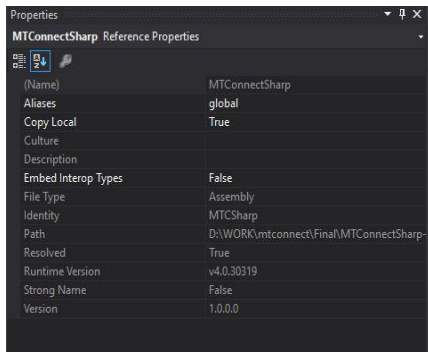


## MTConnect DRIVER

### Overview:

MTConnect is a lightweight, open, and extensible protocol designed for the exchange of data between shop floor equipment and software applications used for monitoring and data analysis. In its current form, MTConnect is referred to as a read-only standard, meaning that it only defines the extraction (reading) of data from control devices, not the writing of data to a control device. Freely available, open standards are used for all aspects of MTConnect. Data from shop floor devices is presented in XML format, and is retrieved from information providers, called Agents, using Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) as the underlying transport protocol. MTConnect provides a RESTful interface, which means the interface is stateless. No session must be established to retrieve data from an MTConnect Agent, and no logon or logoff sequence is required. MTConnect protocol is based on standard Internet technologies – HTTP and XML.

### Properties Screen Shot:



### Features

#### MTConnect Component:





**Device** – commonly a machine tool, but can be any piece of equipment or data source.

**Adapter** – An optional piece of software (and sometimes hardware) that provides a link or conversion from the data source and proprietary data definition in the device to the MTConnect Data definition. This can be thought of as a translator. The Adapter is not needed for devices that use MTConnect as their native language.

**Agent** – A piece of software that collects, arranges, and stores data from the device or adapter. It receives requests for data from applications, processes those requests, and then transmits the required data. The function of the Agent, and its associated data dictionary, is defined by the MTConnect Standard. It is the only part of the communication system that is specifically defined by the standard. The other components as illustrated in Figure 1 below) represent your equipment, your plant or shop communications network, and your software application.

**Network** – The physical connection between a data source (device) and the data consumer (application). Typically, this is an Ethernet network. The communication on the network normally uses standard network communications methods – HTTP protocol. It should be noted that the MTConnect structure is adaptable and can be implemented in conjunction with other networking solutions other than Ethernet and Internet protocols.

**Application Client** – The application is the actual requestor and consumer of MTConnect data. Typical functions of the application are to request, store, manipulate and display data. The Application includes a function called the Client which initiates all requests for MTConnect data. The Client is a software function in the application that actually requests data from the Agent and translates that data into the format required for the application.

#### **MTConnect Limitations:**

- Budgetary Limitations
- Restrictions on access to specific equipment or personnel
- Approved or disapproved technologies (networking, communications, software, etc.)
- Networking standards, Internet accessibility, etc.
- Privacy and Non3Disclosure Issues
- Security Issues
- “Must Have” Capabilities or Functions
- Future Requirements

#### **For More Info:**

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