



Application Tip: Aries & ACR as Translators

Controller software helps create trouble-free command translations.

Do you have an old machine that needs an upgrade but don't want to change the PC program? Or are you looking for ways to minimize the impact of changing to a new controller? Parker has an easy solution.



The ACR programming language includes a powerful set of commands for handling strings. This can be especially useful for applying the product in cases where a PC, PLC or even a vision system sends proprietary commands to a controller. Many OEMs have developed their own specific set of commands for devices in their systems; these typically consist of a set of ASCII commands that are streamed to a controller. While these commands are likely foreign to the ACR, the user can easily develop a command parser within the controller that handles these incoming commands. Any one of the communication ports (Ethernet, USB or RS232) can be assigned as the listener, waiting for incoming commands and responding when needed. An AcroBASIC program is written by the user to parse and translate the commands. The translator program would then execute AcroBASIC code written by the user to execute the motion or action of the translated command.

The ACR and Aries Controller have been successfully deployed as translators in many applications. In some cases, the users could not or did not want to change the host PC commands but needed to upgrade or change the controller. The ACR or Aries Controller drops in as a “black box” that accepts the established commands and magically creates the motion the user expects.

For a programming sample, please click [here](#).

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