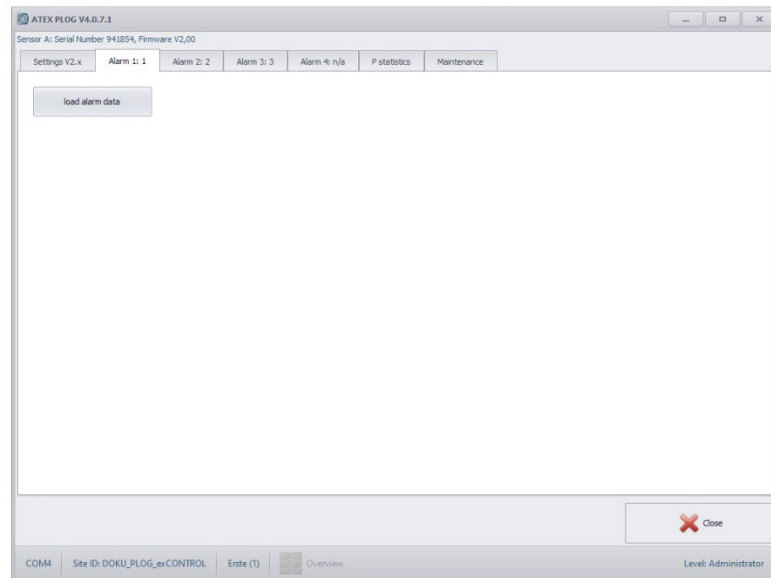


The settings are saved only after clicking the "Store" button.

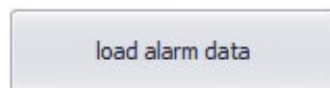


Sensor alarms read out

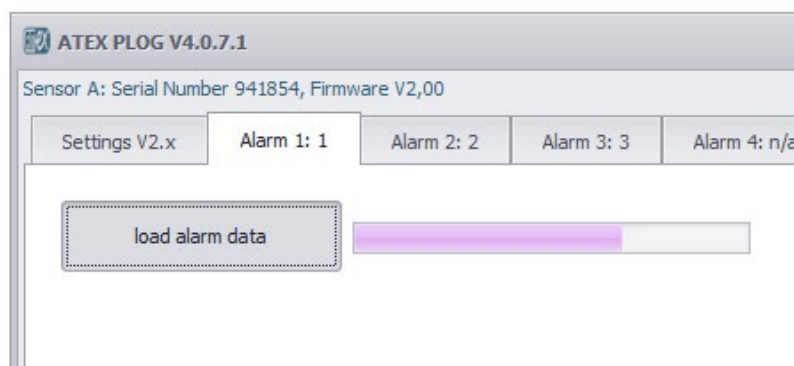
In the header of the window, the alarms that the sensor has stored can be selected. By clicking on the corresponding tab (Alarm 1 / Alarm 2 / a separate view opens:



By clicking on the button "load alarm data" the recorded alarm will be loaded:

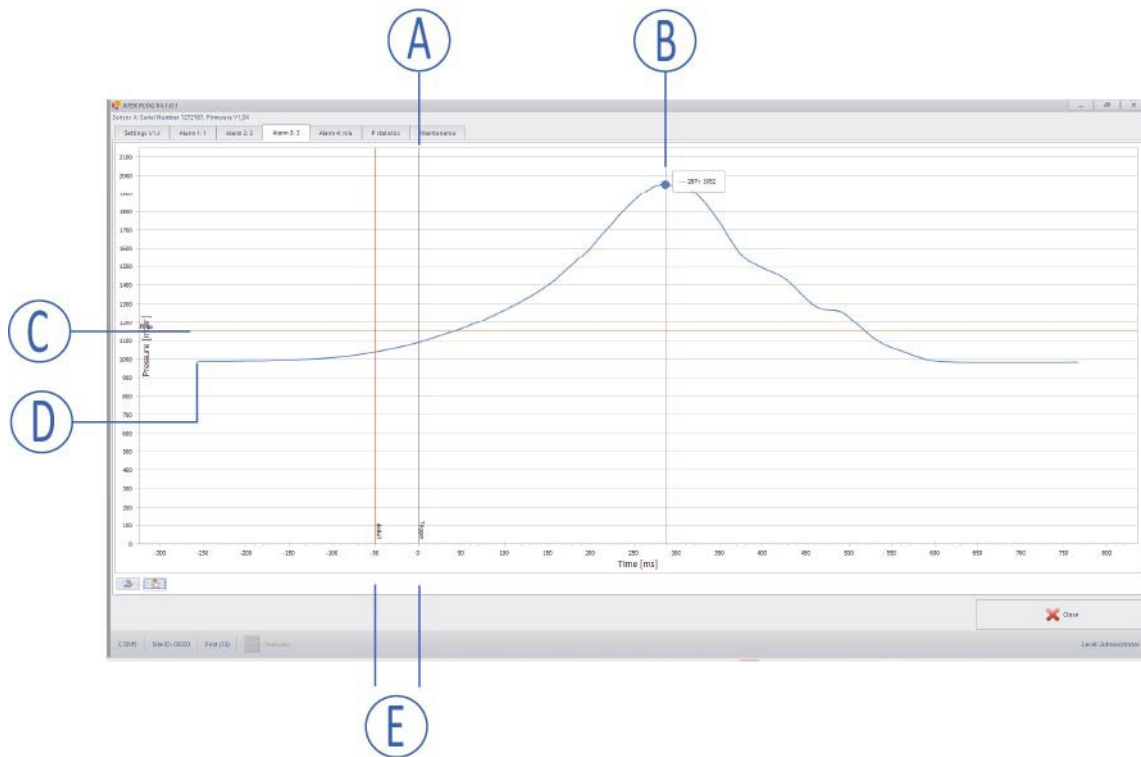


A loading bar indicates the loading progress:



After successful loading, the pressure history of the stored alarm is displayed as a graph.

The representation of the graph differs depending on the firmware. For sensors with firmware V1.04, the pressure curve when the triggering parameters are reached, the triggering time, the set static pressure and dT are displayed. A cursor is also shown:



PXD firmware 1.04 pressure curve graph

A: Trigger time

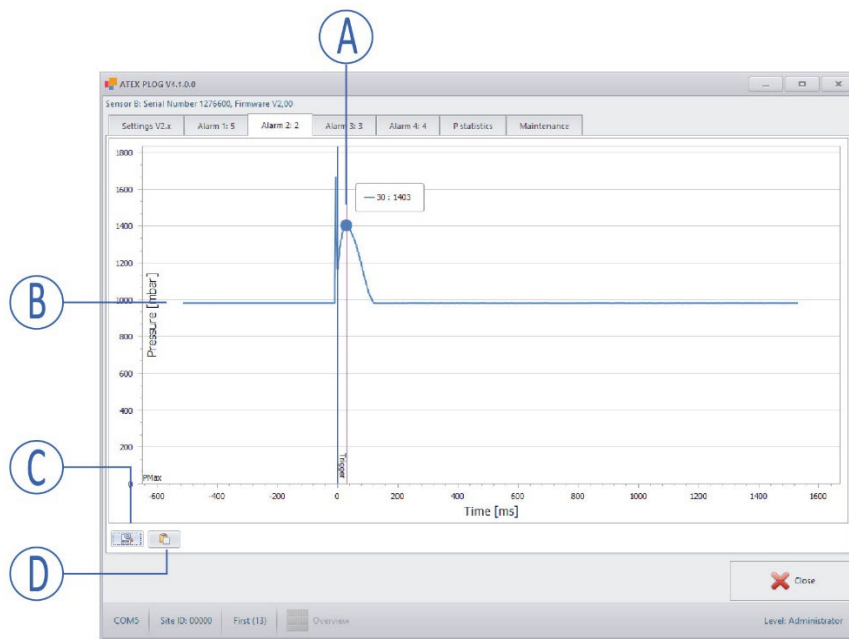
B: Cursor

C: p static triggering value

D: Pressure/time curve when the trigger parameters are reached

E: dT

The graph for PXDs with firmware V2.0 only shows the pressure/time curve and the cursor:



PXD firmware 2.00 pressure curve graph

A: Pressure/time curve when the trigger parameters are reached

B: Cursor

C: Resize Button

D: Copy to Clipboard

Viewing Alarm Data

The graph displaying the alarm data for the PXD sensors can be zoomed in on using the mouse scroll wheel. This applies to both PXD firmware version 1.04 and firmware version 2.0. To return to 100% scale, click the “Scale” button (labelled “C” in the image above):

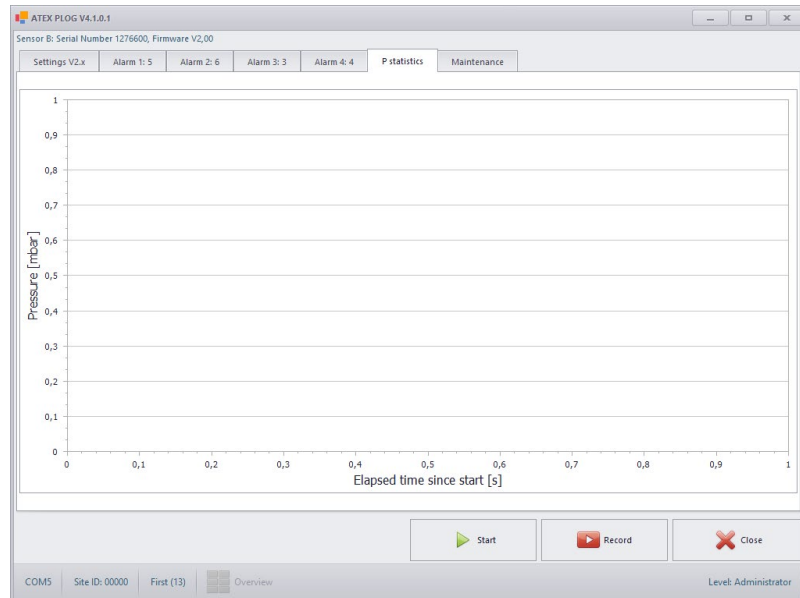


In addition, the displayed graph can be saved to the clipboard as a screenshot by clicking the “Copy to Clipboard” button. (labelled “D” in the image above) The graph can then be easily pasted into another document (e.g., Word):

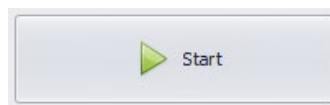


Sensor P statistic: Recording the pressure curve over a longer period of time

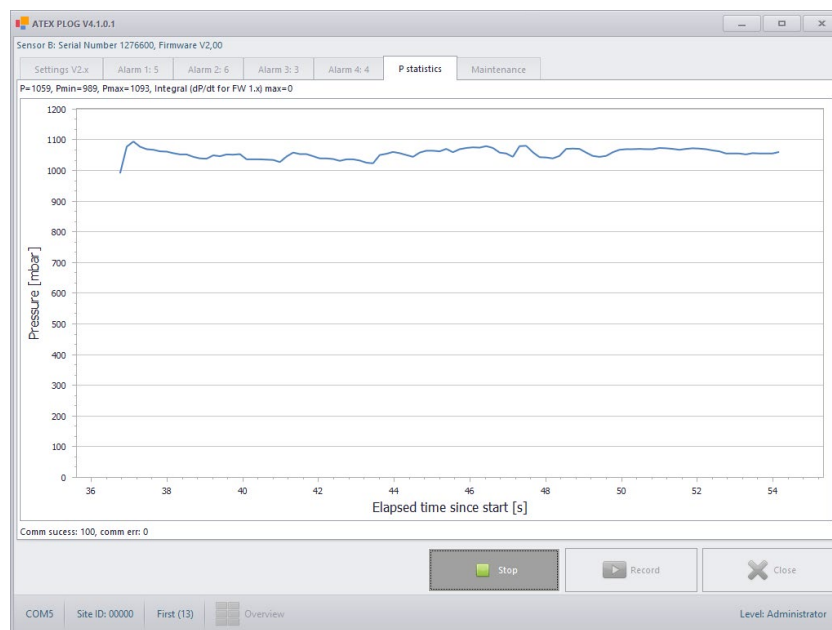
By clicking on the P statistics tab, the view changes to an input window for the pressure recording:



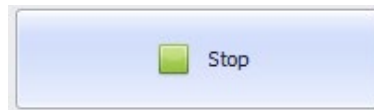
Clicking the "Start" button starts the pressure recording:



The pressure curve is then displayed in real time as a graph in the window:



To stop the recording click the "Stop" button.



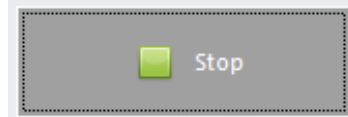
When the recording is restarted by clicking on the "Start" button, the existing recording is deleted and a new pressure curve is recorded.

Note: These readings are displayed only on the screen. However, it is possible to record the pressure curve on the sensor in a text file. To do this, press the "record" button.



A window will then open to select the location for the pressure curve data.

Recording to the file begins as soon as the Record button is pressed. It is stopped by pressing the "Stop" button.

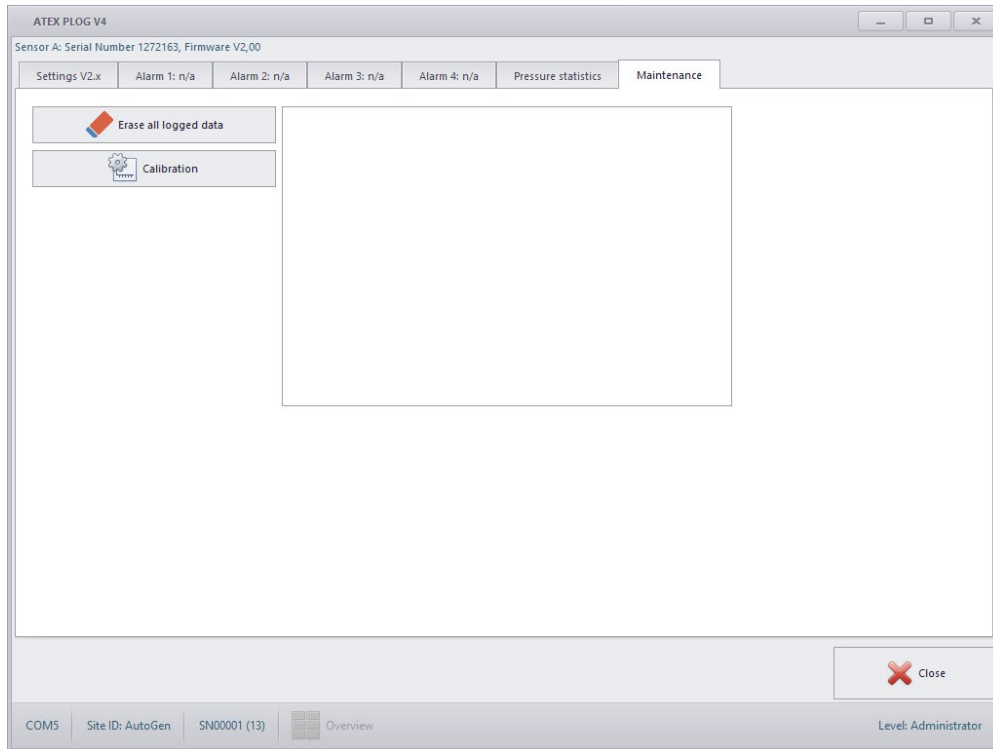


The file is saved as a .txt file and looks like this:

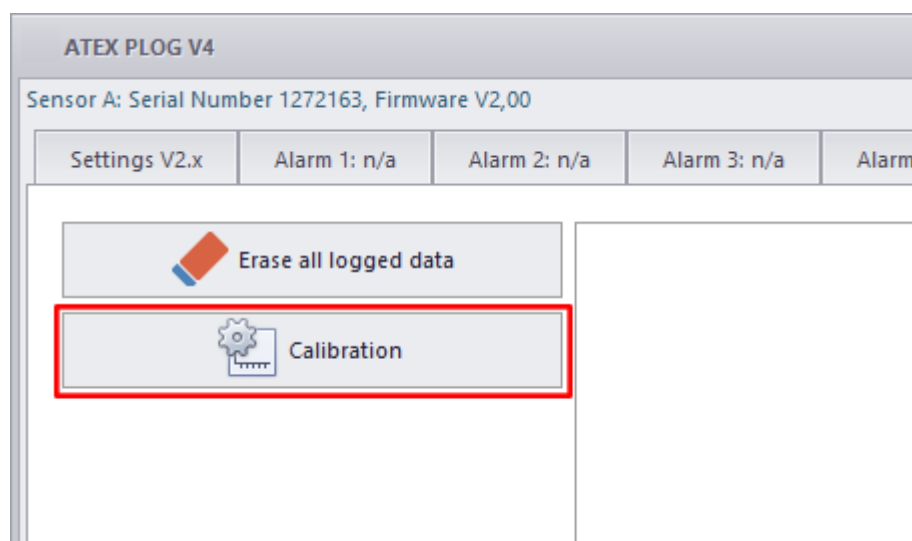
```
Start: 2026-07-13T14:16:51
Seconds Pressure Pmin Pmax I(dP/dT)
726,694 990 988 990 0
726,87 990 988 990 0
727,045 990 988 990 0
727,221 990 988 990 0
727,397 990 988 990 0
727,573 990 988 990 0
727,749 990 988 990 0
727,925 990 988 990 0
728,1 990 988 990 0
728,276 990 988 990 0
728,452 989 988 990 0
728,628 990 988 990 0
728,804 990 988 990 0
728,98 990 988 990 0
729,155 990 988 990 0
729,332 990 988 990 0
729,507 990 988 990 0
729,683 991 988 992 0
729,859 989 988 992 0
730,035 993 988 993 0
```

Sensor Maintenance

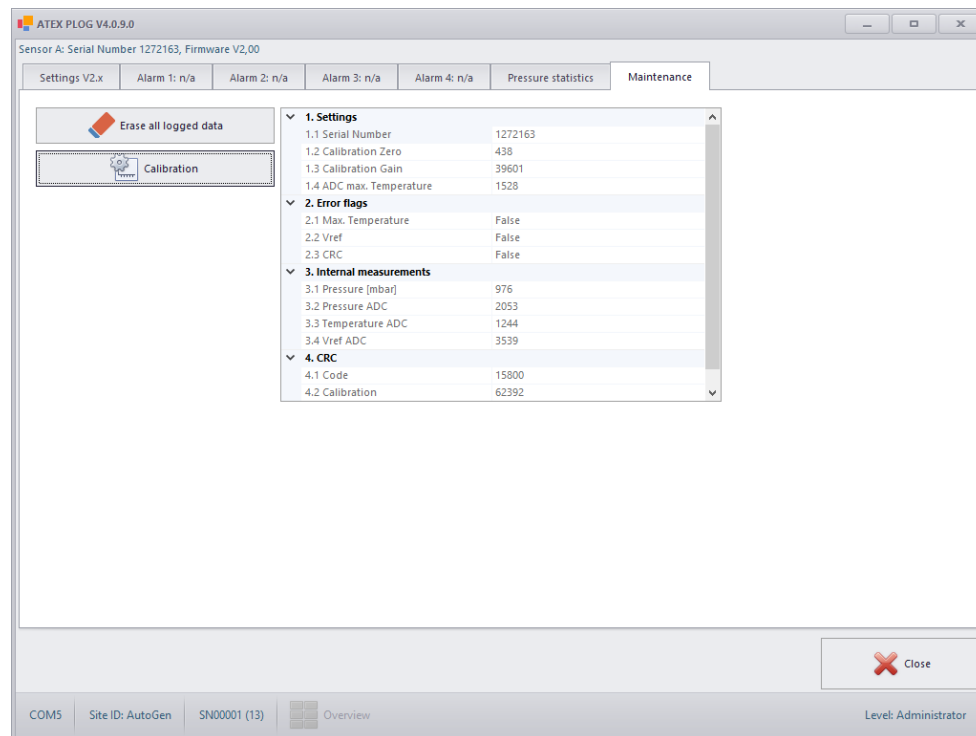
By clicking on the Maintenance tab, the view changes to the maintenance window:



The explosion pressure sensors type PXD are calibrated before delivery and then tested. Information about the calibration, as well as information about the current sensor status, can be accessed in the "Calibration" window. To call up the calibration data, click the "Calibration" button.



The calibration values stored on the PXD sensor, the measured data and error counters are then displayed in the window to the right of the button:



The following values and parameters are displayed:

Settings

Serial Number
Calibration Zero
Calibration Gain
ADC max. Temperature

Internal measurements

Pressure [mbar]
Pressure ADC
Temperature ADC
Vref ADC

Error flags

Max. Temperature
Vref
CRC

CRC

Code
Calibration

The displayed values cannot be edited and are primarily only meaningful for the manufacturer.

Important Note:

However, in the event of sensor malfunctions, the status of the “Error Flags” under point 2 should be checked by service personnel. If a flag is set to “TRUE” instead “FALSE” here, a malfunction and its cause are displayed:

2.1 Max. Temperature: a TRUE indicates that the maximum permissible operating temperature has been exceeded.

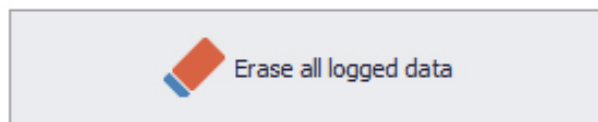
2.2 Vref: a TRUE indicates that the internal reference voltage (Vref) is outside the specified level

2.3 CRC: a TRUE indicates that the checksum of the cyclic redundancy check is incorrect

If any of these error flags is set to TRUE, the corresponding sensor must be removed and checked by the manufacturer. Further operation is not possible!

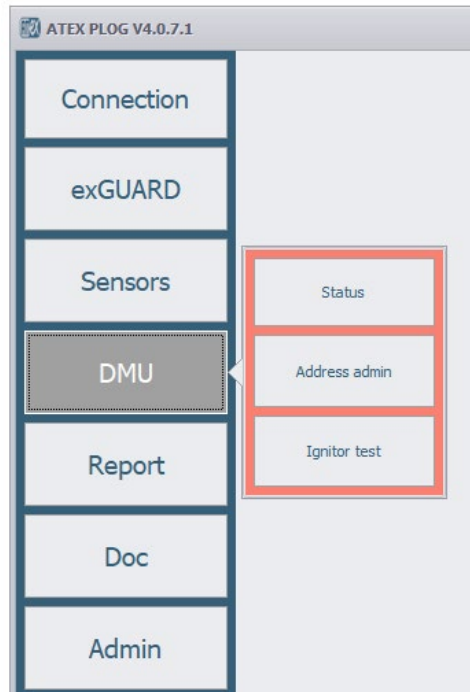
Clicking the "Erase all logged data" button erases all logged data (alarms)

Here, all data stored by the sensor can be deleted:



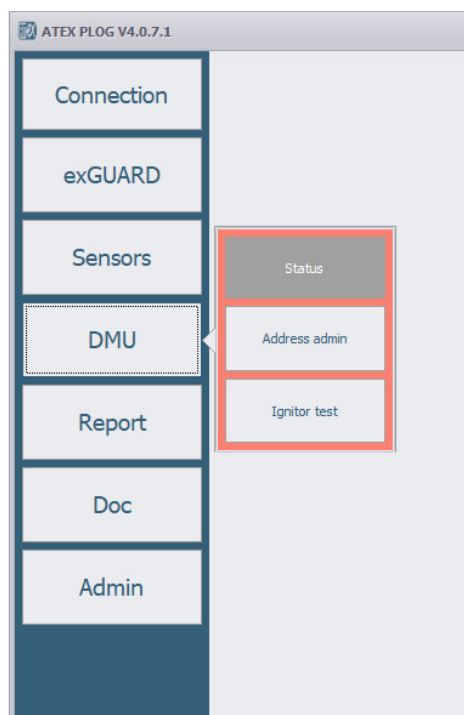
DMU (Device Monitoring Unit)

The menu item DMU contains the setting and diagnostic tools for the device monitoring modules in the actuators:

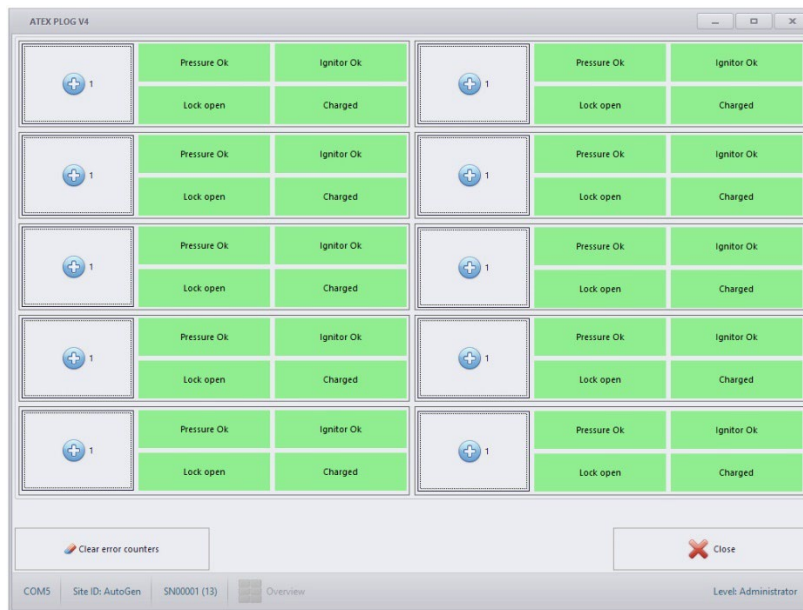


Show DMU status

To display the status of all DMUs, select the "Status" menu item:

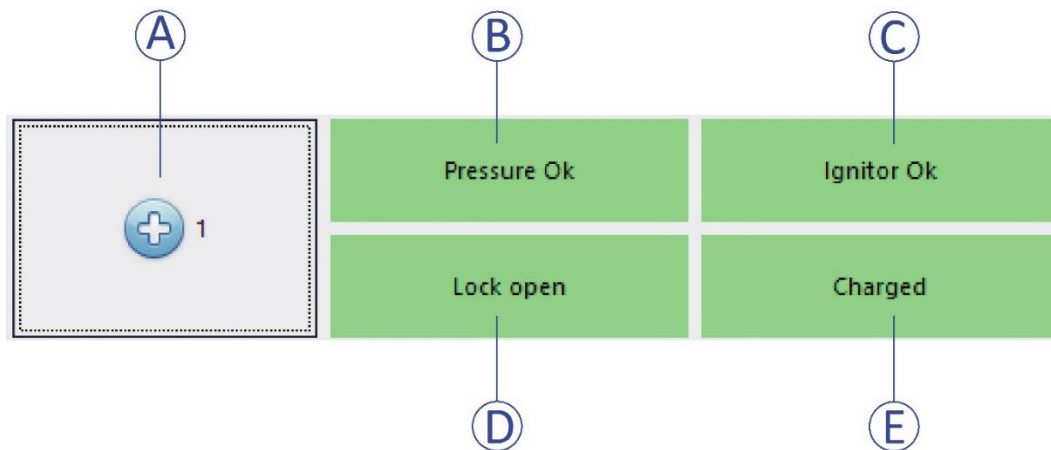


An overview matrix opens, showing the states of all actuators connected to the exGUARD in a general overview. The example shows the state of 10 connected DMUs in a fault-free state:



Simplified representation overview DMU status

For each of the ten possible actuators, the following states are displayed in colour:



A: Overall state and address

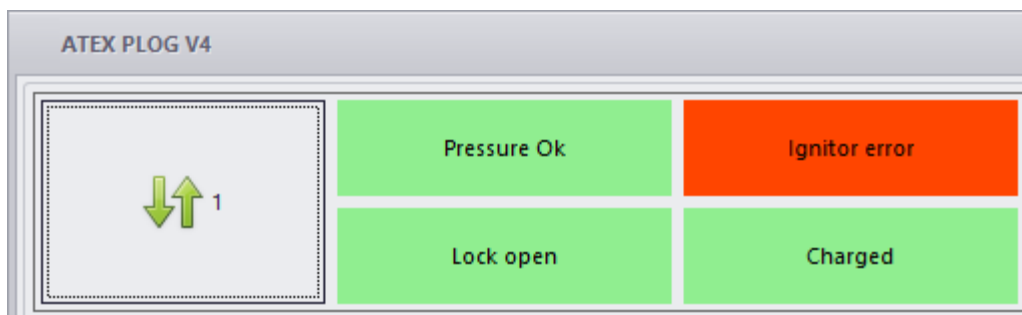
B: Pressure state

C Ignitor state

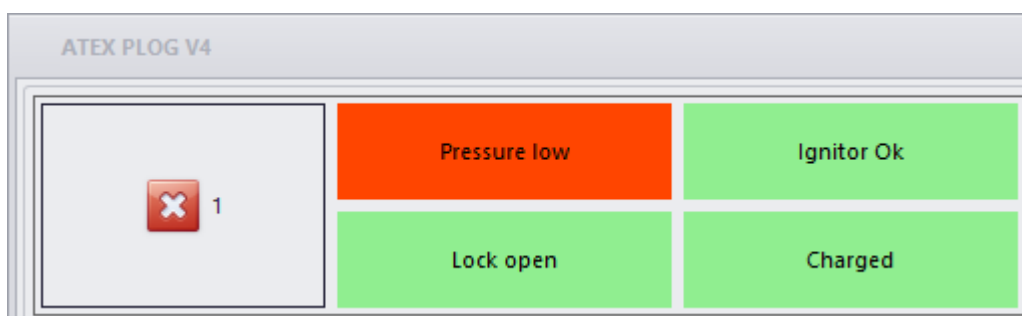
D: Lock state

C: Charging state

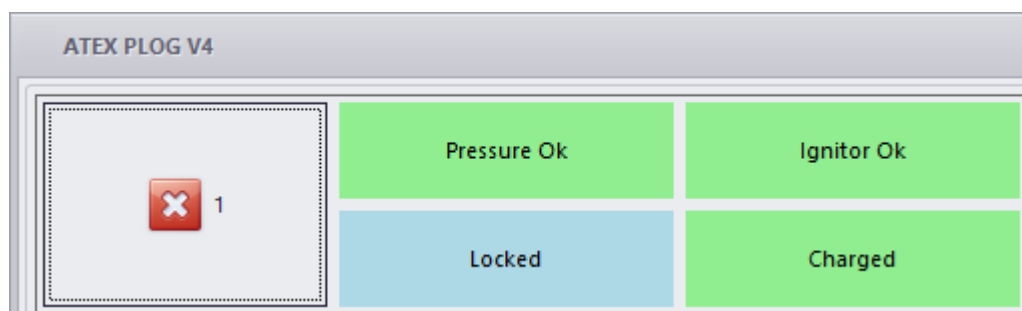
In case of a fault the state indicators change colours. The Icon of the overall state changes as well:



Ignitor (gas generator) error



Pressure error



Suppressor mechanically locked



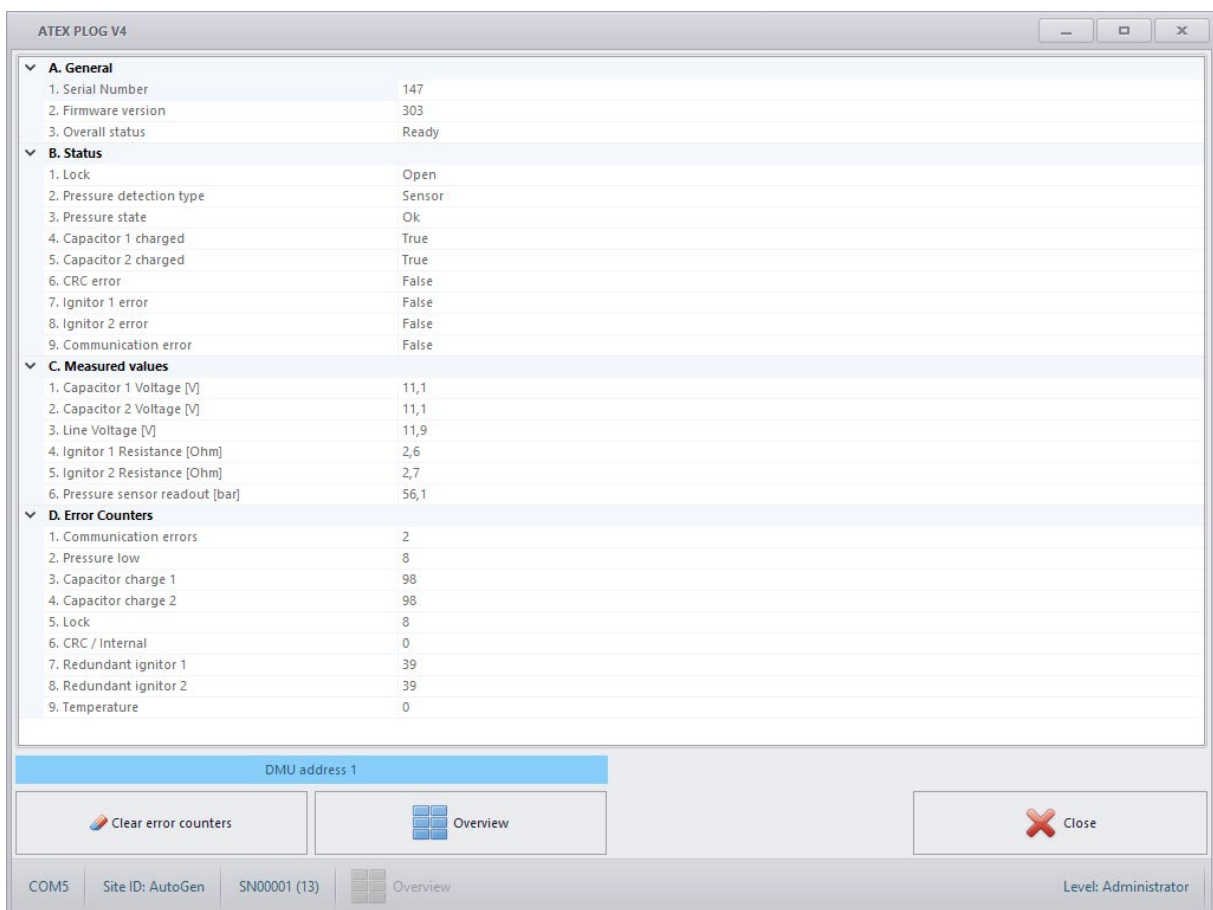
Trigger capacitors discharged

Detailed DMU status

To open a detailed view of a specific DMU, click on the overview icon:



This opens the detailed view window:



Displayed values in the DMU overview

A General

#	Designation	Status	Description
1	Serial Number	--	Shows the serial number of the DMU
2	Firmware Version	--	Shows the firmware release version
3	Overall Status	Ready	Capacitors charged; no malfunction detected
		Disarmed	Capacitors discharged
		Error	A fault or malfunction detected (see table below for additional information)
		Locked	DMU in disarmed state and limit switch for "Locked" feedback activated
		Charging	Capacitors are being charged or discharged
		CommErr	Communication error between exGuard and DMU

B Status

#	Designation	STATUS	Description of Status	Additional Information on Status	Consequence depending on status
1	Lock	Open	Actuator is mechanically unlocked	Monitoring of the limit switches for the locked and unlocked position	System ready
		Error	Mechanical lock is in an intermediate position		Major Fault
		Closed	Actuator is mechanically locked		Major Fault
2	Pressure detection type	Switch	Pressure Switch in operation	Type of switch for propellant pressure monitoring	--
		Sensor	Pressure Transmitter in operation		
3	Pressure State	OK	Pressure ≥ 60 bar	Feedback on the current propellant pressure	System ready
		Warning	Pressure ≤ 54 bar		Minor Fault
		Error	Pressure ≤ 48 bar		Major Fault
4	Capacitor 1 charged	True	Charge ≥ 90 %	Monitoring the charge on the ignition capacitors	System ready
		False	Charge ≤ 90 %		Minor Fault *
5	Capacitor 2 charged	True	Charge ≥ 90 %		System ready
		False	Charge ≤ 90 %		Minor Fault *
6	CRC Error	True	Checksum incorrect	Checksum monitoring of the cyclical redundancy check (CRC)	Major Fault
		False	Checksum correct		System ready
7	Ignitor 1 error	True	Gas generator not healthy	Monitoring of the electrical resistance of the gas generators	Minor Fault**
		False	Gas generator healthy		System ready
8	Ignitor 2 error	True	Gas generator not healthy		Minor Fault**
		False	Gas generator healthy		System ready
9	Communication Error	True	Communication failed	Monitoring of the communication (data transmission) between exGuard and DMU	Major Fault
		False	Communication established		System ready

*) Note: if "False" (fault) occurs on both parts at the same time then a MAJOR FAULT is displayed

**) Note: if "True" (fault) occurs on both parts at the same time then a MAJOR FAULT is displayed

C. Measured Values

#	Designation	Displayed Value	Unit	Additional Information
1	capacitor 1 Voltage	0 – 11	volts	Depending on system status: armed $\approx$ 11V, disarmed (or disconnected) $\approx$ 0V
2	capacitor 2 Voltage	0 – 11	volts	
3	Line voltage	0 – 12	volts	Depending on system status: armed $\approx$ 12V, disarmed (or disconnected) $\leq$ 5V
4*	Ignitor 1 Resistance	0 – 25.5	ohm	Typically, 2.5 Ω
5*	Ignitor 2 Resistance	0 – 25.5	ohm	
6*	Pressure sensor readout	0 – 100	barg	Typically, 60 barg (0 – 100 bar is the range of the transmitter)

*Note: If a DMM2 or a DMU3C (compatibility mode) is connected then these values are not measured and are therefore displayed as zero (0) permanently.

D. Error Counters

All DMUs are equipped with an error counter. This means that the number of all errors is registered, assigned, totaled and displayed here:

D. Error Counters	
1. Communication errors	1
2. Pressure low	10
3. Capacitor charge 1	14
4. Capacitor charge 2	14
5. Lock	5
6. CRC / Internal	0
7. Redundant ignitor 1	4
8. Redundant ignitor 2	3
9. Temperature	0

All errors are registered and counted when the system is in armed mode! The error counter is not active in disarmed mode.

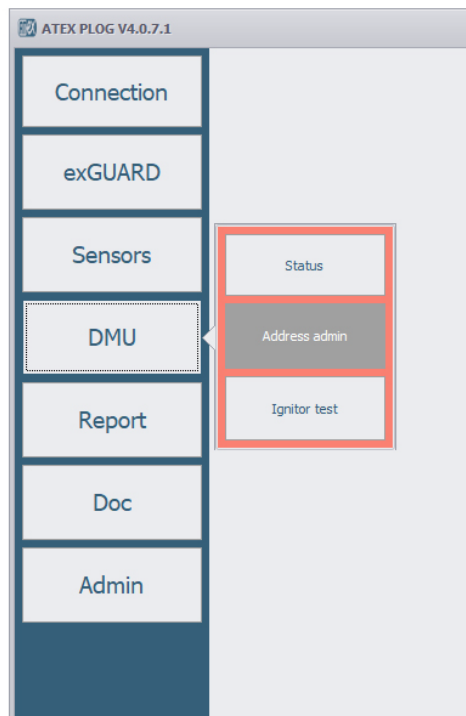
Note:

If an error counter is $\neq$ 0, this does not mean that an error is currently pending! The error counter only shows the total of all errors counted.

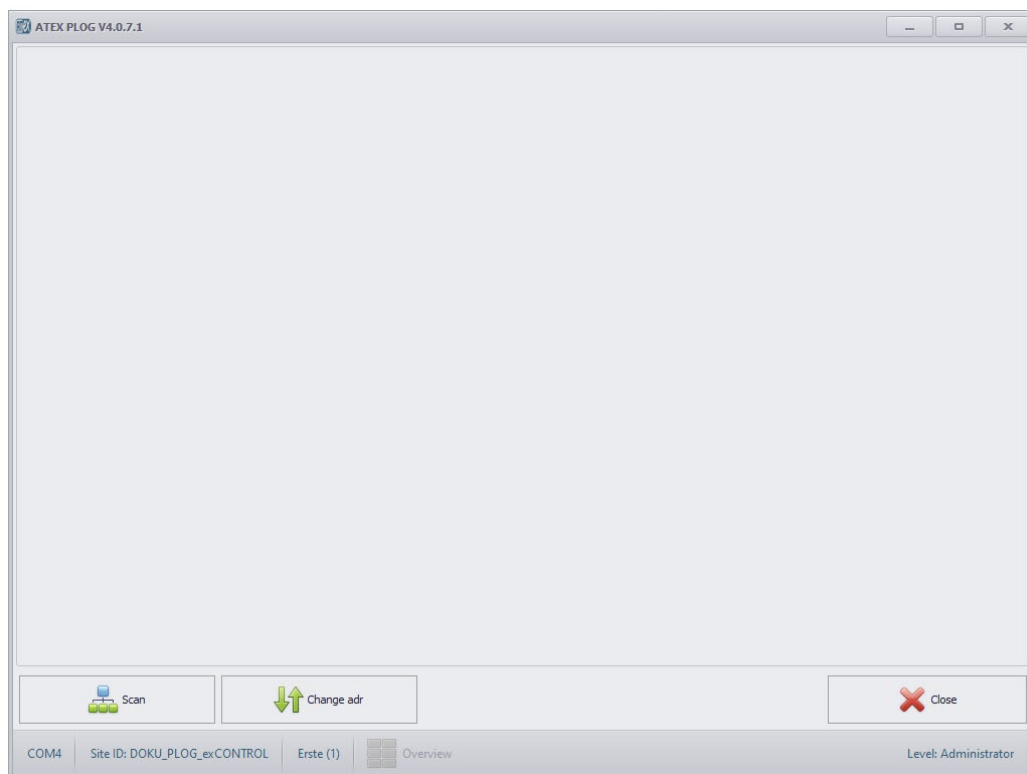
The following is displayed and counted:

#	Designation	Events that increment the counter	Additional Information
1	communication errors	Communication error during data transmission between DMU and exGUARD	e.g. caused by wire break
2	pressure low	Feedback from pressure monitoring when the value drops below the specified level	Signal from Pressure Switch or Pressure Transmitter
3	capacitor charge 1	feedback when capacitor charge is < 90% at ignition capacitor 1	Note: switching from ARMED to DISARMED is inextricably linked to discharging the ignition capacitors! This means that a capacitor charge error is always generated when the system is switched to Disarmed
4	capacitor charge 2	feedback when capacitor charge is < 90% at ignition capacitor 2	
5	lock	by turning the mechanical locking device from UNLOCKRD to LOCK ERROR	Feedback signal from limit switch UNLOCK
6	CRC/Internal	Error in the checksum of the cyclical redundancy check	Software malfunction in the DMU
7	redundant ignitor 1	the gas generator resistance does not correspond to the typical value	Resistance value below 0.5 Ω or above 5.5 Ω
8	redundant ignitor 1	the gas generator resistance does not correspond to the typical value	
9	temperature	each time the internal temperature of the DMU falls below -25 °C or exceeds +75 °C (the internal DMU temperature changes in proportion to the ambient temperature)	note: the event is only counted but not displayed as a minor or major fault

DMU Address admin / Address administration



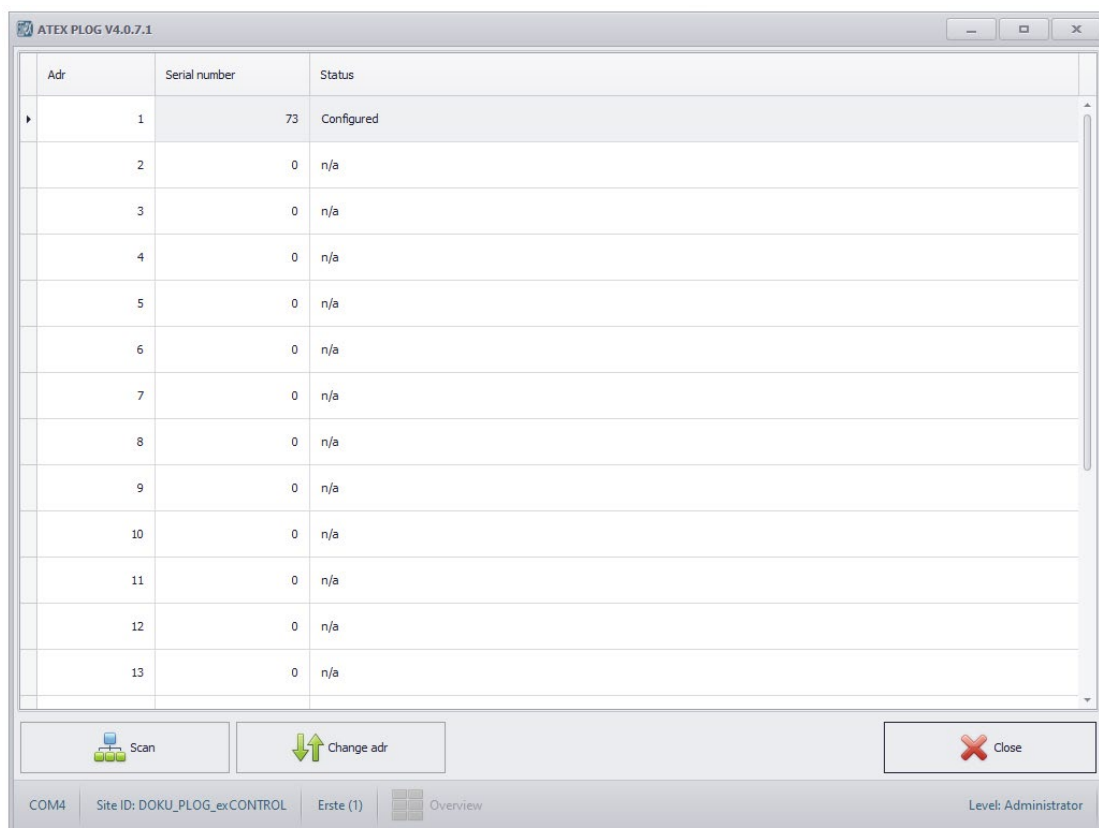
Clicking the Address admin / Address management button will switch the view to the address management:



By clicking the Scan button, the DMM modules connected to the exGUARD are scanned

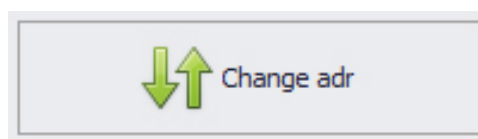


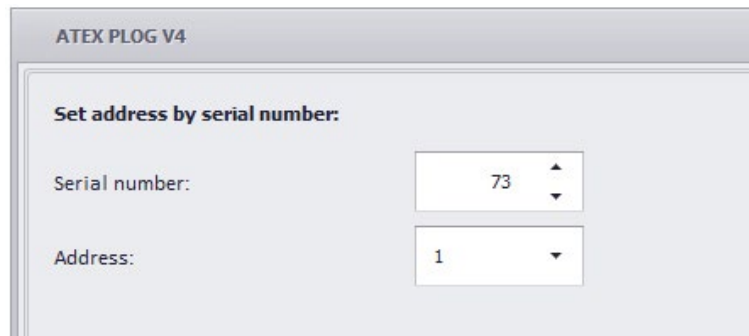
and then appear in a list:

A screenshot of the ATEX PLOG V4.0.7.1 software window. It features a table with columns for Address (Adr), Serial number, and Status. The table lists 13 addresses, with the first one (address 1) being 'Configured' and the others 'n/a'. Below the table are three buttons: 'Scan' (with a tree icon), 'Change adr' (with a double arrow icon), and 'Close' (with a red X icon). The status bar at the bottom shows 'COM4', 'Site ID: DOKU_PLOG_exCONTROL', 'Erste (1)', an 'Overview' button, and 'Level: Administrator'.

Adr	Serial number	Status
1	73	Configured
2	0	n/a
3	0	n/a
4	0	n/a
5	0	n/a
6	0	n/a
7	0	n/a
8	0	n/a
9	0	n/a
10	0	n/a
11	0	n/a
12	0	n/a
13	0	n/a

The overview list shows all connected DMUs and their addresses. Only addresses 1-10 are evaluated and displayed! The addresses of the DMUs can be changed in this overview by clicking on the button "Change Adr."





ATEX PLOG V4

Set address by serial number:

Serial number: 73

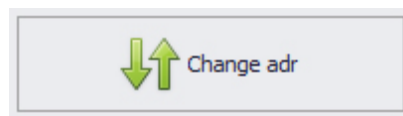
Address: 1

Here, the serial number of the DMU to be changed is first selected in the upper field and then determined in the lower field.

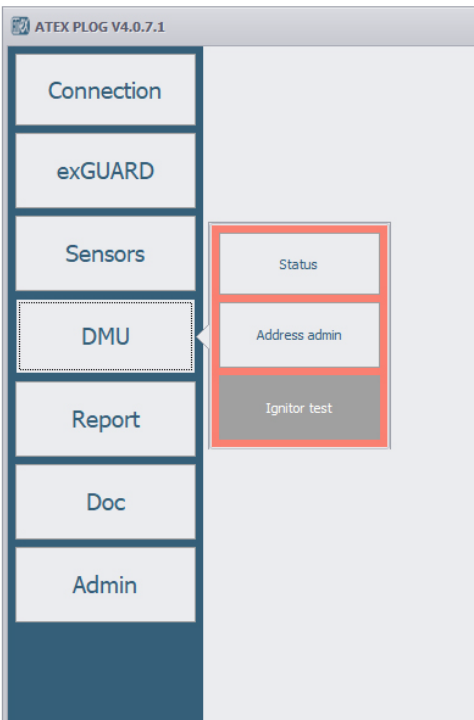
Confirmation of the address change is done by clicking on the "OK" button.



Afterwards, the process can be repeated for other DMUs by pressing the "Change adr. button again.

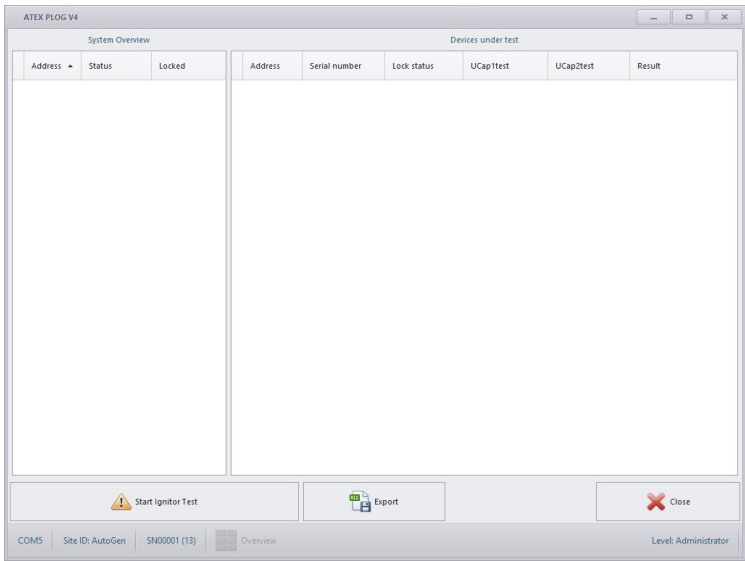


DMU Ignitor Test

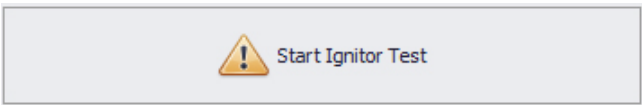


The ignitor test is carried out in locked and disarmed mode. It checks the entire tripping circuit including the electrical resistance of the gas generators (ignitors).

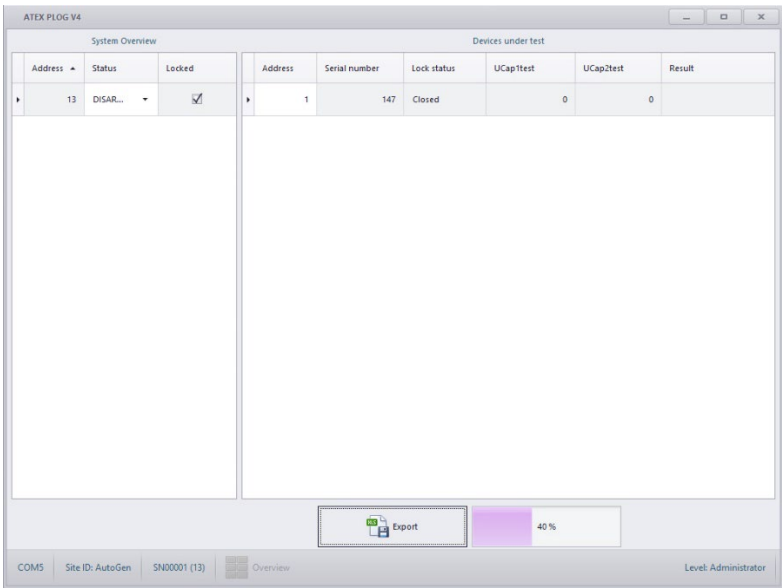
The view for the ignitor test function is called up by clicking on the "Ignitor Test" button:



To start the ignitor test, press the “Start IgnitorTest” button on the bottom of the window:



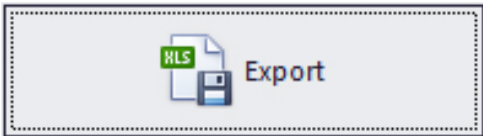
During the ignitor test, a progress bar appears at the bottom of the window:



The result of the ignitor test is displayed on the right side of the window. If the test was carried out successfully a PASS will be displayed. In the other case, a FAIL is displayed.

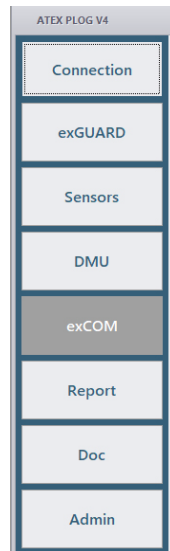
Devices under test						
	Address	Serial number	Lock status	UCap1test	UCap2test	Result
▶	1	147	Closed	1,8	1,9	PASS

By clicking on the "Export" button, the result can be exported as an Excel file:

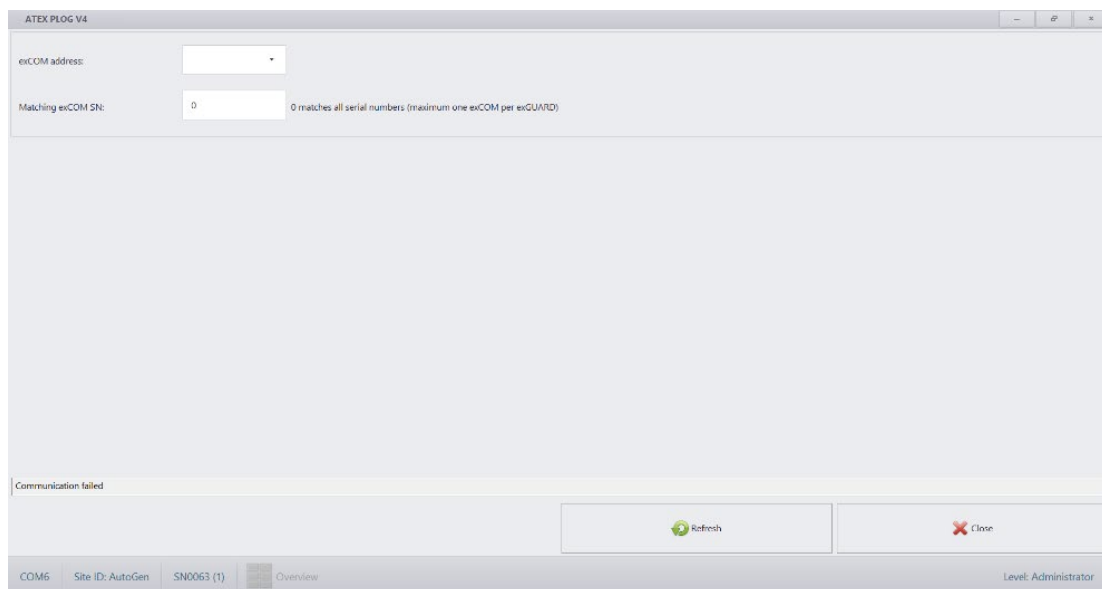


exCOM

The menu item exCOM opens an interface which provides information on the system states and configurations of the connected exCOM modules.



After clicking on the "exCOM" button, the interface window opens with input fields for the connection to the requested Module:

The screenshot shows a window titled "ATEX PLOG V4" with a header bar. Below the header, there are two input fields: "exCOM address:" with a dropdown menu, and "Matching exCOM SN:" with a text input field containing "0". To the right of the SN field, a note reads: "0 matches all serial numbers (maximum one exCOM per exGUARD)". Below these fields is a large empty area. At the bottom, there is a status bar with a yellow bar indicating "Communication failed". To the right of this bar are two buttons: "Refresh" (with a green circular arrow icon) and "Close" (with a red X icon). The footer of the window contains the text "COM6 Site ID: AutoGen SN0063 (1) Overview" and "Level: Administrator".

The address and serial number of the requested exCOM must be entered here. The address is the same as that of the exGUARD to which the exCOM is connected.

The exCOM address is entered via a dropdown menu:

ATEX PLOG V4

exCOM address:

Matching exCOM SN:

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

The serial number of the requested exCOM is entered manually into the field below. The default number is "0" and as long as there is only one exCOM connected to the exGUARD, the serial number can be left at "0".

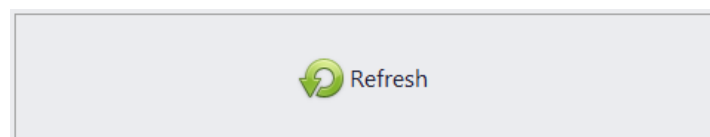
That means that only in case of more than one exCOM is connected, the serial number of the requested exCOM has to be entered. In this example the serial number is changed to "10":

ATEX PLOG V4

exCOM address: 1

Matching exCOM SN: 10 0 matches all serial numbers (maximum one exCOM per exGUARD)

After entering the correct device and serial number of the desired exCOM module, click on the "Refresh" button at the bottom of the window:



The exCOM data is then read out and displayed in the field below:

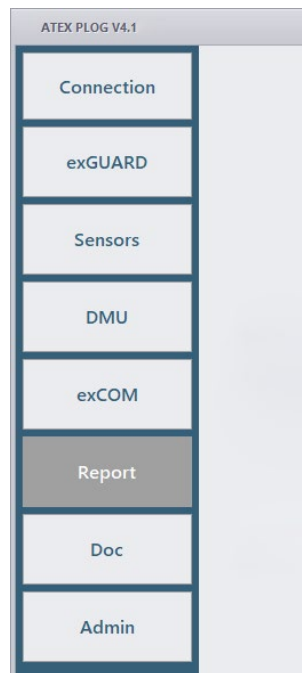
ATEX PLOG V4		
exCOM address:	1	
Matching exCOM SN:	10	0 matches all serial numbers (maximum one exCOM per exGUARD)
Shutting time [ms]:	27,3	☐ closed
Serial number:	10	☒ open
Firmware version:	101	☒ Manual operation enabled
		☐ CIP

The values displayed are as follows:

- Shutting time (in ms)
Note: the shutting time is automatically measured and saved each time the QSV is triggered.
- Serial Number
- Firmware version
- open/close state
- State of the two enable inputs (manual operation / CIP)

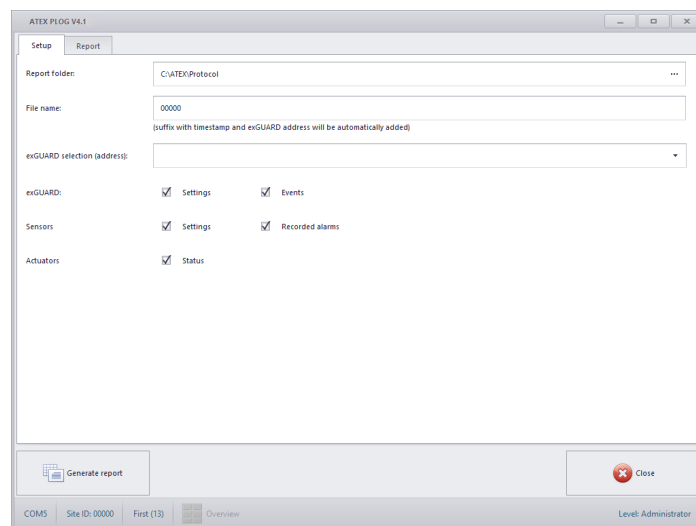
Note: The module evaluates the data in real time, but in order to display it correctly after a status change during maintenance, the "Refresh" button must be pressed. This applies in particular to the shutting time measurement.

Report function (Report)



Generate report

Clicking the "Report" button switches the view to the settings level for report generation:



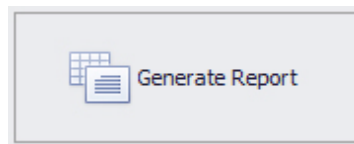
Here the location for the report is defined in the column "Report folder" as well as the name for the report file. A timestamp as well as the address of the exGUARD module is automatically inserted into the file name. Checkboxes are used to specify which data should be included in the report file. For a complete overview, all boxes must be ticked:

NOTE:

To generate a complete report (with all checkboxes selected), the system must be in disarmed mode.

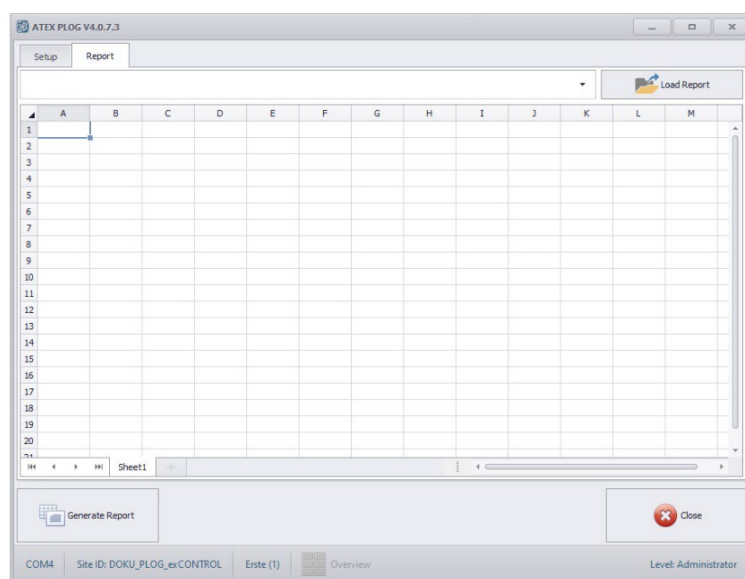
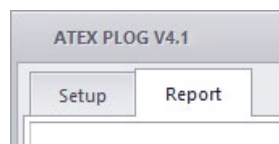
exGUARD:	☒ Settings	☒ Events
Sensors	☒ Settings	☒ Recorded alarms
Actuators	☒ Status	

The report file is created by clicking the "Generate Report" button and saved as an Excel file in the previously defined location.

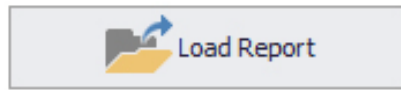


View report

To display a report file, select the "Report" tab in the header of the window:



If a report was generated directly before, it will be displayed here. Previously generated reports can be displayed via the "Load Report" button.



PLOG 4.1 Service Report

The service Report consists of an Excel file. The document is divided into three sheets, each for exGUARD, PXD and DMU. They can be selected by the tabs at the bottom of the document.

32	02.12.2020 - 13:04:11.194	ARMING	True		
33	02.12.2020 - 13:04:21.105	ARMED	True	READY	

⏮
◀
▶
⏭
 exGuard PXD DMU +

Report Sheet exGUARD:

This sheet consists of the following rows:

Timestamp, Main State, Redundant, Sensor State A, Sensor State B, Sensor State C, Bus State, Bus Device Mask and Error.

Furthermore, the time and date of the report generation as well as the name of the user are displayed in the header line. Lines 4-12 list the basic configuration of the exGUARD. (connected sensors and protection devices, type of DMM, sensor configuration etc.).

Timestamp

This column shows the exact time and date at which the change of state was registered. Note: These values are very accurate and even milliseconds are displayed

Main State

This column shows the status of the exGUARD covering everything (i.e. sensors, actuators and exGUARD itself) The following status messages are possible:

OFF	Power down
ON	Power up
INIT	exGUARD is booting
ARMING	Detectors and protection devices are charging and put into operation
ARMED	Explosion protection active
DISARMED	System switched to disarmed, trigger-capacitors inside the DMM discharged
MAJOR	System has detected a Major Fault type error
MINOR	System has detected a Minor Fault type error

FIRED	Explosion detected, system activated
CROSSFIRED	System has been activated by another exGUARD

Sensor State A; Sensor State B; Sensor State C

This column shows the state of the connected sensor:

___	Sensor is not connected
READY	Normal operation mode
ERROR	Sensor malfunction
ALARM	Sensor has detected the preset pressure value being reached
FORCED_OFF	Sensor has been switched off by the exGUARD (After a short circuit or a broken cable)

Note: In “DISARMED” and “ARMING” main state the sensors are indicated as “not connected”: ___

Error

Shows whether the error is caused by a sensor or a protection device (actuator). Errors in data processing are also displayed:

SENS = Sensor

ACT = Actuator (Protection device)

CRC = cyclic redundancy check (error-detecting code detected accidental changes to raw data.)

Note: The bus state “LOCKED” is indicated as an error both for Sensor and Actor: “SENS,ACT”.

D1; D2; D3; D4; D5; D6; D7; D8; D9; D10

These columns show the error-type occurring at each connected DMU (or actuator):

X = Locking error

C1 = capacitor 1

C2 = capacitor 2

I1 = ignitor1

I2 = ignitor2

P = pressure

ComF = Communication failure to the actuator

Note: During manual locking, the "Locking error" position is also registered. This is due to the fact that the intermediate position is being passed through during the locking process.

Report Sheet PXD

In the header lines 2-15 the basic information on each of the connected sensors are shown. This includes the serial number, firmware version and the activation values programmed on the sensor.

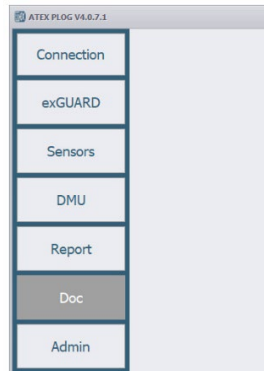
In the section below are the records from the sensors' event memories. Each sensor has 4 event memories. The oldest event is deleted when these memories are full. For each event the pressure history is displayed as a graph.

Report Sheet DMU

This report sheet shows the state of the connected DMUs at the time the report was generated. It provides basic information on each device such as serial number, Firmware version, the voltages at the capacitors, the line voltage, the ignitor resistances and the pressure values (if available) In addition to this error flags and error counters for pressure, capacitor and ignitor state are shown for each device.

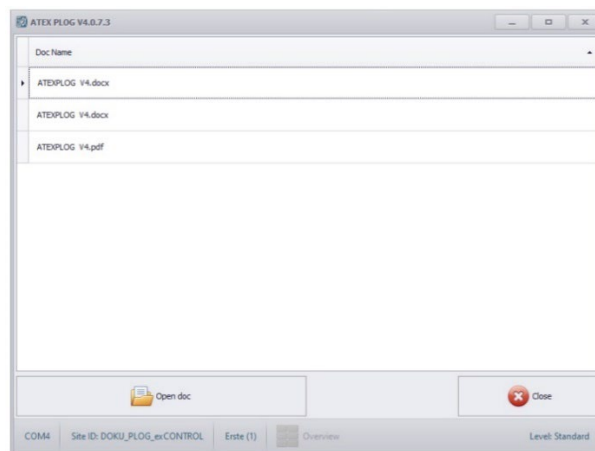
Documentation

The PLOG 4.1 software enables the display of documentation stored in the system, such as e-plans and instructions. The storage location for documents is set in the "Admin/Administrator" area under the "Miscellaneous" menu item.

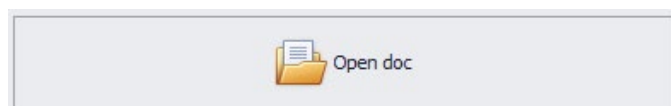


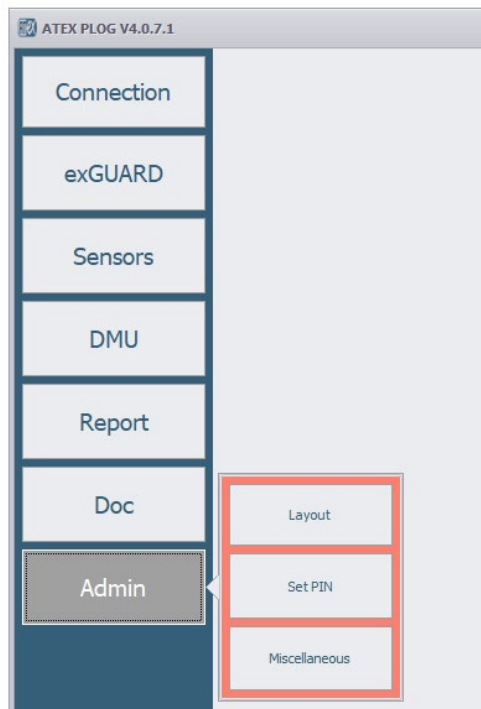
View documentation

By clicking on the button "Documentation/Doc" the view changes to an overview of the stored documents:



Documents are opened by clicking the "Open doc" button.

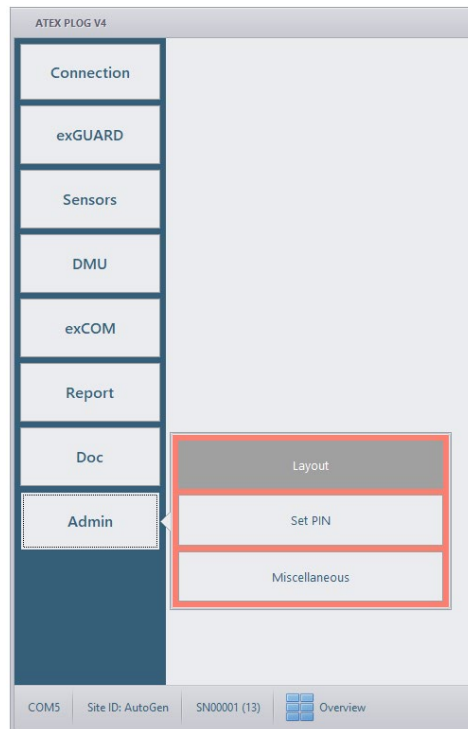




The following settings are provided under the "Administrator" menu item:

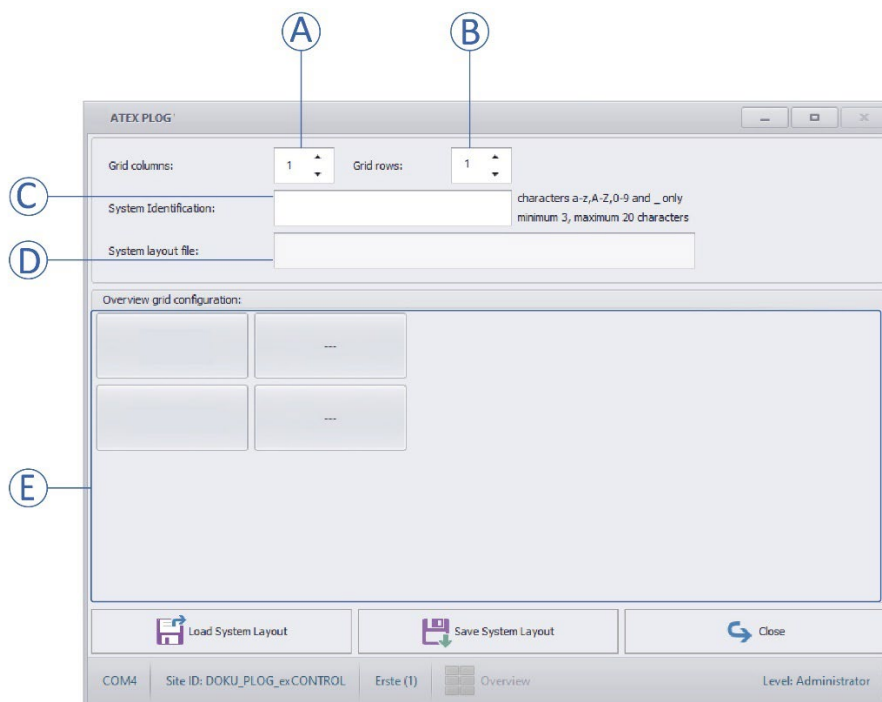
Layout	Definition of the appearance of the overview page Creation and import of a template file for the appearance
Set PIN	Assignment of PINs for users and administrators
Miscellaneous	Window size and buttons for displaying the PLOG 4.1 software Storage location for documents Language selection Deactivation of the PLOG 4.1 software

Admin/ Customize layout



Customize layout

By clicking the "Layout" button, the view changes to the configuration window for customizing the overview page of the PLOG 4.1 software:



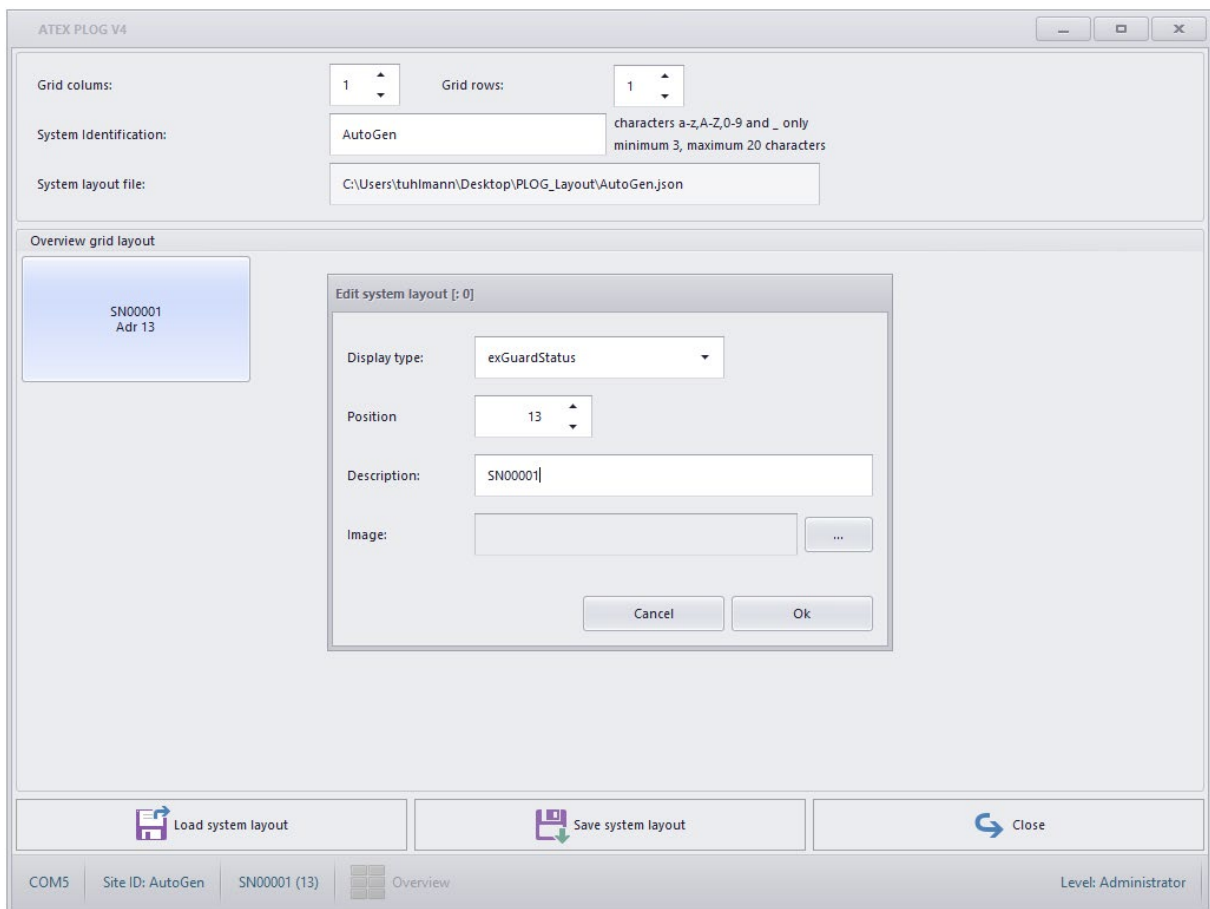
The system identification name is also assigned here (for example plant or facility code). The entry is made in field “C” under System identification” and will later appear as “Site ID” in the bottom line of the PLOG 4.1 software window.

The number of columns and rows is defined in fields (A) and (B). The smallest number of displayable lines is one. (1 grid column and 1 grid row)

The overview page can display the states of several exGUARD modules and images.

Clicking on a field in the collection window (E) opens a configuration window for the selected object.

In this example the exGUARD with the serial number 00001 and the address 13 is selected:



[: 1]

Display type: none

exGUARD address: none

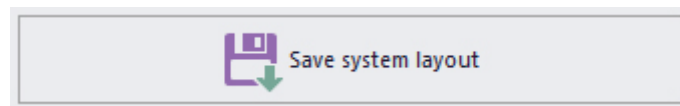
Description: exGuardStatus

Image: Image

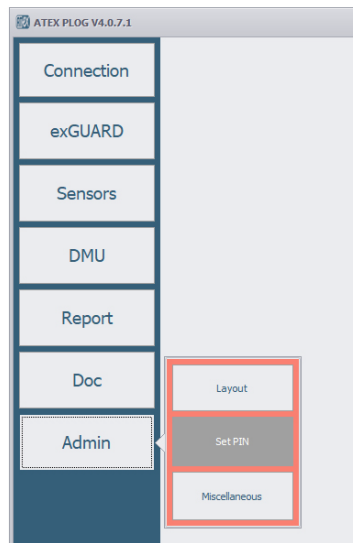
Image: [Text Field] ...

Cancel Ok

Once the configuration is complete, the layout file is saved by clicking on the "Save system layout" button at the bottom of the window. The storage location must first be specified in field "D" (System layout file).



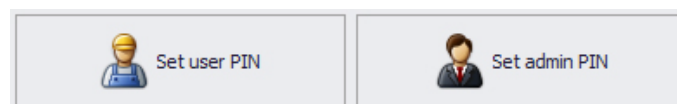
Admin / set pin



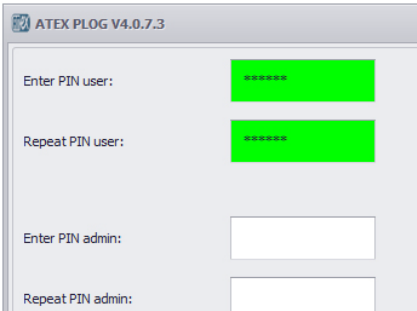
By clicking the "Set PIN" button, the view changes to the configuration window for PIN entry. Here, both the user and the administrator secret code can be entered:

The image shows the PIN configuration window of the ATEX PLOG V4.0.7.3 software. The window has a title bar with the text 'ATEX PLOG V4.0.7.3'. Inside, there are four input fields for PIN entry, each preceded by a label: 'Enter PIN user:', 'Repeat PIN user:', 'Enter PIN admin:', and 'Repeat PIN admin:'. Each input field contains six asterisks. Below the input fields, there is a note: 'PINs must consist of 6 numeric digits.' At the bottom of the window, there is a status bar with four buttons: 'Set user PIN' (with a worker icon), 'Set admin PIN' (with a person icon), 'Clear Pins' (with a eraser icon), and 'Close' (with a red X icon). The status bar also displays 'COM4', 'Site ID: DOKU_PLOG_exCONTROL', 'Erste (1)', 'Overview', and 'Level: Administrator'.

The PIN must consist of a six-digit number. The PIN is saved by clicking on the corresponding buttons:

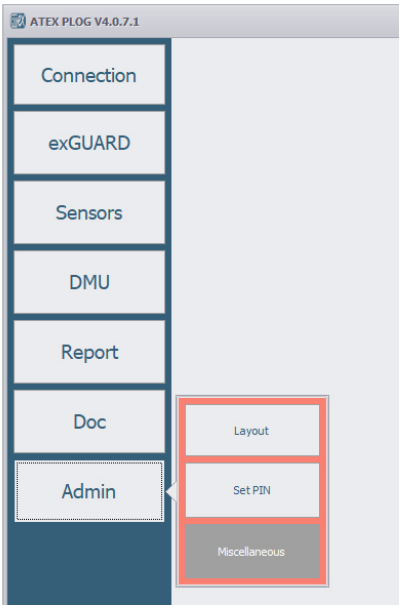


A successful change of the PIN is indicated by a green highlighted input field:



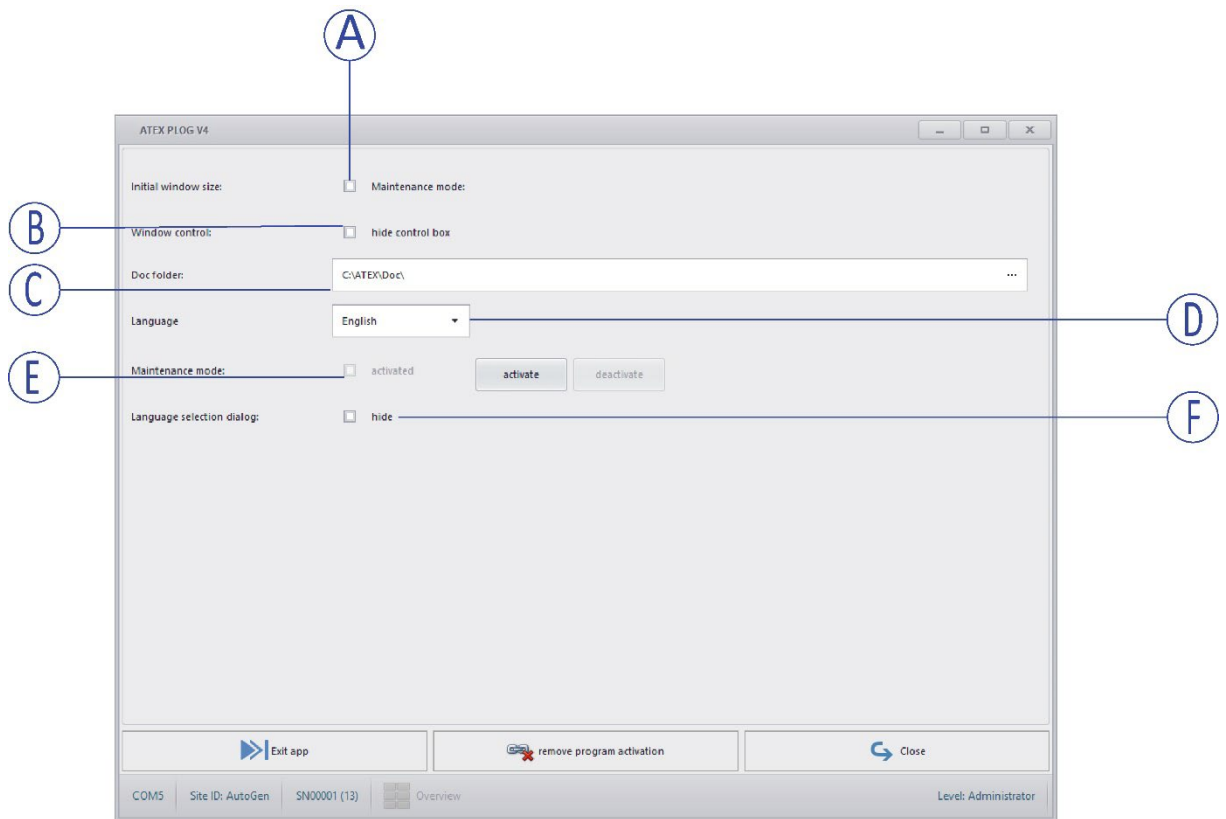
The screenshot shows the 'ATEX PLOG V4.0.7.3' window. It contains four input fields for PIN entry. The first two fields, 'Enter PIN user:' and 'Repeat PIN user:', are highlighted in green, indicating a successful change. The other two fields, 'Enter PIN admin:' and 'Repeat PIN admin:', are white.

Admin / Miscellaneous



The screenshot shows the 'ATEX PLOG V4.0.7.1' window. On the left is a vertical menu with options: Connection, exGUARD, Sensors, DMU, Report, Doc, and Admin. The 'Admin' option is highlighted with a dotted border. To the right of the menu, a sub-menu is visible with options: Layout, Set PIN, and Miscellaneous. The 'Set PIN' option is highlighted with a red border.

By clicking on the "Miscellaneous" button, the view changes to the following configuration window:



Window size and window control box

The checkboxes (A) (B) can be used to set the window size and visibility of the window control box for displaying the PLOG 4.1 software.

Storage location for documents

In the selection menu © the storage location for documents is set.

Language selection

The language can be selected in field (D). The available languages are German, English, French, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese and Dutch.

To save the language selection permanently, you can click on the “hide” checkbox “F” (Language selection dialog). The language selection query will then no longer appear each time the program is started. However, if the language setting was previously deactivated, it can also be reactivated here.

Maintenance mode

The so-called "maintenance mode" means that the password does not have to be re-entered every time you switch between the overview and setup view.

It can be set using the Activate and Deactivate buttons. If maintenance mode is activated, the password does not have to be re-entered each time you switch views.

Remove program activation

A click on the "remove program activation" button opens a dialog to remove the product activation. If this has been confirmed, the software is disabled and can only be reactivated after re-entering the activation code.

