



MÄK RTI

Reference Manual



VT MÄK
A company of VT Systems



MÄK RTI

Reference Manual

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VT MÄK
150 Cambridge Park Drive, 3rd Floor
Cambridge, MA 02140 USA

Voice: 617-876-8085
Fax: 617-876-9208

info@mak.com
www.mak.com

Revision RTI-4.3-1-140219



Contents

Preface

How the Manual is Organized	xi
Documentation	xii
MÄK Products	xiii
How to Contact Us	xv
Document Conventions	xvi
Mouse Button Naming Conventions	xvii
Third Party Licenses	xvii
Boost License	xvii
libXML and libICONV	xviii

Introduction to the MÄK RTI

1.1. About RTIs	1-2
1.1.1. Obtaining HLA RTI Specification Documents	1-2
1.1.2. Obtaining HLA Certification for a Federate	1-2
1.2. Compatibility with Other RTI Implementations	1-3
1.2.1. Dynamic Linking	1-3
1.2.2. The FED File and FDD File	1-4
1.2.3. The RID File	1-4
1.2.4. Network Compatibility	1-5
1.3. The RTIsPy Plug-in API	1-5
1.4. Support for the HLA 1516 Specification	1-6
1.4.1. RTI Interoperability	1-7

MÄK RTI Concepts

2.1. Using the MÄK RTI with Multithreaded Applications	2-2
2.2. The MÄK RTI Process Model	2-3
2.2.1. The Role of the tick() Function in the MÄK RTI	2-4
2.2.2. Asynchronous I/O	2-5

Contents

2.2.3. Asynchronous Message Processing	2-6
2.2.4. Asynchronous Callbacks	2-6
2.3. Network Topologies for RTI Messages	2-7
2.3.1. Best Effort Transport on a LAN	2-7
2.3.2. Reliable Transport and TCP Forwarding on a LAN	2-7
2.3.3. Best Effort Transport on a WAN	2-7
2.3.4. Centralized TCP Forwarding on a WAN	2-8
2.3.5. Distributed Forwarding on a WAN	2-8

Compiling and Linking with the MÄK RTI

3.1. Library Names	3-2
3.2. Compiling and Linking with the MÄK RTI 1.3	3-2
3.2.1. Compiling and Linking on Linux	3-3
3.2.2. Compiling and Linking on Windows	3-3
3.3. Compiling and Linking with the MÄK RTI 1516	3-4
3.3.1. Compiling and Linking on Linux	3-4
3.3.2. Compiling and Linking on Windows	3-4
3.4. Compiling and Linking with HLA Evolved	3-5
3.5. Federation Time	3-5
3.5.1. The HLA 1.3 Time Implementation	3-6
3.5.2. The RTI 1516 Time Implementation	3-7
3.5.3. The HLA Evolved Time Implementation	3-8
3.6. Java Bindings for the MÄK RTI	3-8

The RID File

4.1. The RID File	4-2
4.1.1. Search Order for RID Files	4-2
4.1.2. Configuring HLA Switch Values	4-3
4.1.3. Configuring Use of Advisory Messages	4-3
4.1.4. Consistency of RID Files	4-3
4.1.5. Specifying RID Parameters Programmatically in HLA 1516 ..	4-4
4.2. Displaying Configuration Settings in the Federations View	4-5
4.3. The RID File Consistency Checker	4-7
4.3.1. Enabling RID File Consistency Checking	4-8
4.3.2. Selecting the Parameters to be Checked	4-9

RTI Applications

5.1. The rtiexec	5-2
5.1.1. Configuring the rtiexec	5-3
5.1.2. Configuring Diagnostic Messages	5-3
5.2. The RTI Assistant	5-4
5.2.1. Specifying the RTI Assistant's Log Update Interval	5-5
5.2.2. Shutting Down the RTI Assistant	5-6
5.2.3. Configuring the Display of RTI Assistant Messages	5-6
5.2.4. Specifying the Warning Tick Interval	5-7
5.2.5. Common Operations in RTI Assistant Log Windows	5-8

5.2.6. Specifying the RTI Assistant's Ports	5-9
5.2.7. Specifying the RTI Assistant's Multicast Address	5-9
5.2.8. Specifying the RTI Assistant's Multicast Time-to-Live	5-9
5.2.9. Disabling the RTI Assistant	5-10
5.3. The RTI Forwarder Application	5-10
5.3.1. Running the RTI Forwarder	5-10
5.4. The RTI Command Line Tool	5-12
5.4.1. Listing Federation Executions and Federates	5-13
5.4.2. Deleting Federates	5-14

Managing Federations

6.1. Introduction	6-2
6.2. Specifying the FED File	6-2
6.2.1. Search Order for FED Files	6-2
6.2.2. Distributing the FED File	6-3
6.3. Using Lightweight Mode	6-4
6.3.1. Limitations of Lightweight Mode	6-5
6.4. Viewing Information about a Federation	6-6
6.4.1. The Network Map	6-7
6.5. Viewing Time Management State Information	6-7
6.6. Viewing Synchronization Points	6-9
6.7. Viewing Federation-Wide Notification Messages	6-10
6.8. Configuring Fault Tolerance Strategies	6-11
6.8.1. Responding to Abnormal Termination	6-11
6.8.2. Reconnecting to the RTI Forwarder	6-13
6.8.3. Specifying the Response Interval	6-13
6.8.4. Processing Discovery of Unknown Objects	6-14
6.8.5. Choosing Silent Failure Instead of Exceptions	6-14
6.9. Configuring Save/Restore	6-15

Managing Federates

7.1. Displaying Federate Information	7-2
7.2. Displaying FOM Object and Interaction Classes	7-2
7.3. Viewing LRC Diagnostic Messages	7-4
7.3.1. Enabling LRC Diagnostic Data Logging in the RID File	7-4
7.3.2. Displaying the Federate Log	7-5
7.4. Configuring Federate Connections in the RID File	7-6

Monitoring the Network

8.1. Introduction	8-2
8.2. Testing Latency Between Federates	8-2
8.2.1. Enabling Latency Testing	8-3
8.2.2. Running Latency Tests	8-4
8.2.3. Interpreting the Results of Latency Tests	8-5
8.2.4. Running Latency Tests Manually	8-8
8.2.5. Running Continuous Latency Tests	8-8

8.2.6. Configuring Latency Tests	8-9
8.3. The RTIspy Network Monitoring Tool	8-10
8.3.1. Enabling Federate Statistics Monitoring	8-10
8.3.2. Displaying Object Statistics	8-11
8.3.3. Displaying Interaction Statistics	8-12
8.3.4. Displaying RTI Message Statistics	8-13
8.3.5. Displaying RTI Services Statistics	8-14
8.3.6. Displaying Callback Statistics	8-15
8.3.7. Graphing Federate Statistics	8-16
8.4. Examples of Using the RTIspy Network Monitoring Tool	8-18
8.4.1. Finding Bottlenecks Caused by Processing Callbacks	8-18
8.4.2. Identifying the Cause of Slow-Downs Under Time Management	8-18
8.4.3. Comparing the Costs and Benefits of RTI Features	8-19

Managing Network Traffic

9.1. Choosing Best Effort or Reliable Transport	9-2
9.2. Using the Correct IP Address Format	9-3
9.3. Packet Bundling for Reliable and Best Effort Messages	9-3
9.4. Automatically Locating the RTI Forwarder and rtiexec	9-4
9.5. Configuring Sender-Side Filtering (Smart TCP Forwarding)	9-5
9.5.1. Configuring Sender-Side Filtering for rtiexec Messages	9-7
9.6. Compressing RTI Messages	9-7
9.7. Enabling Support for Large Attributes and Parameters	9-8
9.8. Configuring the Network Buffer Sizes	9-8
9.9. Controlling Congestion for Best Effort Sockets	9-9
9.10. Configuring Asynchronous Processing	9-9
9.11. Buffering Automatic Update Requests (1516 and Evolved)	9-9
9.12. Filtering by Multicast Groups Using Declaration Management	9-10
9.12.1. Assigning DM Multicast Groups to Network Interfaces	9-11

Configuring Message Forwarding

10.1. Configuring UDP and Centralized TCP Forwarding on a LAN	10-3
10.1.1. Configuring Best Effort (UDP) on a LAN	10-3
10.1.2. Configuring Centralized TCP Forwarding on a LAN	10-4
10.2. Configuring UDP and Centralized TCP on a WAN	10-4
10.2.1. Configuring Centralized TCP Forwarding	10-5
10.2.2. Configuring UDP Over a WAN without Distributed Forwarding	10-6
10.3. Distributed Forwarding Topologies on a LAN	10-7
10.3.1. Forwarder Groups	10-7
10.3.2. Singleton Forwarders	10-9
10.3.3. Advanced Distributed Forwarding on a LAN	10-10
10.4. Distributed Forwarding Topologies on a WAN	10-11
10.4.1. Optimizing Distributed Forwarding across a WAN	10-12
10.5. Configuring Federates for Distributed Forwarding	10-15

10.6. Configuring RTI Forwarders for Distributed Forwarding	10-16
10.6.1. Configuring RTI Forwarders Using the RTI Assistant	10-17
10.6.2. Creating a Routes File	10-18
10.6.3. UDP Forwarding	10-20
10.6.4. Configuring Single-Portal Forwarder Groups	10-20
10.6.5. Configuring Load-Balanced Forwarder Groups	10-22
10.6.6. Configuring Distributed UDP Forwarding	10-23
10.7. Configuring Routers or Firewalls for WAN Federations	10-25
10.8. Special Distributed Forwarder Networks	10-25
10.8.1. Configuring Hierarchical Forwarder Networks	10-26

Configuring HLA Services

11.1. Enabling and Disabling HLA Services	11-2
11.1.1. Configuring MOM Services	11-2
11.1.2. Configuring Time Management Services	11-2
11.2. Configuring Internal Messages	11-3
11.2.1. Configuring the Delay Time for Processing Internal Messages	11-3
11.2.2. Transmitting Internal Messages Across Ticks	11-4

Using Data Distribution Management

12.1. Configuring DDM Services	12-2
12.1.1. Enabling DDM	12-2
12.1.2. Configuring Distributed Region DDM	12-2
12.1.3. Configuring a Fixed Grid DDM	12-3
12.1.4. Configuring Implicit DDM	12-5
12.2. The Distributed Region Approach	12-7
12.2.1. Attribute Passelization	12-9
12.3. The Fixed Grid Approach	12-9
12.3.1. The Fixed Grid Representation	12-11
12.3.2. Federate Region Intersections with the Fixed Grid	12-12
12.3.3. Normalization of Federate Data for Range Bounds	12-14
12.3.4. The Fixed Grid Approach and DDM Services	12-15
12.4. Implicit DDM	12-17
12.4.1. Implicit DDM Implementation	12-18
12.4.2. Adding Implicit DDM to the FED or FDD	12-18
12.4.3. Implicitly Associating DDM Regions	12-20
12.4.4. Modifying Region Extents	12-20
12.4.5. Modifying Fixed Grid Region Extents	12-22

Running the MÄK RTI Using Shared Memory

13.1. Introduction	13-2
13.2. Configuring Use of Shared Memory	13-2
13.2.1. Enabling Shared Memory Mode	13-3
13.2.2. Specifying the Name of the Shared Memory Region	13-4
13.2.3. Specifying the Shared Memory Queue Length	13-4

13.2.4. Specifying the Shared Memory Manager Maximum Wait Interval	13-5
13.2.5. Message Queue Limits	13-5
13.3. Starting the Shared Memory Manager	13-5
13.3.1. Shared Memory Queue Manager Command-Line Options	13-6
13.4. Terminating the Shared Memory Manager	13-8
13.4.1. Abnormal Termination of the Shared Memory Manager	13-9
13.5. Tuning Shared Memory	13-9
13.5.1. Calculating the Queue Length	13-9
13.5.2. The RTI tick() Member Function	13-11
13.5.3. The Shared Memory Manager	13-12

Using FOM Modules

14.1. Using FOM Modules	14-2
14.2. Merging FOM Modules into the Current FOM	14-3
14.3. Creating and Joining with FOM Modules	14-4
14.4. Validating FOM Modules	14-5
14.5. Configuring Use of Modular FOMs	14-6
14.5.1. Configuring a MOM Module	14-6
14.5.2. Configuring Create FOM Modules	14-7
14.5.3. Configuring Join FOM Modules	14-7
14.5.4. Configuring Use of a Local FOM Module File	14-8
14.5.5. Example FOM Module Configuration for 1.3 and 1516	14-8

Update Rate Reduction

15.1. Update Rate Reduction	15-2
15.2. How Update Reduction is Implemented	15-4
15.3. Configuring Update Rate Reduction	15-5
15.3.1. Specifying the Update Rate in 1.3 and 1516	15-5
15.3.2. Specifying the Rate for Object Class Subscriptions in 1.3 and 1516	15-6
15.3.3. Specifying the Receive Filtering Tolerance	15-6
15.3.4. Example Update Rate Reduction Configuration (1.3 and 1516 Only)	15-7

RID File Parameters Reference

A.1. MÄK Technologies Lisp (MTL) Files	A-2
A.1.1. Using Environment Variables in an MTL File	A-2
A.1.2. Using Conditional Statements	A-3
A.1.3. Converting Between Strings and Numbers	A-3
A.2. RID File Parameters	A-4
A.3. Federation-Wide Parameters	A-5
A.4. LRC-Specific Parameters	A-14
A.5. Configuring tick(min,max)	A-28

Example Federates

B.1. Example Federates	B-2
B.2. The rtisimple Example	B-2
B.3. The simpleDDM Example	B-4
B.4. The simpletime Example	B-5
B.5. HLA Bounce	B-7
B.5.1. Running HLA Bounce	B-7
B.5.2. Demonstrating Ownership Management	B-9
B.5.3. Demonstrating DDM	B-9
B.6. The MAK Shooter Example	B-10
B.6.1. Building MAK Shooter	B-11
B.6.2. Running MAK Shooter	B-11
B.6.3. Playing MAK Shooter	B-13

Index



Preface

This manual is for developers of HLA simulation applications and for persons who need to install or use the MÄK RTI.

This manual assumes that you are familiar with the command-line and graphical windowing environments for your operating system.

For information about changes to the MÄK RTI since this manual went to press, please see *MÄK RTI Release Notes*.

How the Manual is Organized

This manual is organized as follows:

Chapter 1, *Introduction to the MÄK RTI* describes the MÄK RTI and its features.

Chapter 2, *MÄK RTI Concepts*, provides conceptual information about the MÄK RTI that will help you understand when and why you would want to use particular features and configuration options.

Chapter 3, *Compiling and Linking with the MÄK RTI*, explains how to link applications to the MÄK RTI.

Chapter 4, *The RID File*, explains how to maintain and distribute RID files. It does not describe parameters. Parameters are described in Appendix A, *RID File Parameters Reference*.

Chapter 5, *RTI Applications*, describes the rtiexec, the RTI command line tool, the RTI Forwarder, and how to configure the RTI Assistant.

Chapter 6, *Managing Federations*, explains how to use the RTI Assistant to manage federations. It also describes lightweight mode and fault tolerance strategies.

Chapter 7, *Managing Federates* explains how to use the RTI Assistant to manage federates.

Chapter 8, *Monitoring the Network*, describes how to use the RTI Assistant and RTIspy GUI to monitor the performance of federates. It also describes how to run latency tests.

Chapter 9, *Managing Network Traffic* describes parameters used to configure the RTI's interaction with the network, except for those used to configure message forwarding.

Chapter 10, *Configuring Message Forwarding*, explains basic message forwarding strategies, the different types of distributed forwarding topologies, and how to configure them.

Chapter 11, *Configuring HLA Services*, explains how to configure MOM and time management services and how to configure internal messages.

Chapter 12, *Using Data Distribution Management*, provides conceptual background for the MÄK RTI's DDM implementations.

Chapter 13, *Running the MÄK RTI Using Shared Memory*, explains how to configure use of shared memory for co-located federates.

Chapter 14, *Using FOM Modules*, explains the MÄK RTI's implementation of FOM modules.

Chapter 15, *Update Rate Reduction*, explains the MÄK RTI's implementation of update rate reduction.

Appendix A, *RID File Parameters Reference* describes the format of the RID file and each RID file parameter.

Appendix B, *Example Federates*, describes the sample federates provided with the MÄK RTI.

Documentation

The MÄK RTI documentation set is as follows:

- *MÄK RTI Reference Manual* is a brief introduction to HLA and the MÄK RTI and explains how to configure the MÄK RTI startup environment and run a federate.
- *MÄK RTI Reference Manual* provides detailed information about configuring the MÄK RTI and designing network topologies for HLA federations.
- *MÄK RTI First Experience Guide* shows you how easy it is to run HLA federates with the MÄK RTI.
- *MÄK RTI Release Notes* provides system information, new features and updates, a list of fixed bugs, and a list of known problems.
- MÄK RTIspy API class documentation and MÄK RTI API developer documentation in HTML format. You can access the class documentation from the Start menu in Windows or by opening `./classdoc/index.html`.
- Online help. The RTI Assistant has online help.
- *MÄK Products Interoperability Guide* explains how MÄK products work together and provides troubleshooting information.

MÄK Products

The MÄK RTI is a member of the VT MÄK line of software products designed to streamline the process of developing and using networked simulated environments. The VT MÄK product line includes the following:

- ♦ **VR-Link® Network Toolkit.** VR-Link is an object-oriented library of C++ functions and definitions that implement the High Level Architecture (HLA) and the Distributed Interactive Simulation (DIS) protocol. VR-Link has built-in support for the RPR FOM and allows you to map to other FOMs. This library minimizes the time and effort required to build and maintain new HLA or DIS-compliant applications, and to integrate such compliance into existing applications.

VR-Link includes a set of sample debugging applications and their source code. The source code serves as an example of how to use the VR-Link Toolkit to write applications. The executables provide valuable debugging services such as generating a predictable stream of HLA or DIS messages, and displaying the contents of messages transmitted on the network.

- ♦ **MÄK RTI.** An RTI (Run-Time Infrastructure) is required to run applications using the High Level Architecture (HLA). The MÄK RTI is optimized for high performance. It has an API, RTIsby®, that allows you to extend the RTI using plug-in modules. It also has a graphical user interface (the RTI Assistant) that helps users with configuration tasks and managing federates and federations.
- ♦ **VR-Forces®.** VR-Forces is a computer generated forces application and toolkit. It provides an application with a GUI, that gives you a 2D and 3D views of a simulated environment.

You can create and view local entities, aggregate them into hierarchical units, assign tasks, set state parameters, and create plans that have tasks, set statements, and conditional statements. VR-Forces also functions as a plan view display for viewing remote entities taking part in an exercise. Using the toolkit, you can extend the VR-Forces application or create your own application for use with another user interface.

- ♦ **VR-Vantage™.** VR-Vantage is a line of products designed to meet your simulation visualization needs. It includes three end-user applications (VR-Vantage Stealth, VR-Vantage PVD, and VR-Vantage IG) and the VR-Vantage Toolkit.
 - VR-Vantage Stealth displays a realistic, 3D view of your virtual world, a 2D plan view, and an exaggerated reality (XR) view. Together these views provide both situational awareness and the big picture of the simulated world. You can move your viewpoint to any location in the 3D world and can attach it to entities so that it moves as they do.
 - VR-Vantage IG is a configurable desktop image generator (IG) for out the window (OTW) scenes and remote camera views. It has most of the features of the Stealth, but is optimized for its IG function.
 - VR-Vantage PVD provides a 2D plan view display. It gives you the big picture of the simulated world.

- The VR-Vantage Toolkit is a 3D visual application development toolkit. Use it to customize or extend MÄK’s VR-Vantage applications, or to integrate VR-Vantage capabilities into your custom applications. VR-Vantage is built on top of OpenSceneGraph (OSG). The toolkit includes the OSG version used to build VR-Vantage.
- ♦ MÄK Data Logger. The Data Logger, also called the Logger, can record HLA and DIS exercises and play them back for after-action review. You can play a recorded file at speeds above or below normal and can quickly jump to areas of interest. The Logger has a GUI and a text interface. The Logger API allows you to extend the Logger using plug-in modules or embed the Logger into your own application. The Logger editing features let you merge, trim, and offset Logger recordings.
- ♦ VR-Exchange™. VR-Exchange allows simulations that use incompatible communications protocols to interoperate. For example, within the HLA world, using VR-Exchange, federations using the HLA RPR FOM 1.0 can interoperate with simulations using RPR FOM 2.0, or federations using different RTIs can interoperate. VR-Exchange supports HLA, TENA, and DIS translation.
- ♦ VR-TheWorld™ Server. VR-TheWorld Server is a simple, yet powerful, web-based streaming terrain server, developed in conjunction with Pelican Mapping. Delivered with a global base map, you can also easily populate it with your own custom source data through a web-based interface. The server can be deployed on private, classified networks to provide streaming terrain data to a variety of simulation and visualization applications behind your firewall.
- ♦ VR-inTerra. VR-inTerra is a C++ API for adding terrain agility to applications. It can load, page, or stream terrain from a wide variety of formats or sources into a single, consistent run-time representation, consisting of a collision graph and vector network.
- ♦ DI-Guy. The DI-Guy product line is a set of software tools for real-time human visualization, simulation, and artificial intelligence. Every DI-Guy software offering comes with thousands of ready-to-use characters, appearances, and motions. DI-Guy enables the easy creation of crowds and individuals who are terrain aware, autonomous, and react intelligently to ongoing events. Save time, money and create outstanding simulations with DI-Guy. The DI-Guy product line includes the following products:
 - The DI-Guy SDK. Embed the DI-Guy library in your real-time application and populate your world with lifelike human characters.
 - DI-Guy Scenario. Author and visualize human performances in a rich, user-friendly graphical environment. Use DI-Guy Scenario as an end visualization application or save scenarios and load them into your DI-Guy SDK enabled application.
 - DI-Guy AI. Generate crowds of autonomous characters to quickly populate your worlds with hundreds and thousands of terrain-aware, collision avoiding DI-Guys. Used as a module on top of DI-Guy Scenario and DI-Guy SDK.
 - Expressive Faces Module. Enable DI-Guy characters to have faces that display emotion, eyes that look in directions and blink, and lips that sync to sound files.

- DI-Guy Motion Editor. Create or customize motions to your particular needs in an easy-to-use graphical application.

How to Contact Us

For RTI technical support, information about upgrades, and information about other MÄK products, you can contact us in the following ways:

Telephone

Call or fax us at:	Voice:	617-876-8085 (extension 3 for support)
	Fax:	617-876-9208

E-mail

Sales and upgrade information:	info@mak.com
Technical support:	support@mak.com
VR-Vantage support:	vrv-support@mak.com

Internet

MÄK web site home page:	www.mak.com
License key requests:	www.mak.com/support/get-licenses.html
Product version and platform information:	www.mak.com/support/ product-versions.html
For the free, unlicensed MÄK RTI:	www.mak.com/resources/bonus- material/cat_view/16-bonus-materials/ 24-mak-high-performance-rti.html
MÄK Community Forum:	www.mak.com/community-forum/ 1-forum.html

Post

Send postal correspondence to:	VT MÄK 150 Cambridge Park Drive, 3rd Floor Cambridge, MA, USA 02140
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When requesting support, please tell us the product you are using, the version, and the platform on which you are running.

Document Conventions

This manual uses the following typographic conventions:

Monospaced	Indicates commands or values you enter.
Monospaced Bold	Indicates a key on the keyboard.
<i>Monospaced Italic</i>	Indicates command variables that you replace with appropriate values.
Blue text	A hypertext link to another location in this manual or another manual in the documentation set.
{ }	Indicates required arguments.
[]	Indicates optional arguments.
	Separates options in a command where only one option may be chosen at a time.
()	In command syntax, indicates equivalent alternatives for a command-line option, for example, (-h --help).
/	Indicates a directory. Since MÄK products run on both Linux and Windows PC platforms, we use the / (slash) for generic discussions of pathnames. If you are running on a PC, substitute a \ (backslash) when you type pathnames.
<i>Italic</i>	Indicates a file name, pathname, or a class name.
sans Serif	Indicates a parameter or argument.
➤	Indicates a one-step procedure.
Menu → Option	Indicates a menu choice. For example, an instruction to select the Save option from the File menu appears as: Choose File → Save .
	Click the icon to run a tutorial video in the default browser.
	Indicates supplemental or clarifying information.
!	Indicates additional information that you must observe to ensure the success of a procedure or other task.

Directory names are preceded with dot and slash characters that show their position with respect to the RTI home directory. For example, the directory *makRtix.x4.3/doc* appears in the text as *./doc*.

Mouse Button Naming Conventions

An instruction to click the mouse button, refers to clicking the primary mouse button, usually the left button for right-handed mice and the right button for left-handed mice. The context-sensitive menu, also called a popup menu or right-click menu, refers to the menu displayed when you click the secondary mouse button, usually the right button on right-handed mice and the left button on left-handed mice.

Third Party Licenses

MÄK software products may use code from third parties. This section contains the license documentation required by these third parties.

Boost License

VR-Link, and all MÄK software that uses VR-Link uses some code that is distributed under the Boost License. All header files that contain Boost code are properly attributed. The Boost web site is: www.boost.org.

Boost Software License - Version 1.0 - August 17th, 2003

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libXML and libICONV

VR-Link and all MÄK software that uses VR-Link, links in libXML and libICONV. On some platforms the compiled libraries and header files are distributed with MÄK Products. MÄK has made no modifications to these libraries. For more information about these libraries please see the following web sites:

- ♦ The LGPL license is available at: <http://www.gnu.org/licenses/lgpl.html>.
- ♦ Information about IconV is at: <http://www.gnu.org/software/libiconv/>.
- ♦ Information about LibXML is at: <http://xmlsoft.org/>.



1. Introduction to the MÄK RTI

The MÄK RTI is an implementation of the Run-Time Infrastructure portion of the High-Level Architecture (HLA).

About RTIs	1-2
Obtaining HLA RTI Specification Documents	1-2
Obtaining HLA Certification for a Federate	1-2
Compatibility with Other RTI Implementations	1-3
Dynamic Linking	1-3
The FED File and FDD File	1-4
The RID File	1-4
Network Compatibility	1-5
The RTIspy Plug-in API	1-5
Support for the HLA 1516 Specification	1-6
RTI Interoperability	1-7

1.1. About RTIs

The MÄK RTI (Run-Time Infrastructure) is a software library (and supporting executables) that implements the HLA 1.3, 1516 (SISO DLC HLA API 1516), and HLA Evolved (IEEE 1516-2010) interface specifications. In HLA, applications exchange FOM data through RTI calls, which means that all HLA applications need to use an RTI. (Applications that use VR-Link typically do not need to make RTI calls directly, but only because VR-Link makes the RTI calls for them.) The MÄK RTI has been optimized for the high performance needs of the real-time simulation community.

The MÄK RTI has been verified by the Modeling and Simulation Coordination Office (MSCO, formerly DMSO) as fully compliant with the HLA Interface Specification, version 1.3 and with the IEEE 1516 version of the HLA Interface Specification (SISO DLC HLA API 1516 (SISO-STD-004.1-2004)). All services are implemented.



In this manual and *MÄK RTI Users Guide*, when we use the term “HLA 1516” or 1516, we mean the SISO DLC HLA API 1516 specification. When we use the term “HLA Evolved”, we mean IEEE 1516-2010. When we discuss a subject that applies equally to HLA 1516 and HLA Evolved, we refer generically to the “HLA 1516 specifications”.

1.1.1. Obtaining HLA RTI Specification Documents

The HLA 1.3, IEEE 1516, and HLA Evolved specifications are copyrighted by their owners and MÄK cannot distribute them to customers. You can get documentation for the RTI interface specifications at:

- ♦ <http://www.msco.mil/TechSpecs.html> (HLA 1.3).
- ♦ <http://shop.ieee.org/store/> (HLA 1516 and HLA Evolved specifications).
- ♦ www.sisostds.org (SISO DLC HLA API 1516).

1.1.2. Obtaining HLA Certification for a Federate

If you plan to seek HLA certification for a federate, note the following:

- ♦ You must use an RTI that is fully compliant with the relevant HLA standard.
- ♦ If you use the MÄK RTI, you must run it in fully compliant mode. To force full compliance, set the `RTI_forceFullCompliance` parameter to 1 in *rid.mtl*. For more information, please see “[Enabling and Disabling HLA Services](#),” on page 11-2.

1.2. Compatibility with Other RTI Implementations

This section discusses the following aspects of compatibility:

- ♦ Dynamic linking.
- ♦ Static linking.
- ♦ The FED file and FDD file.
- ♦ The RID file.
- ♦ Network compatibility.

1.2.1. Dynamic Linking

The MÄK RTI 1.3 implements the API dictated by the 1.3 version of the HLA Interface Specification, as amended by MSCO's official HLA 1.3 Interpretations document. All RTIs that are verified as compliant with the HLA 1.3 specification are written to this exact API standard. This insures that the MÄK RTI is link-compatible with other RTIs that have been verified as HLA compliant.

The MÄK RTI 1516 implements the SISO DLC HLA API¹ 1516 (SISO-STD-004.1-2004). This API supports dynamic link compatibility, which was problematic with the original IEEE 1516 API. The IEEE 1516 API only supports compile-time compatibility (it uses C++ templates and implementation-specific header files). The MÄK RTI is compatible with any RTI written to the SISO DLC HLA API 1516.

The MÄK RTI HLA Evolved implements the IEEE 1516-2010 standard. HLA Evolved incorporates the SISO Dynamic Link Compatible API. Therefore, federates compiled with the HLA Evolved version of MÄK RTI can be used with other RTIs that support the specification without being recompiled. Other important features include Modular FOMs, update rate reduction, improvements to reliability and connectivity, and other changes that make using HLA easier.

Because an RTI is typically accessed by an application through a dynamic library (*.dll* on Windows, *.so* on Linux), applications do not need to be recompiled or relinked to switch among dynamic-link-compatible RTI implementations that have been built using the same compilers. The only requirement is that the appropriate version of the library be located within the shared library search path. For more information, please see Chapter 3, *Compiling and Linking with the MÄK RTI*.

1. Simulation Interoperability Standards Organization Dynamic Link Compatible High Level Architecture Application Program Interface

1.2.2. The FED File and FDD File

In both the HLA 1.3 specification and the 1516 specifications, you must provide FOM data to the RTI. In the 1.3 specification, this is done with the federation execution data (FED) file. The 1516 specifications use a FOM Document Data (FDD) file. However the format is slightly different between 1516 and HLA Evolved.

All versions of the MÄK RTI support both the FDD and FED file formats. FDD files must have a file extension of either *.xml* or *.fdd*. FED files are expected to have an extension of *.fed* or *.mtl*; however, any other extensions are assumed to be in the FED format.

The FED file format is part of the HLA 1.3 standard, so the MÄK RTI 1.3 uses the same FED file format as other compliant RTIs. You do not need to modify your FOM or FED file to switch between the MÄK RTI 1.3 and other RTI 1.3 implementations.

There may be differences among RTI implementations as to where the FED file must be located. By default, the MÄK RTI requires that the FED file must be available to be read by each federate in the federation. An alternative is for the federation execution to distribute the FED file to each Local RTI Component (LRC) when the federate joins. For more details, please see [“Specifying the FED File,”](#) on page 6-2.



Since the FED file and FDD file perform the same function, and since for the MÄK RTI they are essentially interchangeable, in this manual, unless otherwise noted, references to the FED file should be considered as references to the FED file and the FDD file.

Before you run an HLA application, you must make sure that your federates (and the rtiexec if you are running it) can find the FED file for the federation you are running. For details, please see [“Specifying the FED File,”](#) on page 6-2.

1.2.3. The RID File

The RTI initialization data (RID) file is the configuration file for an RTI. The MÄK RTI RID file is written using MÄK Technologies Lisp (MTL). Unless you want to rely on default values for all RTI configuration parameters, you need to make sure that all federates (and the rtiexec if you are running it) can find the appropriate RID files. For details, please see Chapter 4, [The RID File](#).

1.2.4. Network Compatibility

The MÄK RTI is not network compatible with RTI implementations from other vendors. This means that within a given federation, you cannot run one federate with the MÄK RTI and another federate with a different RTI. In general, no two RTI implementations are network compatible, due to differences in the low-level network mechanisms that they use (which include, but are not limited to packet layout).

The term Run-Time Infrastructure refers to the entire system used to communicate among federates. By HLA's design, choosing an RTI is a federation-wide choice, and not a federate-by-federate choice. Applications that want to interoperate in the same federation must all use the same RTI. A federation can easily switch from one RTI implementation to another between runs, but during each run, all participants must agree on which RTI to use, much as they must also agree on which FOM to use.

1.3. The RTIs Spy Plug-in API

The RTIs Spy Plug-in API allows you to write code that can monitor the internal state of the RTI and modify the RTI's behavior. For information about the RTIs Spy Plug-in API and how to load plug-ins, please see the HTML API documentation.

1.4. Support for the HLA 1516 Specification

The MÄK RTI 1516 supports the full set of services defined by the HLA 1516 interface specification. The MÄK RTI 1516 implements SISO-STD-004.1-2004.

The C++ API that was published as part of the IEEE 1516 standard had two significant problems. First, because it was published before any reference implementations had been developed, it contained a series of bugs that made it impossible to implement as-is. Second, its heavy reliance on templates made it impossible to assure that different RTI implementations would be link-compatible.

The SISO Dynamic Link Compatibility HLA API Product Development Group (HLA API PDG, <http://www.sisostds.org/index.cfm>) developed an alternative mapping of the IEEE 1516 Interface Specification to a C++ API (SISO-STD-004.1-2004). This alternative 1516 API addresses the bugs in the API that was published along with the IEEE standard, and also allows for dynamic-link compatibility among different RTI implementations. As part of this process, the HLA API PDG migrated the API away from the use of templates for defining the API classes and towards simpler C++ declarations.

Some of the key changes are:

- The use of the “pImpl” idiom for handles (decouples the class interfaces from their private member declarations)
- The use of simple enumerations (which are strongly typed in C++)
- Passing parameters by reference instead of `auto_ptr` (except for factories).

Although the Dynamic Link Compatible 1516 API more closely resembles the 1.3 API than the original 1516 API does, some significant differences remain. For example, an RTI namespace is used instead of a top-level RTI class, templates are still used to represent handles (to allow different implementations of handles), and the API uses Standard Template Library (STL) maps to represent sets of attribute handle/value pairs.

By implementing against the SISO 1516 API, MÄK promotes link compatibility with other RTI vendors, which is not possible with the original IEEE 1516 API. The IEEE 1516 API only allowed compile-time compatibility (especially true with the use of templates). However, link compatibility is important because it allows federates built using one RTI to execute with the local RTI component (LRC) library and central RTI component (CRC) executable of a different RTI without having to recompile the federate.



While the 1516 API uses the `std::wstring` to exchange string information, internally, the MÄK RTI 1516 operates on narrow strings only (that is, representable by `std::string`). Therefore, the contents of any wide string passed through the RTI API must be convertible to a narrow string.

1.4.1. RTI Interoperability

All versions of the MÄK RTI use the same code base. As a result, they share the same on-the-wire protocol for exchanging internal RTI information. For a subset of RTI services, a federate using the MÄK RTI 1516 or HLA Evolved can interoperate with a federate using the MÄK RTI 1.3. However, the differences in the functionality or format between the 1.3 API and the 1516 APIs create some conflicts that do not allow interoperability, as follows:

- ♦ Ownership management is not interoperable between the 1.3 and 1516 APIs. The 1516 interface specification introduced some additional ownership management calls that do not exist in the 1.3 interface specification. Ownership management is interoperable between HLA 1516 and HLA Evolved except for the Attribute Ownership Release Denied service, which is new for HLA Evolved.
- ♦ MOM is not interoperable between any of the three specifications.
- ♦ 1.3 federates and 1516 federates can use natural FOM files when interoperating in the same federation if the files have symmetric class and attribute/parameter definitions.
- ♦ The publish and subscribe services in the 1516 and HLA Evolved interface specifications are additive when successive calls are made, versus replacement for the 1.3 interface specification. The MÄK RTI 1516 and HLA Evolved implementations follow the additive policy; the MÄK RTI 1.3 follows the replacement policy. As a result, the advisories and discoveries may conflict when a federation is composed of both 1.3 and 1516 federates. The `RTI_processUnknownUpdatesForDiscovery` RID parameter should be enabled as a work around for discoveries.
- ♦ The interoperability of DDM services between 1.3 and 1516 requires special consideration. Because the 1516 DDM services do not use routing spaces, the 1.3 routing space dimensions must be placed into a global routing space. As a result, all dimensions with the same name across different routing spaces resolve to a single dimension. The 1.3 federates can still manipulate regions as if the FOM routing spaces were defined; however, the region matching and overlap calculations only consider the dimensions with respect to a global space. This feature is supported by enabling the `RTI_extend13and1516interop` parameter. When this feature is disabled, the 1.3 DDM services retain the use of the FOM routing spaces.

DDM is interoperable between HLA 1516 and HLA Evolved.

- ♦ Use of FOM modules is interoperable among the three specifications.
- ♦ Update Rate Reduction works across protocols, as long as the RID file defines the same update rates as are present in the HLA Evolved FOM.



2. MÄK RTI Concepts

This chapter provides a brief introduction to how MÄK has implemented the RTI specifications. This information will help you understand and put to use the various configuration options described in later chapters.

Using the MÄK RTI with Multithreaded Applications.....	2-2
The MÄK RTI Process Model.....	2-3
The Role of the tick() Function in the MÄK RTI.....	2-4
Asynchronous I/O	2-5
Asynchronous Message Processing	2-6
Asynchronous Callbacks	2-6
Network Topologies for RTI Messages	2-7
Best Effort Transport on a LAN	2-7
Reliable Transport and TCP Forwarding on a LAN.....	2-7
Best Effort Transport on a WAN	2-7
Centralized TCP Forwarding on a WAN.....	2-8
Distributed Forwarding on a WAN	2-8

2.1. Using the MÄK RTI with Multithreaded Applications

The MÄK RTI LRC is thread-safe, but by default, it is not re-entrant. The LRC is only re-entrant when using the asynchronous callback process model described in [“Asynchronous Callbacks,”](#) on page 2-6.

The concept of thread-safety versus re-entrancy is very important for multi-threaded federates. Since the MÄK RTI LRC is thread-safe, multiple federate threads can create RTI and Federate Ambassadors within a single process. This is important for several classes of federate such as bridge federates, which may join multiple federations simultaneously. So, thread-safety means that it is safe to use single or multiple instances of the LRC in a multi-threaded federate, but it does not mean that multiple federate threads can access a single RTI Ambassador instance.

To optimize performance for the majority of federates, the MÄK RTI is not re-entrant by default. To guarantee re-entrancy, the RTI would have to lock internally during each access. Locking of this sort at the API level can create a significant amount of overhead, which offers no benefit in most federates. This means that all access to a single RTI Ambassador instance must be made by a single federate thread. If multiple threads require access to the LRC, then the federate is responsible for ensuring correct locking of all data passed to the RTI. In general, the federate is able to perform more selective and optimal locking than the RTI through its knowledge of interactions between the federate threads. Therefore, the recommended practice is to create a separate thread for RTI access and provide thread-safe communication from the RTI thread to the other federate threads.

If a federate requires multi-threaded access to a single LRC instance and cannot follow the procedure described above, then the federate must use the asynchronous callback processing model. When asynchronous callbacks are enabled, multiple federate threads can access the RTI Ambassador simultaneously, and the RTI will provide Federate Ambassador callbacks in a new thread created by the RTI. However, the asynchronous callback model usually increases federate complexity significantly.

2.2. The MÄK RTI Process Model

The MÄK RTI supports the following process models:

- ♦ Fully synchronous. All RTI processing is done in one thread and RTI network I/O, message processing, and federate ambassador callbacks are evoked when the federate calls tick().
- ♦ Asynchronous networking/synchronous message processing and callbacks. Network input is handled in a separate thread, but the input is buffered, not processed. Message processing and callbacks are handled in the main thread when the federate calls tick().
- ♦ Asynchronous networking and message processing/synchronous callbacks. Network input and message processing is handled in a separate thread. Callbacks are cached and delivered in the main thread when the federate calls tick().
- ♦ Fully asynchronous. Network I/O, message processing, and callbacks are handled in a separate thread. The callbacks are delivered asynchronously and these calls provided by the federate code must be thread safe. The tick() call becomes a NULL operation and the federate does not need to call it.

For details about configuring the process model, please see [“Configuring Asynchronous Processing,”](#) on page 9-9.

2.2.1. The Role of the tick() Function in the MÄK RTI

In the synchronous, asynchronous I/O, and asynchronous messages processing models, it is important to understand the role of the tick() function in HLA 1.3 and the evokeCallback() and evokeMultipleCallbacks() functions in HLA 1516 and HLA Evolved. For simplicity, the term tick will be used unless a distinction is necessary. Proper use of tick() is critical to federate and federation performance. As the names of the evokeCallback() and evokeMultipleCallbacks() member functions suggest, the primary purpose of tick() is to give the RTI processing cycles that it can use to invoke callbacks through the Federate Ambassador. In both the synchronous and asynchronous I/O models, Federate Ambassador callbacks are delivered only during the processing of the tick() function. For example, updates and interactions are delivered only when the federate calls tick(). Similarly, time advances can only be granted during the tick() call. For this reason alone, all federates (excluding federates using the asynchronous callbacks processing model) must call tick() regularly and at appropriate times (for example, after a name reservation or subscription) to ensure smooth operation within the federation.

Except for the asynchronous message processing and asynchronous callback modes, almost all internal RTI processing is performed during the tick() call. This provides federates with much greater control of the RTI's CPU usage, but it also means that federates must tick often in order to prevent starving the RTI of CPU time. This can be a major problem for any RTI algorithm that requires multiple messages to pass between joined federates or between federates and the rtiexec. Algorithms that require multiple message exchanges progress only during the call to tick(), and may require multiple calls to tick(). For example, the time management algorithms employed by the MÄK RTI sometimes require multiple messages between a federate and the rtiexec for a single Time Advance Grant. This means that if a federate does not tick frequently while waiting for the grant, then the time advance will slow down accordingly – this can affect the performance of all time constrained federates.

Synchronous mode federates are even more sensitive to tick frequency than federates using asynchronous I/O. Federates operating in synchronous mode read data from the network only during tick(). Therefore, ticking too slowly may lead to two distinct problems. First, if the federate ticks infrequently, then its local network buffers may overflow, leading to dropped best effort messages. Secondly, once the federate's network buffer overflows, reliable messages will begin to build up at the federate's RTI Forwarder. The forwarder will then gradually increase its memory usage until the federate clears the backlog of messages.

Finally, federates occasionally connect to the RTI (by creating an RTI Ambassador) well before they intend to participate in a federation. Such federates must still tick the RTI (even before they have joined) in order to avoid the reliable messaging problem mentioned previously. This problem affects all synchronous and asynchronous I/O mode federates.

2.2.2. Asynchronous I/O

Asynchronous I/O allows a federate to better schedule its time and to better respond to peaks in I/O processing.

Many of the RTI services require data to be transmitted over the network. The federate LRC creates a separate I/O thread that processes network I/O operations separately from other internal RTI processing. The asynchronous I/O thread separates the network transmission portion of this processing from the federate's thread of execution. Since the network I/O is not performed during the processing of RTI Ambassador service calls, the RTI returns the thread of execution to the federate significantly faster. The federate is better able to respond to time-critical processing that might in turn generate an increased output load (for example, aircraft maneuvering). The I/O thread can also use spare CPU cycles when the federate is waiting for other system operations (for example, disk access). Similarly, the asynchronous I/O thread receives data from the network separately from the federate's thread of execution.

The I/O thread only performs network I/O operations. The federate must still invoke the `tick()` member function to allocate CPU cycles to the RTI for its internal processing and to generate federate ambassador callbacks. However, the federate is less likely to affect data transmission (for example, dropped messages or blocked TCP connections) if it fails to invoke the `tick()` function frequently enough (for example, during initialization phases).

Disadvantages of Asynchronous I/O

A disadvantage of asynchronous I/O is that it can increase message transmission latency. The timing of when messages are sent and received becomes less determined, since the federate LRC thread is no longer performing the actual I/O operations. However, the MÄK RTI uses a signaling strategy between the threads that allows the latency to be small while the RTI is not heavily loaded, and for it to take advantage of queuing when loads increase. The threads signal each other when messages are available for sending and receiving.

Another disadvantage of asynchronous I/O is that the federate thread can fail to yield enough processing cycles to the I/O thread. If the I/O thread becomes starved (that is, it cannot get enough processing cycles), it will not process network I/O. The RTI messages will not be sent or received, resulting in high latency and buffer overflows. In addition, operating system mechanisms can take effect that can be detrimental to federate performance. (For example, Windows gives starved threads control for some number of cycles.)

You can configure the interaction between the federate LRC thread and the I/O thread with parameters in the RID file ([Table A-1](#)). One of these parameters controls whether the LRC yields to the I/O thread during the `tick()` call (on by default). Having the federate LRC thread yield during the `tick()` call ensures that the I/O thread will be executed. We recommend that this parameter value should not be changed unless the federate has been designed to manage multithreading issues so that it sufficiently yields execution to other threads.

2.2.3. Asynchronous Message Processing

Asynchronous message processing is a process model that is halfway between asynchronous I/O, which simply supports asynchronous message buffering, and asynchronous callbacks, which supports fully asynchronous processing and callbacks. In the asynchronous message processing mode, the asynchronous thread handles the network I/O and processes received messages. However, any federate ambassador callbacks that are generated enter a queue to be delivered to the federate synchronously during its call to `tick()` or the `invokeCallback` RTI Ambassador service.

This processing mode relieves the federate from having to call `tick()` to provide the RTI with processing cycles. It may improve the response and efficiency of some distributed algorithms (for example, time management). However, it requires the caching of callback parameters, which results in additional memory allocation and data copy operations.

2.2.4. Asynchronous Callbacks

The MÄK RTI supports an asynchronous callback mode. Instead of buffering messages to be processed during the next RTI `tick()`, the asynchronous thread processes the messages directly. In this mode, the federate does not have to invoke `tick()`, because all internal RTI processing is performed in the RTI Ambassador calls or the asynchronous thread. This configuration requires that the Federate Ambassador callbacks be thread-safe.

Asynchronous callbacks are enabled in the RID file.



Specifying a callback model of `HLA_IMMEDIATE` in the `RTIambassador` connect service in HLA Evolved forces the RTI into asynchronous callbacks mode, regardless of the RID file setting.

2.3. Network Topologies for RTI Messages

The RTI can send messages using best effort transport (UDP) or reliable transport (TCP). It provides alternatives for optimizing performance both within a LAN and over a WAN.

2.3.1. Best Effort Transport on a LAN

When you use best effort transport within a LAN, messages are sent to the other federates on the LAN via UDP multicast or broadcast. There is no guarantee of receipt. Configuration is simple and there is little overhead. To configure best effort transport, configure the MÄK RTI as described in [“Choosing Best Effort or Reliable Transport,”](#) on page 9-2.

2.3.2. Reliable Transport and TCP Forwarding on a LAN

Reliable transport guarantees receipt of messages. When you send data to multiple recipients using TCP, a separate copy of each packet must be sent to each recipient. In general, there are two approaches for achieving this:

- ♦ A sender can maintain a TCP connection to each remote federate and can send a copy directly to each.
- ♦ A sender can maintain a connection to one or more RTI Forwarders – applications that receive TCP traffic from a sender, and then forward it to many recipients.

The first approach minimizes latency in federations that have a small number of federates, because packets reach their destinations in a single network hop. However, the second approach minimizes CPU processing time at each federate and minimizes the number of connections.

The MÄK RTI uses TCP forwarding for all reliable transmissions. It supports centralized TCP forwarding (one forwarder) using the RTI Forwarder application. The MÄK RTI supports distributed TCP forwarding through the use of multiple RTI Forwarder applications. This allows you to distribute the total amount of network traffic among the forwarders. In large federations, this can improve performance over that of a single centralized forwarder. For details about how to configure reliable transport on a LAN, please see [“Configuring UDP and Centralized TCP Forwarding on a LAN,”](#) on page 10-3.

2.3.3. Best Effort Transport on a WAN

Most routers do not support broadcast or multicast messages. Therefore, to send best effort messages over a WAN, you must specifically configure the addresses of the recipients or use a packet forwarding strategy. For details of distributed UDP forwarding, please see Distributed Forwarding later in this section. For details about configuring UDP over a WAN without packet forwarding, please see [“Configuring UDP Over a WAN without Distributed Forwarding,”](#) on page 10-6.

2.3.4. Centralized TCP Forwarding on a WAN

The centralized TCP forwarding configuration for the MÄK RTI works over a WAN. However it provides no additional performance benefits. For WAN communications, distributed forwarding is the recommended strategy.

2.3.5. Distributed Forwarding on a WAN

The MÄK RTI's distributed forwarding option supports both TCP and UDP. The distributed forwarder allows federation designers to create a network of forwarders, each of which manages a subset of the federates in the federation. Distributed forwarding has two main benefits:

- ♦ It spreads the network load across multiple forwarders, rather than putting it all on a single forwarder.
- ♦ It achieves optimal network bandwidth use by reducing the number of message copies sent across the WAN from one per federate to one copy, or even none (if you are using sender-side filtering).

To configure distributed forwarding, please see Chapter 10, [*Configuring Message Forwarding*](#).



3. Compiling and Linking with the MÄK RTI

This chapter provides details about how to compile and link applications with the MÄK RTI.

Library Names	3-2
Compiling and Linking with the MÄK RTI 1.3	3-2
Compiling and Linking on Linux.....	3-3
Compiling and Linking on Windows	3-3
Compiling and Linking with the MÄK RTI 1516	3-4
Compiling and Linking on Linux.....	3-4
Compiling and Linking on Windows	3-4
Compiling and Linking with HLA Evolved	3-5
Federation Time.....	3-5
The HLA 1.3 Time Implementation	3-6
The RTI 1516 Time Implementation.....	3-7
The HLA Evolved Time Implementation	3-8
Java Bindings for the MÄK RTI.....	3-8

3.1. Library Names

The procedures for compiling and linking applications with the MÄK RTI are essentially the same for each version of the RTI. The main difference is that they have different library names. The MSVC++ 9 and 10 versions include both 32 bit and 64 bit libraries. For HLA 1.3 and HLA 1516, the 64 bit libraries append `_64` to the base library names. For HLA Evolved, they use the prescribed terminology (e64).

If you try to run a 64 bit HLA 1.3 or 1516 application that was compiled with an RTI that does not use the `_64` convention, that application will find the 32 bit libraries instead of the 64 bit libraries and will not run. You can work around this problem by deleting the 32 bit libraries and creating a symlink between the 32 bit library name and the 64 bit library name. Or, you can recompile the application using the MÄK RTI libraries.

Table 3-1 lists the libraries used.

Table 3-1: MÄK RTI libraries

		Windows	UNIX
HLA 1.3	32 bit	<i>libRTI-NG.lib</i> and <i>.dll</i>	<i>libRTI-NG.so</i>
		<i>libfedtime.lib</i> and <i>.dll</i>	<i>libfedtime.so</i>
	64 bit	<i>libRTI-NG_64.lib</i> and <i>.dll</i>	
		<i>libfedtime_64.lib</i> and <i>.dll</i>	
HLA 1516	32 bit	<i>librti1516.lib</i> and <i>.dll</i>	<i>librti1516.so</i>
		<i>libfedtime1516.lib</i> and <i>.dll</i>	<i>libfedtime1516.so</i>
	64 bit	<i>librti1516_64.lib</i> and <i>.dll</i>	
		<i>libfedtime1516_64.lib</i> and <i>.dll</i>	
HLA Evolved	32 bit	<i>librti1516e.lib</i> and <i>.dll</i>	<i>librti1516e.so</i>
		<i>libfedtime1516e.lib</i> and <i>.dll</i>	<i>libfedtime1516e.so</i>
	64 bit	<i>librti1516e64.lib</i> and <i>.dll</i>	
		<i>libfedtime1516e64.lib</i> and <i>.dll</i>	

3.2. Compiling and Linking with the MÄK RTI 1.3

To build an application that uses the MÄK RTI 1.3:

1. Include *RTI.hh* in any source files that use RTI functionality.
2. Add the *./include/HLA13* and *./lib* directories to the appropriate search paths.
3. Link with the RTI libraries.

3.2.1. Compiling and Linking on Linux

If you have installed the MÄK RTI in, for example, `/usr/products/makRti4.3`, the following should appear on your compile line:

```
-I/usr/products/makRti4.3/include/HLA13
```

and the following should appear on your link line:

```
-L/usr/products/makRti4.3/lib -lRTI-NG -lfedtime
```

3.2.2. Compiling and Linking on Windows

Assume that the MÄK RTI is installed in `C:\MAK\makRti4.3`. (The Microsoft Visual C++ user interfaces vary slightly between versions, so the following description is somewhat genericized.)

To compile for HLA 1.3, on the C/C++ section of the Project Property Pages:

1. In the General section, add `C:\MAK\makRti4.3\include\HLA13` to the Additional Include Directories property.
2. In the Preprocessor section, add `RTI_USES_STD_FSTREAM=1` to the Preprocessor Definitions (ostream is in the std namespace).
3. For MSVC++ 8 or 9, set `_SECURE_SCL` to 0. For VC++ 10, use the default value.
4. For MSVC++ 8 or 9, set `_HAS_ITERATOR_DEBUGGING` to 0. For VC++ 10, use the default value.
5. For MÄK RTI plug-ins, add `C:\MAK\makRti4.3\include\MAK` to the Additional Include Directories property.
6. In the Code Generation section, in the Run-time Library property, select Multithreaded DLL (/MD) for release builds. Select Multithreaded Debug DLL (/MDd) for debug builds.

To link to the HLA 1.3 libraries, on the Linker section of the Project Property Pages dialog box:

1. In the General section, add `C:\MAK\makRti4.3\lib` to the Additional Library Directories property.
2. In the Input section, on the Additional Dependencies property, for release builds, add the following:

```
libRTI-NG.lib libFedTime.lib ws2_32.lib netapi32.lib  
comctl32.lib
```

For debug builds, add the following:

```
libRTI-NGd.lib libFedTimed.lib ws2_32.lib netapi32.lib  
comctl32.lib
```

3. In the Input category, on the Ignore Specific Library property, for release builds, add `msvcrt.lib`. For debug builds, add `msvcrt.lib`.

3.3. Compiling and Linking with the MÄK RTI 1516

To build an application that uses the MÄK RTI 1516:

1. Include *RTI1516.h* in any source files that use RTI functionality.
2. Add the MÄK RTI 1516 *./include/HLA1516* and *./lib* directories to the appropriate search paths.
3. Link with the MÄK RTI 1516 libraries.

3.3.1. Compiling and Linking on Linux

If you have installed the MÄK RTI in, for example, */usr/products/makRti4.3*, the following should appear on your compile line:

```
-I/usr/products/makRti4.3/include/HLA1516
```

and the following should appear on your link line:

```
-L/usr/products/makRti4.3/lib -lrti1516 -lfedtime1516
```

3.3.2. Compiling and Linking on Windows

Assume that the MÄK RTI is installed in *C:\MAK\makRti4.3*. (The Microsoft Visual C++ user interfaces vary slightly from one version to another, so the following description is somewhat genericized.)

To compile for HLA 1516, on the C/C++ section of the Project Property Pages:

1. In the General section, add *C:\MAK\makRti4.3\include\HLA1516* to the Additional Include Directories property.
2. For MÄK RTI plug-ins, add *C:\MAK\makRti4.3\include\MAK* to the Additional Include Directories property.
3. For MSVC++ 8 or 9, set `_SECURE_SCL` to 0. For VC++ 10, use the default value.
4. For MSVC++ 8 or 9, set `_HAS_ITERATOR_DEBUGGING` to 0. For VC++ 10, use the default value.
5. In the Code Generation section, in the Run-time Library property, select Multithreaded DLL (/MD) for release builds. Select Multithreaded Debug DLL (/MDd) for debug builds.

To link to the HLA 1516 libraries, on the Linker section of the Project Property Pages dialog box:

1. In the General section, add *C:\MAK\makRti4.3\lib* to the Additional Library Directories property.
2. In the Input section, on the Additional Dependencies property, for release builds, add the following:

```
librti1516.lib libfedtime1516.lib ws2_32.lib netapi32.lib  
comctl32.lib
```

For debug builds, add the following:

```
librti1516d.lib libfedtime1516d.lib ws2_32.lib  
netapi32.lib comctl32.lib
```

3. In the Input category, on the Ignore Specific Library property, for release builds, add *msvcrt.lib*. For debug builds, add *msvcrt.lib*.

3.4. Compiling and Linking with HLA Evolved

To compile and link federates with HLA Evolved, follow the instructions for compiling and linking with HLA 1516, except that you use the HLA Evolved directories and libraries instead of the HLA 1516 directories and libraries. (Change 1516 to 1516e and HLA1516 to HLA1516E.)

3.5. Federation Time

According to the HLA specifications, the RTI requires all federations to supply an implementation of time. The RTI API also requires each federate to link with a time library even if it does not use the time management services. The MÄK RTI provides default time implementation libraries to help generate federate executables. The implementations can also be used for federation execution. The RTI API allows a federate to link using any time implementation library and then later execute the federate in a federation using a different time implementation library. If you are not using the time management services it does not matter which library is used during execution.

3.5.1. The HLA 1.3 Time Implementation

The RTI 1.3 API requires that all federates supply an implementation of the logical time abstraction in a library called *libfedtime*. The default implementation provided in the MÄK RTI contains a derivation of `RTI::FedTime` called *RTIfedTime*, which is defined in *fedtime.hh*.

In addition to the *RTIfedTime* class, the library contains an implementation of the abstraction's destructor `RTI::FedTime::~~FedTime` and the factory `RTI::FedTimeFactory`. The factory class is primarily for use by the RTI so that it can create instances of `RTI::FedTime` and *LogicalTimeInterval*. When a federate uses the time management services, it should use one of the concrete logical time derivations directly. The derivations provide constructors and methods that allow the federate to work with the logical time abstraction using the native C++ type (double).

3.5.2. The RTI 1516 Time Implementation

The RTI 1516 API requires that all federates supply an implementation of the logical time abstraction in a library called *libfedtime1516*. The default logical time library supplied with the MÄK RTI implements the following concrete derivations of the logical time abstraction:

- ♦ An implementation based on integer representation.
- ♦ An implementation based on floating point representation.
- ♦ A deprecated implementation is the default. It duplicates the floating point representation.

You can choose the time implementation used by the RTI when you create the federation. In the `createFederationExecution` service call, the third parameter is an optional string that specifies the time implementation to use. To specify the floating point representation, pass in `RTI_Float64Time`. To specify the integer representation, pass in `RTI_Integer64Time`. If no time implementation string is specified, the floating point representation is used.

The following classes are provided to support the logical time derivations:

- ♦ Integer: *LogicalTimeFactoryImplInteger*, *LogicalTimeImplInteger*, and *LogicalTimeIntervalImplInteger*.
- ♦ Floating point: *LogicalTimeFactoryImplFloat*, *LogicalTimeImplFloat*, and *LogicalTimeIntervalImplFloat*.
- ♦ Deprecated Floating point: *LogicalTimeFactoryImpl*, *LogicalTimeImpl*, and *LogicalTimeIntervalImpl*.

In addition to these classes, the library contains a *LogicalTimeFactoryFactory*. The factory-factory and factory classes are primarily for use by the RTI so that it can create the appropriate logical time factory and use the factory to create instances of *LogicalTime* and *LogicalTimeInterval*. When a federate uses the time management services, it should use one of the concrete logical time derivations directly. The derivations provide constructors and methods that allow the federate to work with the logical time abstraction using the native C++ types (double and unsigned integer).

The class declarations are contained in files that have the same name as the class and end in *.h*. They are in *./include/HLA1516/RTI*.

3.5.3. The HLA Evolved Time Implementation

The RTI HLA Evolved API requires that all federates supply a library called *libfedtime1516e* which contains the implementation for the *LogicalTimeFactoryFactory* class. The factory-factory and factory classes are primarily for use by the RTI so that it can create the appropriate logical time factory and use the factory to create instances of *LogicalTime* and *LogicalTimeInterval*.

The HLA Evolved API also requires that the RTI provide an implementation of the class *HLAlogicalTimeFactoryFactory*. This factory can be used to create factories for the two standardized time implementations, integer and floating point, which are also supplied by the RTI. The default logical time library supplied with the MAK RTI contains a *LogicalTimeFactoryFactory* that simply forwards all time factory creation requests to the *HLAlogicalTimeFactoryFactory*.

You can choose the time implementation used by the RTI when you create the federation. In the *createFederationExecution* service call, the last parameter is an optional string that specifies the time implementation to use. To specify the floating point representation, pass in *HLAfloat64Time*. To specify the integer representation, pass in *HLAinteger64Time*. If no time implementation string is specified, the floating point representation is used.

The following classes are defined in the HLA Evolved API to support the logical time derivations:

- Integer: *HLAinteger64TimeFactory*, *HLAinteger64Time*, and *HLAinteger64Interval*
- Floating point: *HLAfloat64TimeFactory*, *HLAfloat64Time*, and *HLAfloat64Interval*

When a federate uses the time management services, it should use one of the concrete logical time derivations directly. The derivations provide constructors and methods that allow the federate to work with the logical time abstraction using the native C++ types (double and unsigned integer).

The class declarations are contained in files that have the same name as the class and end in *.h*. They are in *./include/HLA1516E/RTI/time*.

3.6. Java Bindings for the MÄK RTI

The MÄK RTI provides a set of Java bindings. The Java binding is a thin layer of C++ code that exposes the native C++ API of the RTI to Java applications.

If you use the Java bindings, *%MAK_RTIDIR%/lib/java* must be the first entry in your *PATH* environment variable.



4. The RID File

This chapter provides general information about editing the RID file. For descriptions of the parameters in the RID file, please see the comments in the file, the sections in this manual that explain how to configure the MÄK RTI, and Appendix A, *[RID File Parameters Reference](#)*.

The RID File	4-2
Search Order for RID Files	4-2
Configuring HLA Switch Values	4-3
Configuring Use of Advisory Messages	4-3
Consistency of RID Files	4-3
Specifying RID Parameters Programmatically in HLA 1516.....	4-4
Displaying Configuration Settings in the Federations View.....	4-5
The RID File Consistency Checker.....	4-7
Enabling RID File Consistency Checking.....	4-8
Selecting the Parameters to be Checked.....	4-9

4.1. The RID File

The RTI initialization data (RID) file (default *rid.mtl*) is the MÄK RTI's configuration file. In the RID file, you can set parameters that control the RTI's networking configuration, enable or disable services, and tune performance. Both the rtiexec and each federate's Local RTI Component read the RID file when they are initialized. For a description of the RID file format and RID file parameters, please see Appendix A, [RID File Parameters Reference](#).



- The RID file is not required for basic RTI use. Use it if you want to change the default parameter values.
 - The connection configurations for the RTI Assistant override the RID file parameters that specify RTI connection values unless you force the RTI to use the RID file parameters. For details, please see Section 7.3, “[Managing Connection Configurations](#)”, in *MÄK RTI Users Guide*.
-

4.1.1. Search Order for RID Files

The search order for the RID file depends on how you specify it. If you do not specify the RTI_RID_FILE environment variable, the RTI searches for *rid.mtl* as described in this section. If you specify RTI_RID_FILE, you can use a configuration file with a name other than *rid.mtl*. (It must use the same MTL syntax as *rid.mtl*.) In HLA 1516 (but not HLA Evolved), you can override RTI_RID_FILE by passing a wstring to the createRTIambassador call. (For details, please see “[Specifying RID Parameters Programmatically in HLA 1516](#),” on page 4-4.)



On Windows, you can use the RTI Chooser to specify the RID file to use with a particular version of the RTI. The RTI Chooser takes care of setting the environment so that the correct RID file is used. For details about using the RTI Chooser, please see Section 7.2, “[Configuring the MÄK RTI Version and RID File to Use](#)”, in *MÄK RTI Users Guide*.

If the RTI_RID_FILE environment variable is not defined, the search order is:

1. Try to open *rid.mtl* in the directory from which you run the application (that is, the working directory, which is not necessarily the directory in which the executable is located).
2. Try to open the file specified by *RTI_CONFIG/rid.mtl*.
3. If a RID file is not found, print a warning and open using default values.

If the `RTI_RID_FILE` environment variable is defined, the search order is:

1. Try to open the file specified in `RTI_RID_FILE`.
2. Try to open the file specified by `RTI_CONFIG/RTI_RID_FILE`.
3. If a RID file is not found, the MÄK RTI stops looking for the RID file and fails.

4.1.2. Configuring HLA Switch Values

HLA 1516 and HLA Evolved both define switches in the FDD file that can be used to control various settings of the federation. You can override the FDD file settings with values defined in the RID file. To do so, you must set `RTI_preferRidToFedSwitchTable` to 1 (the default). If force full compliance is enabled, either through the RTI Assistant or via the RID file, `RTI_preferRidToFedSwitchTable` is disabled and the values in the FDD file are used.

4.1.3. Configuring Use of Advisory Messages

The following parameters specify the default state (enable (1) or disable (0)) for advisory callbacks for classes, attributes, attribute scope, and interactions. Any advisory switches in a 1516 FDD file override these default values. To use any of these parameters, `RTI_preferRidToFedSwitchTable` must be set to 1.

- ♦ `RTI_objectClassRelevanceAdvisorySwitch` (default: enabled).
- ♦ `RTI_attributeRelevanceAdvisorySwitch` (default: disabled).
- ♦ `RTI_interactionRelevanceAdvisorySwitch` (default: enabled).
- ♦ `RTI_attributeScopeAdvisorySwitch` (default: disabled).

4.1.4. Consistency of RID Files

The RID files read by the different federates' LRCs and by the `rtiexec` do not need to be identical. There are many cases where you might want to configure some LRCs differently from others. For example, you might want to have only some LRCs deliver a single callback per tick, or you might want to have different socket buffer sizes from one PC to another. However, some parameters must have the same value for all federates. All RID files must have the same value for `RTI_useRtiExec`. Similarly, all federates in a federation must have the same value for `RTI_udpPort` and `RTI_tcpPort` if they expect to be able to communicate. The tables in Appendix A, *RID File Parameters Reference*, indicate whether a parameter must be identical across the federation or if it can vary from one LRC to another. The RTI can check the consistency of RID files. For details, please see [“The RID File Consistency Checker,”](#) on page 4-7.

4.1.5. Specifying RID Parameters Programmatically in HLA 1516

The HLA 1516 and HLA Evolved APIs allow configuration parameters to be passed to the RTI Ambassador. In HLA 1516, the parameters are passed in the RTI Ambassador Factory `createRTIAmbassador` function as a vector<wstring>. In HLA Evolved, the RTI Ambassador's `connect` function takes a single wstring parameter. In both cases, the MÄK RTI uses the content of the strings as a means to modify the RID file parameters processed during initialization of the MÄK RTI. The strings can specify the RID file that is initially loaded and additional RID settings as follows:

- ♦ If a RID file name is included, it overrides any other method of specifying the RID file, such as the `RTI_RID_FILE` environment variable.
- ♦ If RID settings are included, they are applied after reading the RID file (in effect overriding the values of the RID file). Each string must be a complete lisp expression that conforms to the syntax in the RID file. Only valid lisp expressions are applied to the RTI environment.

This feature allows individual federates to programmatically override the selection of the RID file, individual RID parameters, or both.

The exact syntax is:

```
RTI_RID_FILE pathToRIDFile # lisp_expression1*
```

where:

- ♦ *RTI_RID_FILE* is optional. If included, the `RTI_RID_FILE` must be the first token in the string. The RID text following the token up to the '#' delimiter character is taken as the RID file name. If the # is omitted, then the remainder of the string text is used as the file name.
- ♦ *lisp_expression* may contain zero or more lisp expressions.

For HLA 1516, each string in the vector is processed in order.

If *RTI_RID_FILE* is included in the string, the MÄK RTI tries to open the specified file. If the file is not found, the configuration process fails without attempting a search for another file. If *RTI_RID_FILE* is omitted, the MÄK RTI uses its default search order for determining a global baseline RID file using the `RTI_RID_FILE` or `RTI_CONFIG` environment variables.

For more details about the RID file, please see [“The RID File,”](#) on page 4-2.

4.2. Displaying Configuration Settings in the Federations View

You can display a list of RID parameters and their settings if you are using an rtiexec connection.

To display the RTI's configuration settings:

1. In the system tray, right-click the RTI Assistant icon (🔗). A context menu opens.
2. Choose **Federations View**. The Federations View window opens (Figure 4-1).

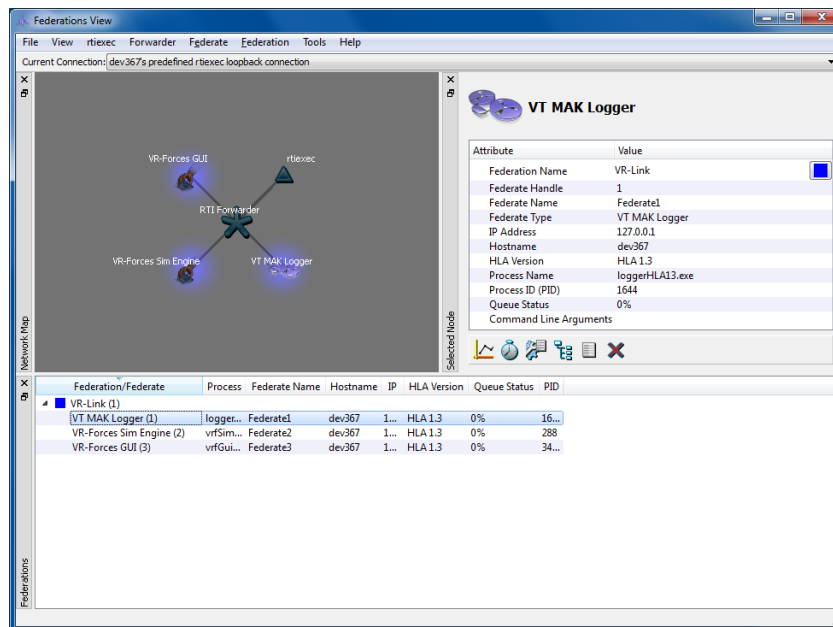


Figure 4-1. Federations View

3. Select the Federate whose RID parameters you want to view.
4. Choose **Federate** → **Federate RID Parameters**, or click the Federate RID Parameters icon (🔗). The RID Settings dialog box opens (Figure 4-2).

The Compliant column indicates compliance of a parameter value, as follows:

- A check mark in the Compliant column means that the current value for that parameter is the correct value for the RTI to be in fully compliant mode.
- An X in the Compliant column means that the parameter is set to a non-compliant value.
- Parameters that do not have a check mark or exclamation point do not affect compliance.

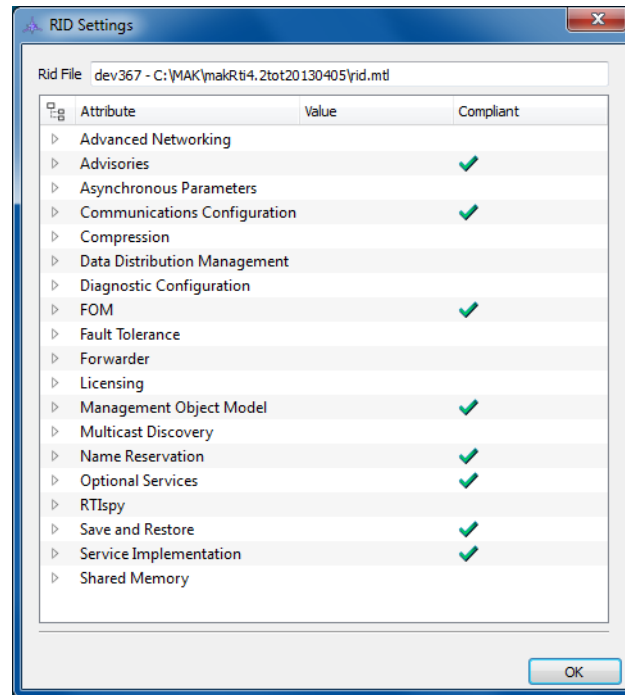


Figure 4-2. RID Settings dialog box

4.3. The RID File Consistency Checker

The MÄK RTI can provide runtime verification of RID file consistency across all federation executions. The RID file used by the rtiexec acts as a master RID file and all other RID files are compared to it. The RID file consistency checker allows you to guarantee that certain parameters are identical throughout the federation. (As noted in “[Consistency of RID Files](#),” on page 4-3, some parameters can vary among federates within a federation.)

RID file consistency checking has a small cost, as follows:

- ♦ It increases startup time for all federates, because they must pass messages to the RTI to verify their configuration. If this is a concern, federation managers may want to enable consistency checking during integration, and then disable it once all differences have been resolved.
- ♦ Use of consistency checking requires the rtiexec and is therefore unavailable in lightweight mode.



It is strongly recommended that you enable reliable messaging for internal RTI messages (`RTI_internalMsgReliableWhenUsingRtiexec`) when using RID file consistency checking to guarantee that no consistency check messages are lost.

4.3.1. Enabling RID File Consistency Checking

You can enable and disable consistency checking on a per-federate basis. It is disabled by default. If you enable consistency checking, it must be enabled in the RID file for the rtiexec and all federates that want to verify their RID files.

You enable and disable RID consistency checking with the `RTI_ridConsistencyChecking` parameter. `RTI_ridConsistencyChecking` has the following options:

- ♦ 0 — Disable consistency checking.
- ♦ 1 — Enable consistency checking and automatically correct differences in federate-wide parameter settings.
- ♦ 2 — Enable consistency checking and throw a `FederateInternalError` exception if the RID consistency check failed. Setting the `RTI_ridConsistencyChecking` parameter to 2 is useful for federate developers who want to shut down their federates and correct any inconsistencies before joining the federation.



The RID consistency feature relies on the ability to establish a connection between a federate and the RID tester (presumably the rtiexec), however if the federate's `RTI_enableTcpCompression` parameter and the RID tester's parameter are different, the two cannot communicate, and consequently the RID consistency test request and response messages cannot be exchanged. The workaround is to ensure that the `RTI_enableTcpCompression` parameter is consistent among all participants prior to launch.

4.3.2. Selecting the Parameters to be Checked

By default the consistency checker tests a large subset of the parameters that must be consistent across the federation in most federations. The default *rid.mtl* file lists the parameters in the default consistency set.

However, you may want to enforce a stricter checking policy. You can change the consistency set using the `RTI-addRidParametersToOverride` and `RTI-removeRidParametersToOverride` parameters in the `rtiexec`'s RID file. Uncomment the parameter you want to use and list each parameter to be added to or removed from the set.

For example, although `RTI_enableTcpCompression` and `RTI_udpCompressionLevel` must be consistent at start-up and cannot be checked for consistency, the `RTI_tcpCompressionLevel` and `RTI_udpCompressionLevel` parameters can vary within a federation, so they are not checked for consistency by default. Federations that have enabled compression and want to enforce a specific level of compression can add the following to the RID file:

```
(RTI-addRidParametersToOverride
 (list "RTI_tcpCompressionLevel" "RTI_udpCompressionLevel") )
```



The following RID parameters are evaluated before the RID consistency check is performed. Therefore, they cannot have their consistency enforced by the consistency checker. It is your responsibility to ensure that, if required, they are the same in all federates.

- ♦ `RTI_enableBigMessage`
- ♦ `RTI_tcpPort`
- ♦ `RTI_udpPort`
- ♦ `RTI_enablePacketBundling`
- ♦ `RTI_enableTcpCompression`
- ♦ `RTI_enableUdpCompression`
- ♦ `RTI_internalMsgReliableWhenUsingRtiexec`
- ♦ `RTI_mcastDiscoveryEnabled`
- ♦ `RTI_ridConsistencyChecking`
- ♦ `RTI_tcpForwarderAddr`
- ♦ `RTI_useRtiExec.`

Most of these parameters are federation-wide settings and must be the same in all RID files. However, a few such as `RTI_tcpForwarderAddr` may vary if you use distributed forwarders.



5. RTI Applications

This chapter describes the rtiexec and applications included with the MÄK RTI that help customers better understand or use the HLA environment.

The rtiexec.....	5-2
Configuring the rtiexec.....	5-3
Configuring Diagnostic Messages.....	5-3
The RTI Assistant.....	5-4
Specifying the RTI Assistant's Log Update Interval.....	5-5
Shutting Down the RTI Assistant.....	5-6
Configuring the Display of RTI Assistant Messages.....	5-6
Specifying the Warning Tick Interval	5-7
Common Operations in RTI Assistant Log Windows	5-8
Specifying the RTI Assistant's Ports	5-9
Specifying the RTI Assistant's Multicast Address.....	5-9
Specifying the RTI Assistant's Multicast Time-to-Live.....	5-9
Disabling the RTI Assistant.....	5-10
The RTI Forwarder Application.....	5-10
Running the RTI Forwarder.....	5-10
The RTI Command Line Tool.....	5-12
Listing Federation Executions and Federates.....	5-13
Deleting Federates	5-14

5.1. The rtiexec

The rtiexec implements any centralized functionality required by the RTI. For example, the rtiexec keeps track of which federates are joined to each federation execution, assigns federate handles, keeps track of which federates have not yet achieved synchronization points, computes LBTS (Lower Bound Time Stamps) for time management, orchestrates saves and restores, and so on. To use the MÄK RTI in its fully compliant mode, you must run the rtiexec before you start any federates.

You must use the rtiexec if your federation relies on any of the following:

- ♦ Reliable transport (TCP)
- ♦ Time management
- ♦ Synchronization points
- ♦ Federation save and restore
- ♦ The RTI Assistant network map.

Other RTI services (including MOM, DDM, and ownership management) work in lightweight mode, but in certain cases functionality is limited. For more information, please see Section 6.3.1, “[Limitations of Lightweight Mode](#)”.

If you are not using any of the services that require the rtiexec, then the choice of whether or not to use it is a trade-off between the convenience of lightweight mode, and the full compliance and robustness of running with the rtiexec. In general, you are not giving up performance by using the rtiexec. Object attribute updates and interactions sent with best effort transport always get exchanged directly among the federates without going through the rtiexec. Furthermore, while the rtiexec is often associated with reliable message forwarding, reliable forwarding is a separate performance issue. The RTI can be configured to use best effort transport for internal messages or a separate forwarder process can perform the forwarding of reliable messages. (For more information, please see “[The RTI Forwarder Application](#),” on page 5-10.) Either way, it is not the rtiexec processing that is an issue.

The rtiexec is required for just a few services that are best processed using a centralized approach. For most federations, the only time that the rtiexec’s centralized processing affects a federate is during create, destroy, join, and resign. During most of your federation, it neither sends nor processes any messages.



If you use the rtiexec, internal message reliable mode is recommended, rather than best effort.

5.1.1. Configuring the rtiexec

In addition to the command-line options described in [Table 4-1](#) in *MÄK RTI Users Guide*, you can configure the rtiexec in *rid.mtl*. The MÄK RTI provides several options for configuring the rtiexec. Among the most important options to consider are the use of best effort or reliable transport, and whether or not you will use packet forwarding. For details, please see “[The RTI Forwarder Application](#),” on page 5-10, and “[Choosing Best Effort or Reliable Transport](#),” on page 9-2.

5.1.2. Configuring Diagnostic Messages

The MÄK RTI can provide a variety of diagnostic data to help you debug problems. In addition to the diagnostic resources referenced in this section, you can use the RTIspy to provide additional diagnostic information. For details, please see Chapter 8, [Monitoring the Network](#).

Logging rtiexec Output

You can log rtiexec output to file. The `RTI_rtiExecLogFileName` parameter specifies the name of the log file for the rtiexec process. A unique identifier is inserted in the file name when `RTI_reuseLogFile` is enabled. This parameter is overridden by the `rtiexec -l` option.

Limiting Diagnostic Messages

- To prevent the output of diagnostics, use the `-q` command line option.

5.2. The RTI Assistant

The RTI Assistant is the user interface for the MÄK RTI. It starts automatically when you log in or start a federate (this behavior is configurable) and monitors the status of all RTI-related activity on your computer. It also communicates with RTI Assistants on other computers on the network. The RTI Assistant lets you:

- ♦ View federation information.
- ♦ View information about your RTI network connections.
- ♦ Configure connections.
- ♦ Configure some RTI behaviors.
- ♦ Configure and run latency testing.
- ♦ Resign federates and shut down the rtiexec.
- ♦ View federate logs and notification history for federates running on the local machine.

i

The federate-specific features of the RTI Assistant, such as viewing log files and resigning federates, are only available for federates that are running on the local machine.

You can configure the following aspects of the RTI Assistant:

- ♦ How it starts up. For details, please see Section 6.3, “[Configuring the RTI Assistant’s Startup Behavior](#)”, in *MÄK RTI Users Guide*.
- ♦ Notification and log behaviors.
- ♦ Whether or not to keep running the RTI Assistant after all other RTI components have shut down. For details, please see Section 6.4, “[Specifying the RTI Assistant’s Exit Policy](#)”, in *MÄK RTI Users Guide*.
- ♦ How to display RTI Assistant messages.
- ♦ Lightweight connection persistence.
- ♦ The update request interval.

You can clear the default license and connection parameters, and you can set an environment variable to disable the RTI Assistant.

For more general information about the RTI Assistant, please see Chapter 6, [The RTI Assistant](#), in *MÄK RTI Users Guide*.

5.2.1. Specifying the RTI Assistant's Log Update Interval

To specify how frequently the RTI Assistant updates the notification logs:

1. In the system tray, right-click the RTI Assistant icon (🔊). A menu is displayed.
2. Choose **Preferences**. The RTI Preferences dialog box opens.
3. Select the Notifications and Logs page (Figure 5-1).

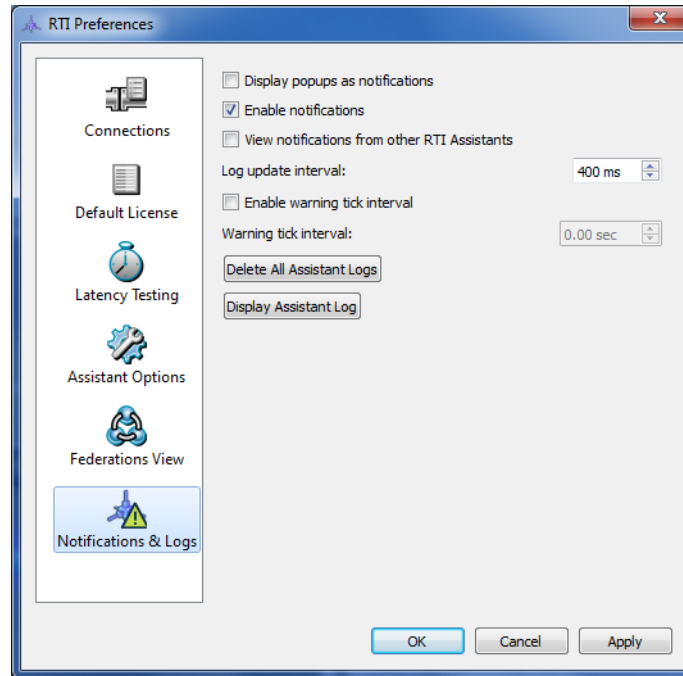


Figure 5-1. RTI Preferences dialog box, Notifications and Logs

4. Enter a value, in milliseconds, in the Log Update Interval text box.
5. Click OK.

5.2.2. Shutting Down the RTI Assistant

If you do not configure the RTI Assistant to shut down automatically, you can shut it down manually. When you shut down the RTI Assistant, it forces all LRCs and rtiexecs on the local computer to shut down. It does not affect RTI components on remote computers.



Shutting down the RTI Assistant in this manner can have undesirable consequences. If remote federates are connected to an rtiexec on the local machine, they will lose their connection.

To shut down the RTI Assistant:

1. In the system tray, right-click the RTI Assistant icon (🔊). A menu is displayed.
2. Choose **Shut Down All**.

5.2.3. Configuring the Display of RTI Assistant Messages

By default, when an LRC detects a serious problem that is not characterized as a Fatal or Warning message (which would trigger a notification message), it displays a message in a pop-up window in the middle of the screen. You can configure the RTI Assistant to display these messages as notifications (the messages displayed above the RTI Assistant icon).

To configure the display of RTI Assistant messages:

1. In the system tray, right-click the RTI Assistant icon (🔊). A menu is displayed.
2. Choose **Preferences**. The RTI Preferences dialog box opens.
3. Select the Notifications and Logs page (Figure 5-1).
4. Select or clear the Display Popups as Notifications check box.
5. Click OK.

5.2.4. Specifying the Warning Tick Interval

The Warning Tick Interval is the interval at which you would like the RTI Assistant to give you a warning if a federate has not ticked. This allows you to identify federates that are doing so much processing that they cannot keep up the necessary tick rate. If the federate goes too long without ticking, the RTI Assistant displays a message indicating this. You can configure the interval to meet the needs of your federates.

To configure the display of RTI Assistant messages:

1. In the system tray, right-click the RTI Assistant icon (). A menu is displayed.
2. Choose **Preferences**. The RTI Preferences dialog box opens.
3. Select the Notifications and Logs page ([Figure 5-1](#)).
4. Select the Enable Warning Tick Interval check box.
5. Specify the interval time, in seconds.
6. Click OK.

5.2.5. Common Operations in RTI Assistant Log Windows

The RTI Assistant has several windows for displaying messages — the rtiexec Console, the federate Log window, the Assistant Log, and the Local Component Notification History window. These windows all allow you to pause and resume display of messages, clear the window, and save the log history using icons that are common to the windows (Figure 5-2). You can also search for words or phrases in the log files.

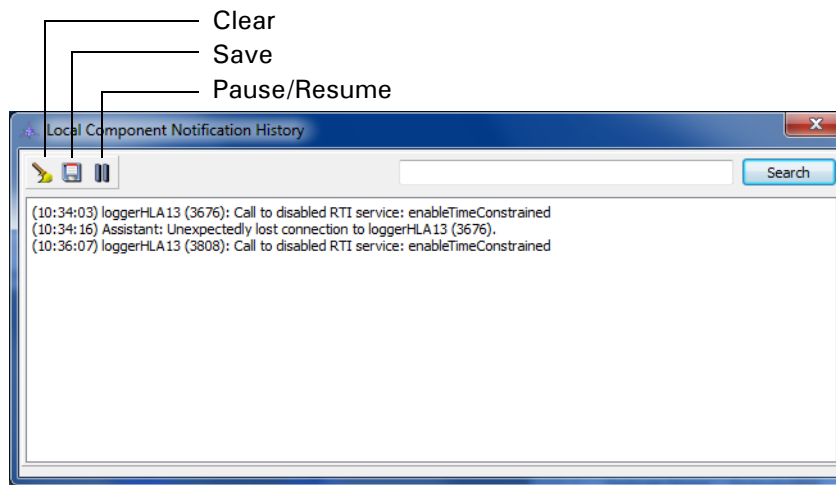


Figure 5-2. Console window



The Assistant Log is primarily for the use of MÄK support engineers when they provide customer support.

Pausing and Resuming the Display of Console Messages

If a log or console window is receiving messages faster than you can read them, you can pause the display. While the display is paused, new messages are saved and they are printed to the console when you resume the display of messages.

- To pause or resume display of console or log messages, click the Pause/Resume icon (||).

Saving Console Output to a File

To save console or log window output to a file:

1. Click the Save icon (floppy disk).
2. Type a filename in the Save File dialog box. The RTI saves the current contents of the console.

Clearing the Console Window

- To clear a log or console window, click the Clear icon (🧹).

5.2.6. Specifying the RTI Assistant's Ports

The RTI Preferences, Assistant Options page displays the RTI Assistant's peer and client ports. This peer port is used to communicate with local RTI components and with other RTI Assistants. The default port is 6003. You can change the peer port that the RTI Assistant uses.

- To specify the RTI Assistant's port, set the `RTI_ASSISTANT_PORT` environment variable.

Specifying the RTI Assistant's Client Port

Sometimes the RTI Assistant may need to use a different port to communicate with local RTI components than it does to communicate with other RTI Assistants. For example, on Linux machines with multiple users, each user must have their RTI components connect to their own instance of the RTI Assistant. Therefore each user needs to use a different port for their RTI Assistant socket. At the same time, the RTI Assistants must still be able to communicate with each other.

The `RTI_ASSISTANT_CLIENT_PORT` environment variable allows each user to set a port for communication between their local RTI components and the RTI Assistant. RTI Assistants will communicate with each other through the default port or the port specified by `RTI_ASSISTANT_PORT`.

5.2.7. Specifying the RTI Assistant's Multicast Address

RTI Assistants communicate with each other using UDP multicast. The RTI Assistant supports IPv4 and IPv6. You can specify the multicast addresses that RTI Assistants use to communicate with each other. The default address is 229.7.7.10 for IPv4 and ff12::7:10 for IPv6.

- To specify the RTI Assistant's IPv4 multicast address, set the `RTI_ASSISTANT_IPV4_ADDRESS` environment variable.
- To specify the RTI Assistant's IPv6 multicast address, set the `RTI_ASSISTANT_IPV6_ADDRESS` environment variable.

5.2.8. Specifying the RTI Assistant's Multicast Time-to-Live

- To set the RTI Assistant's multicast TTL, create an environment variable called `RTI_ASSISTANT_TTL`. The default value is 1.

5.2.9. Disabling the RTI Assistant

- To disable the RTI Assistant, create an environment variable called `RTI_ASSISTANT_DISABLE`. It does not require a value. Its existence causes the RTI to not create the RTI Assistant.

5.3. The RTI Forwarder Application

As explained in [“Reliable Transport and TCP Forwarding on a LAN,”](#) on page 2-7, the MÄK RTI uses TCP forwarding for all reliable communications. This is done using the RTI Forwarder. When you start the `rtiexec`, if it is configured to use a local RTI Forwarder, it checks to see if one is running. If an RTI Forwarder is running, the `rtiexec` connects to it. If an RTI Forwarder is not running, the `rtiexec` starts one using the same connection configuration that the `rtiexec` uses.

Since the `rtiexec` usually requires minimal processing time, federations with smaller reliable message loads can easily be supported by centralized TCP forwarding running on the same machine as the `rtiexec`. As the reliable message load increases, performance can be significantly improved by running the RTI Forwarder (*rtiForwarder.exe*) on a separate machine.

You may decide to run multiple RTI Forwarders to implement a distributed forwarding scheme. For details, please see Chapter 10, [Configuring Message Forwarding](#).

5.3.1. Running the RTI Forwarder

To run the RTI Forwarder:

1. Run:

```
./bin/rtiForwarder.exe options
```

Unless you specified the `-M` command-line option, or `RTI_configureConnectionWithRid` is set to 1, the Choose Connection Configuration dialog box opens.

2. Select a connection configuration. (If you are creating a distributed forwarder network and have not previously created connection configurations that specify an address for the forwarder that you want to connect to, edit the connection configuration to add the forwarder address. For more information, please see [“Configuring RTI Forwarders Using the RTI Assistant,”](#) on page 10-17.)
3. Click Connect.

Table 5-1 describes the command-line options for the RTI Forwarder.

Table 5-1: RTI Forwarder command-line options

Option	Description
(-- --ignore_rest)	Ignore all command-line options that follow this one.
(-A --destAddrString) address	Specifies the multicast group address to use if reliable transport is disabled. Equivalent to the RTI_destAddrString parameter.
(-d --doNotUseRoutes- File)	Specifies that the forwarder not use a routes file.
(-D --distributedForward- erPort) port	Specifies the port that RTI Forwarders use to communicate with each other.
(-F --forwarderToCon- nectTo) address	Specifies the address of an additional forwarder that this forwarder should try to connect to instead of using the routes file.
(-h --help)	Displays a list of command-line options.
(-l --setLogFileName) filename	Enables logging to a file with the specified name.
(-M --manual)	Specifies that the RTI Forwarder use the connection configuration in the RID file or supplied on the command line rather than the configuration stored by the RTI Assistant. It is equivalent to setting RTI_configureConnectionWithRid to 1. Since command-line options override the RID file, using this option enables you to specify the connection configuration from the command line.
(-n --notifyLevel) level	Sets the diagnostic output level.
(-N --networkInter- faceAddr) address	Specifies the IP address of the network card that you want this forwarder to use.
(-P --setUdpPort) port	Specifies the port to listen to. Equivalent to the RTI_udpPort parameter.
(-R --setRidFileName) RID_file	Specifies the RID file to use. -R overrides the RTI_RID_FILE environment variable.
(-r --routesFileName) routeFileName	Specifies the forwarder route file to use. Overrides the RTI_forwarderRoutesFile parameter in the RID file.
(-T --setTcpPort) port	Specifies the port to be used to connect to the RTI Forwarder using TCP. Equivalent to the RTI_tcpPort parameter.
(-v --version)	Display version information and exit.

5.4. The RTI Command Line Tool

You can send commands to the RTI from a console window using the RTI command line tool. This tool is not interactive.

To use the RTI command line tool:

1. Open a console window.
2. Change directory to *./bin*.
3. Enter a command in the following format:

```
rti option
```

[Table 5-2](#) lists the commands that you can use with RTI command line tool.

Table 5-2: rtiexec runtime commands

Command	Inputs	Description
delete	<i>componentHandle</i> <i>federationHandle</i> <i>federateHandle</i>	Resigns the federate with the given <i>componentHandle</i> , <i>federationHandle</i> , and <i>federateHandle</i> from the rtiexec. Can be used with local and remote federates. To get handles, call: <pre>rti list rtiexec</pre> The <i>componentHandle</i> is the handle the RTI Assistant uses to designate the different local components connected to it. In the results from the list command, it is the number displayed at the beginning of the line.
list	[all rtiexec rtiForwarder]	Lists components based on the input parameter, as follows: ♦ all (or no input). All of the local RTI components are listed. ♦ rtiexec. All federations and federates of the local rtiexecs are listed. ♦ rtiForwarder. All connections of the local RTI Forwarders are listed.
kill	<i>componentHandle</i>	Resigns local federates and shuts down local rtiexecs and RTI Forwarders. To get handles, call: <pre>rti list</pre> The <i>componentHandle</i> is the number displayed at the beginning of the line.
shutdownall	None.	Shuts down the local RTI Assistant and all connected local RTI components.

The following example uses the list command to generate information about components. Then it deletes a federate.

```
C:\source\makRti\bin>rti list rtiexec
Information from local rtiexec Connections
  1) dubois370 (192.168.3.226), 4226, 229.7.7.7, fully compliant
    [192.168.3.226]
  4) MAKsimple
    2) rtisimple1516 (dubois370)

C:\source\makRti\bin>rti delete 1 4 2
Delete federate Component Command sent to rtiexec
```

This command tells the rtiexec with LRC handle 1, to delete the federate with federate handle 2, in the federation with federation handle 4.

5.4.1. Listing Federation Executions and Federates

To list all running federation executions and their federates, use the list command. Output from the rti list command might look like the following:

```
C:\MAK\makRti3.4\bin>rti list
Printing Local Components

Locally Connected rtiexecs by Assistant ID
  0) fw270 (10.0.1.166), 4678, 229.7.7.7, fully compliant [10.0.1.166]

Locally Connected Forwarders by Assistant ID
  1) fw270 (10.0.1.166), 4678, 229.7.7.7, fully compliant [10.0.1.166]

Locally Connected LRCs by Assistant ID
  2) Logger (1)
  3) MAK PVD (2)
  4) VR-Link F18 (3)
```

Output from rti list rtiexec would look like the following:

```
C:\MAK\makRti3.4\bin>rti list rtiexec
Information from local rtiexec Connections
  0) fw270 (10.0.1.166), 4678, 229.7.7.7, fully compliant [10.0.1.166]
  2) VR-Link
    1) Logger (fw270)
    2) MAK PVD (fw270)
    3) VR-Link F18 (fw270)
```

5.4.2. Deleting Federates

The `delete` command deletes the specified federate by handle and federation execution name or deletes all federates with the specified handle. You can use `delete` to explicitly resign a federate. This is useful if a federate crashes before it resigns properly. For example, assuming the output from the `list rtiexec` command in [“Listing Federation Executions and Federates,”](#) on page 5-13, to delete the Logger federate from the VR-Link federation execution, you would enter the command:

```
kill 1 Logger
```

To delete all federates with the handle 1 from all federation executions, enter the command:

```
kill 1
```



6. Managing Federations

This chapter explains how to view information about and configure federation executions.

Introduction	6-2
Specifying the FED File	6-2
Search Order for FED Files	6-2
Distributing the FED File	6-3
Using Lightweight Mode	6-4
Limitations of Lightweight Mode	6-5
Viewing Information about a Federation	6-6
The Network Map	6-7
Viewing Time Management State Information	6-7
Viewing Synchronization Points	6-9
Viewing Federation-Wide Notification Messages	6-10
Configuring Fault Tolerance Strategies	6-11
Responding to Abnormal Termination	6-11
Reconnecting to the RTI Forwarder	6-13
Specifying the Response Interval	6-13
Processing Discovery of Unknown Objects	6-14
Choosing Silent Failure Instead of Exceptions	6-14
Configuring Save/Restore	6-15

6.1. Introduction

The MÄK RTI has a graphical user interface (GUI) for viewing information about federations and federates.

This chapter covers high-level federation management issues and explains how to use the RTI Assistant and RTIspy GUIs to help manage federations.

6.2. Specifying the FED File

When you use the `rtiexec`, the federate that successfully creates the federation execution dictates the name of the FED file for all federates to use by passing it to `createFederationExecution()`. You can configure the RTI so that when a federate joins the federation, the RTI exchanges either just the FED file name or the entire FED file contents between the `rtiexec` and the federate's LRC.

Exchanging just the FED file name is very efficient, but each federate's LRC must read the FED file locally and there may be consistency issues among federates. To prevent problems caused by inconsistent FED files, when the federation is created, the LRC of the creating federate sends the CRC (cyclic redundancy check) of the FED file to the `rtiexec`. Thereafter, as federates join the federation, each LRC sends the CRC of the local FED file. If `RTI_crcCheckFedFile` is set to 0, and the federate's CRC does not match the CRC of the FED file used to create the federation, the joining federate is notified that the FED files are different and it joins the federation. If `RTI_crcCheckFedFile` is set to 1 and the CRCs do not match, the federate cannot join the federation.

Exchanging the entire FED file ensures that each federate uses the same FED file, but introduces some overhead. (For details, please see “[Distributing the FED File](#),” on page 6-3.)



In full compliance mode, `RTI_distributeFedFile` is enabled.

In lightweight mode, the name of the FED file is not communicated among federates. If you want the federates to use a FED file other than the default (the federation execution name with `.fed` appended to the end), then either use the RID parameter `RTI_defaultFedFile` to specify the name of the FED file to read, or at each federate use the `createFederationExecution` service prior to the `joinFederationService` to create a mapping between the federation name and the FED file name.

6.2.1. Search Order for FED Files

Regardless of how the name of the FED file is specified, the MÄK RTI looks for the file in the current working directory first. Then it looks in the directory specified by the `RTI_CONFIG` environment variable. If the RTI cannot find the appropriate FED file in either of these locations, the federate cannot join.

6.2.2. Distributing the FED File

You can distribute the FED file from the federate that creates the federation to all joining federates instead of reading a local copy of the file at each federate. When the first federate creates the federation, it passes the FED file to the rtiexec. As additional federates join, the rtiexec passes the file to them along with their join confirmation.

To enable distribution of the FED file, set the `RTI_distributeFedFile`, `RTI_useRtiExec`, and `RTI_internalMsgReliableWhenUsingRtiexec` parameters to 1.



In full compliance mode, `RTI_distributeFedFile` is enabled.

The primary reasons to enable FED file distribution are to ensure that the FOM used by each federate is consistent while you are developing a federation or to support FOM modules. During federation development, the FOM may be in a state of flux. If different federates try to join the federation using different revisions of the FOM, unexpected and difficult-to-diagnose problems may arise.

However, distributing the FED file is a relatively expensive network operation, which may slow the join process and, in the case of late joining federates, may even impede the performance of a running federation. Therefore, unless you are using FOM modules, we recommend that you only use FED file distribution in the federation development phase, and use only statically distributed FED files when the simulation is deployed. (If you use the FOM module feature, you must distribute the FED file. For details, please see [“Using FOM Modules,”](#) on page 14-2.)



Any federate that attempts to create a federation must have a local copy of the FED file, because the `createFederationExecution` API routine requires a valid FED file.

Distributing an HLA 1516 FDD File

In 1516, the HLA DTD is not distributed with the FDD file. In order for the LRC to process the FDD file, the HLA DTD must be accessible as specified in the FDD DTD attribute. The DTD is found relative to the federate's working directory.

6.3. Using Lightweight Mode

The MÄK RTI supports a lightweight mode in which the rtiexec is not necessary. In general, lightweight mode is appropriate for small, simple federations that do not use the more complex RTI services, that require only best effort transport, and that do not require strict compliance with the HLA Specification.

Many MÄK RTI users use lightweight mode during development and debugging of their federates because of the convenience of being able to quickly and repeatedly restart federations without worrying about running the rtiexec. However, many switch to using the rtiexec when playing in real exercises so that they can gain strict compliance with the HLA specification, use reliable transport, and take advantage of the fault tolerance and guarantee of federate handle uniqueness that is supported only with the rtiexec.

When you run in lightweight mode, you can use the RTI Assistant to:

- ♦ View the notification history.
- ♦ Enable federate logging.
- ♦ Force a federate to resign.
- ♦ Run latency tests.
- ♦ Shut down all federates.



The federation management features of the RTI Assistant are not available in lightweight mode.

6.3.1. Limitations of Lightweight Mode

In lightweight mode, services that require the central processing provided by the rtiexec (reliable transport, time management, save and restore, and synchronization points) are not available. Other RTI services, (including MOM, DDM, and ownership management) work in lightweight mode, but in certain cases functionality is limited. In lightweight mode:

- ♦ Released attributes are permanently orphaned. (When a federate resigns from a federation with a resign action `RELEASE_ATTRIBUTES DELETE_OBJECTS_AND_RELEASE_ATTRIBUTES`, the RTI is supposed to allow other federates to acquire ownership of attribute instances that the resigning federate is releasing.)
- ♦ There is no central place to store information about which federation executions exist and which federates are joined to them. Therefore:
 - The `createFederationExecution()` service returns successfully even if the named execution has already been created.
 - The `destroyFederationExecution()` service always returns successfully even if the named execution does not currently exist.
 - The `joinFederationExecution()` service returns successfully even if the named federation execution has never been created using `createFederationExecution()`.
- ♦ Each federate unilaterally chooses its federate ID without asking the rtiexec to make sure it is unique. This makes it possible for two federates to have the same federate ID. (If this occurs, you will need to restart your federation.) The chances of two federates choosing the same ID depend on the strategy the federate uses for choosing its ID. By default, each federate uses its process ID modulo 10,000 as its federate ID. But if `RTI_useRandomNumberForFedHandle` is set to 1 in your RID file, each federate chooses a handle at random.
- ♦ The first three characters plus the last two characters of the federation execution name are used to construct a federation execution identifier. If you have more than one federation execution running at the same time on the same port or address, their names must differ within the first four characters or the last character.
- ♦ The RTI cannot detect crashed federates and automatically resign them from the federation execution.
- ♦ The RTI does not pass the name of the FED file from the federate that created the federation execution to the other federates. If your FED file name is something other than the name of your federation execution followed by `.fed`, you must call `createFederationExecution()` in every federate, passing the name of the appropriate FED file.
- ♦ When using RTI 1516 or HLA Evolved, name reservation is only checked against what is known at the local RTI component (previously reserved names, registered objects, and discovered objects).
- ♦ FOM module merging is not supported.

6.4. Viewing Information about a Federation

The Federations View displays information about federations. It Federations View has the following panels:

- Network Map. The Network Map display icons for the RTI Forwarder, the rtiexec, and the federates in the selected connection.
- Selected Node. The Selected Node panel displays details about the node that is selected in the Network Map.
- Federations. The Federations panel lists the federations that are active on the selected connection and the federates in each federation.

To display information about a federation in the Federations View:

1. In the system tray, right-click the RTI Assistant icon (🔧). A menu is displayed.
2. Choose Federations View. The Federations View opens (Figure 6-1).
3. In the Current Connection box, select the connection that you want to view.

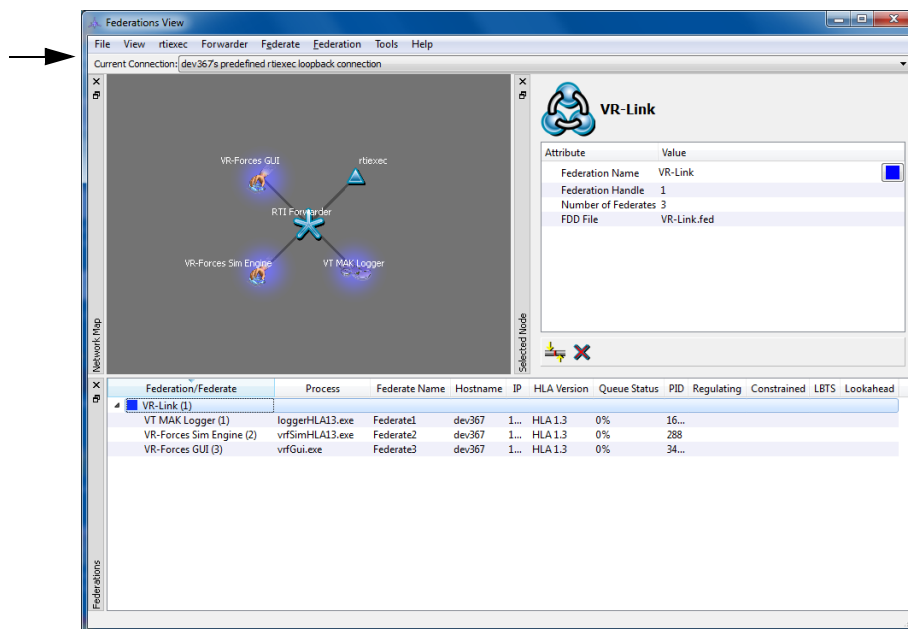


Figure 6-1. RTI Federation View, federation selected

4. Select a federation in the Federations panel. Information about the federation is listed in the Selected Node panel.

6.4.1. The Network Map

The Network Map ([Figure 6-1](#)) displays an icon for each forwarder, each federate, and the rtiexec node. The links between components represent the reliable connections (TCP) between them. (Components can communicate through other connectionless methods that are not represented in the network map (UDP).)

When you select a node on the map, details about the node are displayed in the Selected Node panel.



To view the network map, you must run the rtiexec and must run internal message reliable.

6.5. Viewing Time Management State Information

If time management is enabled, the Federations View can display time management state information for federates. You can display the following information:

- ♦ Regulating — Is the federate regulating?
- ♦ Constrained — Is the federate constrained?
- ♦ LBTS — The Lower Bound Time Stamp on messages that the federate may generate. This view of LBTS is the time to which a regulating federate constrains all other constrained federates, rather than the minimum LBTS by which the federate is itself constrained. When the federates are sorted by the LBTS value, the minimum LBTS value indicates the LBTS of messages that any federate may receive (except the smallest federate that uses the next smallest value).
- ♦ Lookahead — The federate's current lookahead setting.
- ♦ Current Time — The federate's current view of simulation time. This is the time of the federate's last Time Advance Grant, and is unaffected when the federate enters the Time Advancing state.



- ♦ In the Federations View, you can configure which time management state information is displayed.
 - ♦ Displaying time management information adds some overhead to RTI performance.
-

To display time management state information:

1. In the system tray, right-click the RTI Assistant icon (🔧). A menu is displayed.
2. Choose Federations View. The Federations View opens.
3. In the Current Connection box, select the connection that you want to view.
4. Choose **View** → **Federate Columns** → **Customize**.
5. Select the time management columns that you want to display.
6. Click OK. The columns are added to the display (Figure 6-3).



You can also display or hide columns individually by selecting them on the Federate Columns sub-menu.

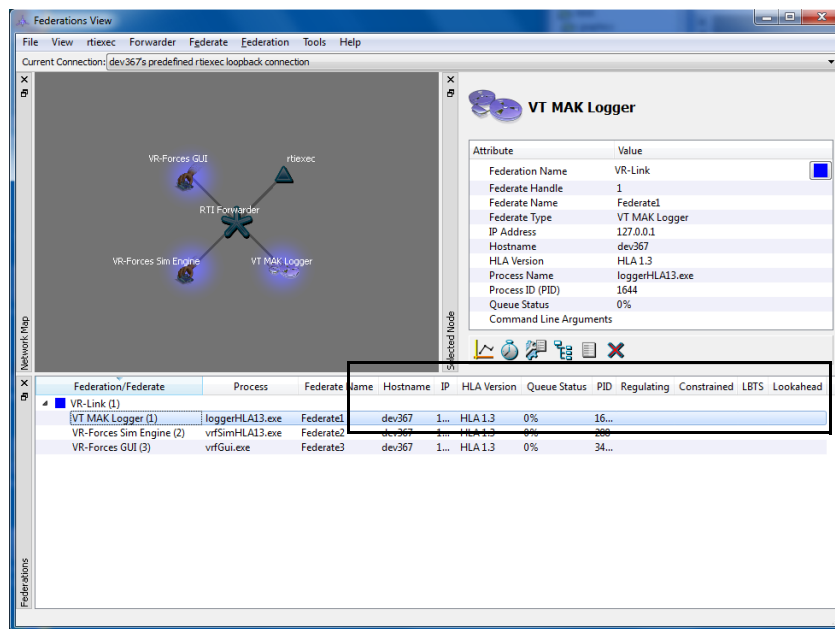


Figure 6-2. Time management state information

6.6. Viewing Synchronization Points

You can view the status of a federation's synchronization points in the Federations View and RTIspy.



The Federations View only displays pending synchronization points. Once the point has been reached, the information is deleted from the window.

To view synchronization points:

1. In the system tray, right-click the RTI Assistant icon (🔗). A menu is displayed.
2. Choose Federations View. The Federations View opens (Figure 6-1).
3. In the Current Connection box, select the connection that you want to view.
4. In the Federations panel, select the federation whose synchronization points you want to view.
5. Choose **Federation** → **Synchronization Points** or click the Synchronization Points icon (📄). The Synchronization Points dialog box opens (Figure 6-3). It lists pending synchronization points.

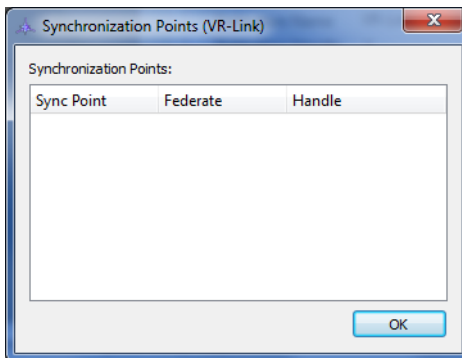


Figure 6-3. Synchronization points

6.7. Viewing Federation-Wide Notification Messages

The RTI Assistant displays Fatal and Warn messages received from all federates running on the same machine. The messages are displayed in a popup window when they are received (Figure 6-4). Thereafter, you can view them in the Local Component Notification History window. An exclamation point is added to the RTI Assistant icon until the next time the notification history is viewed (Figure 6-5). You can clear, pause, and save the notification history. (For details, please see “Common Operations in RTI Assistant Log Windows,” on page 5-8.)

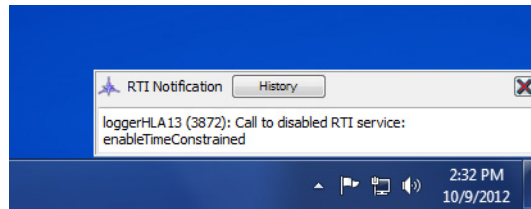


Figure 6-4. RTI notification popup window

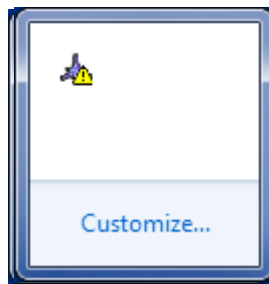


Figure 6-5. RTI Assistant icon message prompt

To display the RTI Notification History:

1. In the system tray, right-click the RTI Assistant icon (🤖).
2. On the context menu, choose Local Notification History. The Local Component Notification History window opens (Figure 6-6).

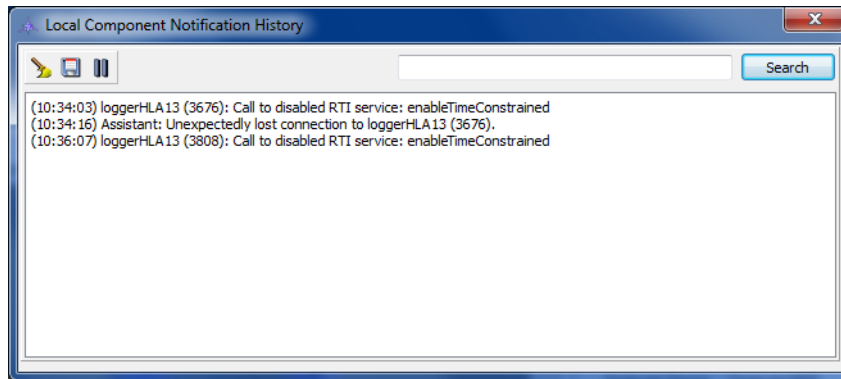


Figure 6-6. Local Component Notification History window

6.8. Configuring Fault Tolerance Strategies

Fault tolerance is a set of strategies for responding to problems within a federation, such as a federate dropping out without resigning, or unusual delays in connecting to the RTI.

6.8.1. Responding to Abnormal Termination

The MÄK RTI supports automatic removal of abnormally terminated federates and their orphaned objects. The RTI detects terminated federates as follows:

- ♦ It detects broken TCP connections between the LRC and the rtiexec (that is, by its RTI Forwarder component).
- ♦ It monitors a heartbeat message sent by each LRC to the federation execution.

For RTI 1.3 and 1516, the removal of a terminated federate from a federation is treated approximately as if the federate resigned either with an action of `RTI::RELEASE_ATTRIBUTES` or `RTI::DELETE_OBJECTS_AND_RELEASE_ATTRIBUTES`. For HLA Evolved, a federate that is abnormally terminated is resigned with the action specified by the `automaticResignAction` in the FDD file.

To detect broken TCP connections, an LRC must establish a TCP connection to the rtiexec's RTI Forwarder (`RTI_tcpForwarderAddr`). When the rtiexec detects that this TCP connection has been lost, the federate is forcibly removed from its federation, if it is joined.

The heartbeat mechanism has each LRC send a heartbeat message to its federation executive once it has joined. If the federation executive does not receive a heartbeat message within a specified time-out interval, the federate is forcibly removed from the federation. To configure the heartbeat interval, set `RTI_enableFederateHeartbeat` to 1, and edit the `RTI_federateHeartbeatInterval` parameter, as follows.

```
RTI_federateHeartbeatInterval heartbeat
```

where *heartbeat* specifies the frequency with which each federate LRC sends a heartbeat message. The default heartbeat is 10 seconds.

To configure the timeout interval, set `RTI_enableFederateHeartbeat` to 1, and edit the `RTI_federateTimeoutInterval` parameter, as follows:

```
RTI_federateTimeoutInterval timeout
```

where *timeout* specifies the time period in which the federation must receive a heartbeat or it will forcibly remove the federate. The default is 25 seconds.



The asynchronous IO thread in the asynchronous IO or asynchronous message processing modes does not generate heartbeats. Heartbeats are generated during the call to `tick()`, `evokeCallback()`, or `evokeMultipleCallbacks()`. Therefore the federate must call these services more frequently than the timeout interval.

Handling Orphaned Objects

The object attributes owned by a federate that has terminated abnormally are considered to be orphaned. HLA does not address how they should be treated. The MÄK RTI fault tolerance behavior attempts to process these objects as if the federate resigned directing the RTI to either delete the objects or release the attributes. The `RTI_deleteOrphans` parameter specifies how the RTI handles orphaned objects. If `RTI_deleteOrphans` is enabled and the federate owns the `privilegeToDelete` attribute, the orphaned objects are deleted from the federation. If the federate does not own the object's `privilegeToDelete` attribute, the federate's owned attributes become orphaned and they cannot be recovered. If the `RTI_deleteOrphans` parameter is disabled, the federate's owned attributes become orphaned even if the federate owns the `privilegeToDelete` attribute. The RTI does not support ownership transfer of orphaned attributes. A federation can choose to allow orphaned attributes so that attributes owned by other federates can still be updated.

To specify deletion of orphaned objects, enable the `RTI_deleteOrphans` parameter, as follows:

```
RTI_deleteOrphans mode
```

where *mode* specifies whether or not the objects for which a terminated federate owns the `privilegeToDelete` will be automatically deleted.

- ♦ 0 — disabled (all owned attributes are orphaned).
- ♦ 1 — enabled.

Default: 1.

6.8.2. Reconnecting to the RTI Forwarder

You can configure an LRC to try to re-establish its connection to the RTI Forwarder if the connection breaks. This feature may allow the federate to continue running despite a large class of network layer errors.

To reconnect to the RTI Forwarder, set the `RTI_reconnectEnabled` parameter to 1, and specify a value for `RTI_federateReconnectPause` and `RTI_rtiExecReconnectPause`. If reconnect is enabled, when a broken connection is detected, the federate waits for the time specified by `RTI_federateReconnectPause` to allow the network to stabilize, then it tries to re-establish the broken connection. If an rtiexec detects a broken connection to the forwarder, the rtiexec waits for the time specified by `RTI_rtiExecReconnectPause` before it tries to re-establish the connection. The value for `RTI_rtiExecReconnectPause` must be lower than the value of `RTI_federateReconnectPause`. If the rtiexec and some number of federates are disconnected from the forwarder, it is important that the rtiexec re-establish its connection before any federates try to reconnect; otherwise the federates will not succeed. A connection will be dropped if the rtiexec or federate does not re-establish it within the time: $(2 \times \text{ReconnectPause}) + \text{response_interval}$. (For details about specifying the response interval, please see “[Specifying the Response Interval](#),” on page 6-13.)

If the federate reconnects, it usually continues to operate in the federation with no visible effects to the application. If the federate cannot reconnect, the LRC throws an `RTIInternalError` exception to indicate that the federate has lost its connection to the federation (as it does when `RTI_reconnectEnabled` is disabled). During the reconnection period some reliable messages may be lost, because the federate is temporarily disconnected from the RTI.

6.8.3. Specifying the Response Interval

You can control the amount of time (in seconds) that an LRC waits to receive a response from the rtiexec when processing the `createFederation()`, `destroyFederation()`, or `joinFederation()` service calls. You set the response interval with the `RTI_responseInterval` parameter. The default interval is 3.0 seconds.

A federate's LRC can sometimes experience unusually long delays when communicating with the rtiexec to process the `createFederation()` or `joinFederation()` service calls. As a result, the federate will not be able to complete its connection to the rtiexec and will report, “Could not connect to rtiexec”. The service call throws an `RTIInternalError` exception. The solution to this problem is to increase the amount of time that the LRC waits for a response.



Other connection issues may cause the LRC to report the same type of connection error, for example, mismatched UDP ports.

The syntax for the `RTI_responseInterval` is:

```
(setqb RTI_responseInterval interval)
```

6.8.4. Processing Discovery of Unknown Objects

By default, the RTI does not perform discovery processing for updates of unknown objects. The RID parameter, `RTI_processUnknownUpdatesForDiscovery`, allows you to control whether updates from unknown objects can cause discovery. By default this option is turned off to improve efficiency. Turning it on provides fault tolerance for dropped register messages when internal messages are sent using UDP. The syntax is:

```
(setqb RTI_processUnknownUpdatesForDiscovery mode)
```

where *mode* is:

- ♦ 0 — do not process unknown updates for discovery.
- ♦ 1 — process unknown updates for discovery.

Default: 1.



`RTI_processUnknownUpdatesForDiscovery` should almost always be disabled when `RTI_internalMsgReliableWhenUsingRtiexec` is enabled.

`RTI_processUnknownUpdatesForDiscovery` was designed specifically to mitigate problems encountered when reliable messaging is disabled. So, in almost all cases, this setting provides no benefit when

`RTI_internalMsgReliableWhenUsingRtiexec` is enabled. Enabling both parameters may lead to unexpected results in some configurations. For example, an object may have an update delivered after it has been deleted, resulting in its mistaken rediscovery.

6.8.5. Choosing Silent Failure Instead of Exceptions

You can have your function calls fail silently rather than throwing an exception when they call a service that is not activated in the MÄK RTI. Use the `RTI_throwExceptionForDisabledService` parameter in the RID file. The syntax is:

```
(setqb RTI_throwExceptionForDisabledService 0)
```

where:

- ♦ 0 — do not throw exceptions.
- ♦ 1 — throw exceptions.

The default is to throw exceptions.

6.9. Configuring Save/Restore

You can configure the number of seconds the federation execution waits for a save/restore operation to complete before indicating a failure with the `RTI_saveRestoreTimeout` parameter. The default is 120 seconds.

The heartbeat mechanism is not necessary when reliable transport is enabled and a TCP connection is established by the federate. The detection of a broken TCP connection is sufficient and better than the heartbeat. However, a broken TCP connection is often not detected until the federate sends a message. If a federate is often in a quiescent state in which it is not sending any messages, enabling the heartbeat is one way to ensure early detection of the broken TCP connection. As long as the federate is ticking the RTI, it sends the heartbeats automatically.



7. Managing Federates

This chapter explains how to view information about federates and how to configure them.

Displaying Federate Information.....	7-2
Displaying FOM Object and Interaction Classes	7-2
Viewing LRC Diagnostic Messages	7-4
Enabling LRC Diagnostic Data Logging in the RID File.....	7-4
Displaying the Federate Log	7-5
Configuring Federate Connections in the RID File.....	7-6

7.1. Displaying Federate Information

The RTI Assistant Federations View and the RTIsPy can display the following information about a federate:

- ♦ Federate identification information.
 - ♦ Federate object and interaction information.
 - ♦ Configuration settings (RID file).
 - ♦ FOM objects and interactions.
 - ♦ Federate log file.
- To display federate information, select a node in the Network Map or a federate listing in the Federations window. Details are displayed in the Selected Node panel.

7.2. Displaying FOM Object and Interaction Classes

The RTIsPy lets you view a list of the FOM's objects and interactions. It shows which objects and interactions it is publishing and subscribing to.



If `RTI_enableLRCNetworkStatisticsMonitoring` is set to 0, the RTIsPy: Federate FOM window does not work. For details, please see “[Enabling Federate Statistics Monitoring](#),” on page 8-10.

To display FOM object classes:

1. In the Federations View, select a federate.
2. Choose **Federate** → **RTIsPy: Federate FOM**, or click the RTIsPy: Federate FOM icon () on the Federations View toolbar. The RTIsPy: Federate FOM window opens.
3. Select the Objects/Attributes tab ([Figure 7-1](#)).

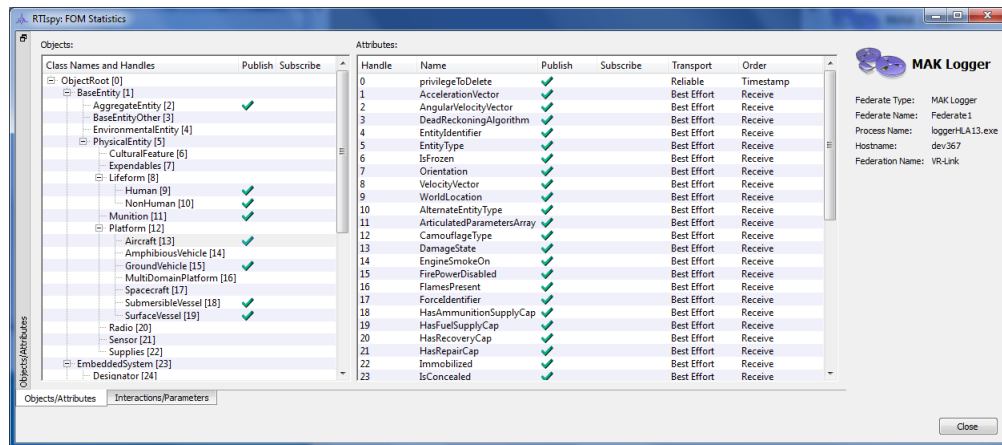


Figure 7-1. RTIsPy: Federate FOM, object classes

4. Select a class in the Objects list (left pane) to see its attributes displayed in the Attributes list (right pane).

To display FOM interaction classes:

1. In the Federations View, choose **Federate** → **RTIsPy: Federate FOM**, or click the RTIsPy: Federate FOM icon (🔧) on the Federations View toolbar. The RTIsPy: Federate FOM window opens.
2. Select the Interactions/Parameters tab (Figure 7-2).

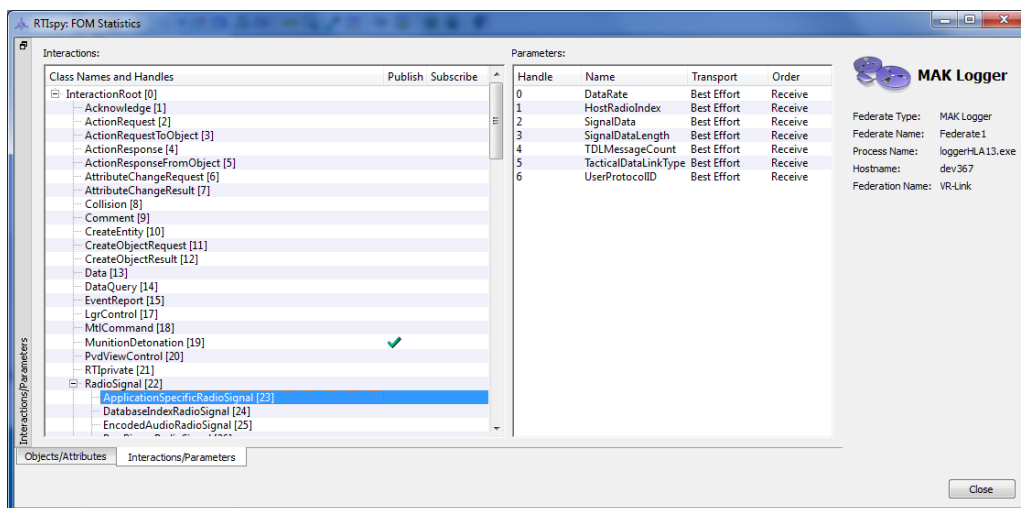


Figure 7-2. RTIsPy: Federate FOM, interaction classes

3. Select a class in the Interactions list (left pane) to see its attributes displayed in the Parameters list (right pane).

7.3. Viewing LRC Diagnostic Messages

The RTI can capture diagnostic messages sent by LRCs. You have two options for enabling message logging, as follows:

- Enable logging in the RID file. If you enable logging in the RID file, all messages are logged to a specified file from the time the federate starts until it exits. You can view these messages by opening the log file in a text editor. You can also view the log at any time while the federate is running and save the current snapshot of messages to a file.



When logging is enabled in the RID file, if there is more than one federate running on a PC, a separate log file of the specified name is created in the directory in which the executable is located. If you are running more than one executable from the same directory, for example the VR-Link talk and listen applications, data for both federates is written to the same log file unless you set `RTI_reuseLogFile` to 0.

- Enable logging from the RTI Assistant. If you enable logging from the RTI Assistant, no messages are logged until you enable logging, so startup messages are not captured. The messages are not saved unless you explicitly save them. You can view the log at any time while the federate is running and save the current snapshot of messages to a file. Any messages that are sent between the time you save a snapshot and shut down the federate are not saved.



- Once you start logging messages, either globally or for a particular LRC, you cannot turn off the logging process. However, you can change the notification level to reduce the number of messages logged.
 - You can view log files only for federates on the local machine.
-

7.3.1. Enabling LRC Diagnostic Data Logging in the RID File

The `RTI_logfileName` parameter enables or disables logging of LRC diagnostic data. It is disabled by default to improve performance. To enable logging, specify a name for the log file. To disable logging, specify an empty string ("") or comment out the parameter.

7.3.2. Displaying the Federate Log

The Federate Log window (Figure 7-3) displays messages based on the notification level in the window. You can pause the display of messages, save them to a file, and clear the window of all messages. (For a description of common operations in log file windows, please see “Common Operations in RTI Assistant Log Windows,” on page 5-8.)

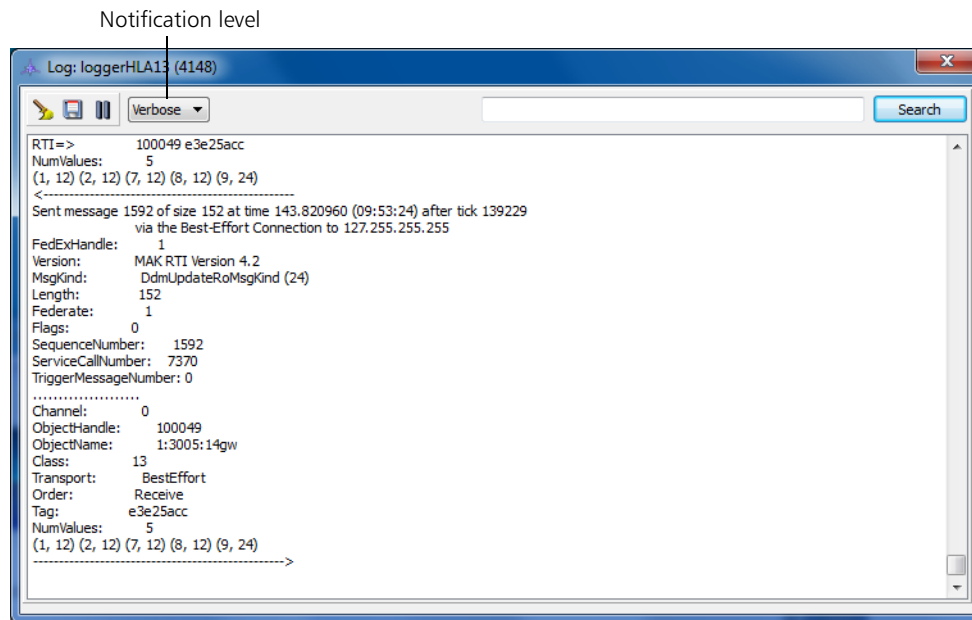


Figure 7-3. Federate Log window

To display the message log for a federate:

1. In the Federations View, select a federate.
2. Choose **Federate** → **Federate Log File**, or click the Federate Log File icon (📄). If logging is not enabled, you are prompted to enable it.
3. If you are prompted to enable logging, click Yes. The Log window opens.

7.4. Configuring Federate Connections in the RID File

By default, federates connect to a federation by specifying a connection configuration in the RTI Assistant. To configure connection settings in the RID file, instead of using the RTI Assistant, specify values for the following parameters:

- ♦ To configure a federate to try to connect to the rtiexec, set `RTI_useRtiExec` to 1.
- ♦ To configure federates for lightweight mode, set `RTI_useRtiExec` to 0.
- ♦ To specify full compliance mode, set `RTI_forceFullCompliance` to 1.
- ♦ Specify the TCP port with `RTI_tcpPort`.
- ♦ Specify the UDP port with `RTI_udpPort`.
- ♦ Specify the best effort address with `RTI_destAddrString`.
- ♦ Specify the RTI Forwarder address with `RTI_tcpForwarderAddr`.
- ♦ Set the `RTI_internalMsgReliableWhenUsingRtiexec`, `RTI_fomDataTransportTypeControl`, and `RTI_mcastDiscoveryEnabled` parameters to your preference.
- ♦ To force the RTI to use the values specified for these parameters instead of those in the connection configuration, set `RTI_configureConnectionWithRid` to 1.



8. Monitoring the Network

This chapter explains how to monitor network components and the federates in a federation.

Introduction	8-2
Testing Latency Between Federates.....	8-2
Enabling Latency Testing	8-3
Running Latency Tests	8-4
Interpreting the Results of Latency Tests.....	8-5
Running Latency Tests Manually.....	8-8
Running Continuous Latency Tests.....	8-8
Configuring Latency Tests.....	8-9
The RTIspy Network Monitoring Tool.....	8-10
Enabling Federate Statistics Monitoring	8-10
Displaying Object Statistics	8-11
Displaying Interaction Statistics.....	8-12
Displaying RTI Message Statistics.....	8-13
Displaying RTI Services Statistics	8-14
Displaying Callback Statistics	8-15
Graphing Federate Statistics	8-16
Examples of Using the RTIspy Network Monitoring Tool	8-18
Finding Bottlenecks Caused by Processing Callbacks.....	8-18
Identifying the Cause of Slow-Downs Under Time Management	8-18
Comparing the Costs and Benefits of RTI Features	8-19

8.1. Introduction

The HLA API provides many options for optimizing performance. Since each of the RTI options offers trade-offs between CPU usage, network overhead, and functionality, it can be very difficult to predict the final effect of the various options on overall network and simulation performance. For example, time management provides synchronization between federates, but imposes additional overhead in terms of message processing and increased complexity at the RTI level. Choosing data distribution management (DDM) over declaration management can greatly reduce the number of updates and interactions sent by the RTI, but adds processing overhead to each RTI call, which may result in an update or interaction message being sent, and in fact, may increase the number of messages sent under certain conditions.

To help you assess the results of using different performance optimizations, you can enable and run latency tests between federates and you can use the RTISpy's network monitoring tools to view object and interactions statistics, the frequency of RTI message types, and API call statistics.

8.2. Testing Latency Between Federates

The MÄK RTI can run latency tests among federates. You must have at least two federates in the federation to run latency tests. When you start latency testing for a federate, the RTI automatically runs a latency test from this initiating federate to all other federates in the federation. The results are displayed in the Latency Test window (Figure 8-1). If you select a federate in the Latency Test window, information about the federate is displayed in the Details panel.

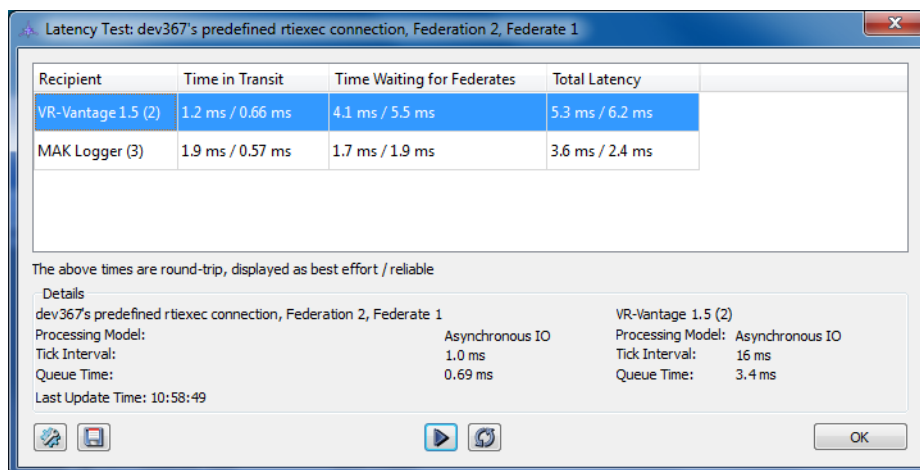


Figure 8-1. Latency Test window



The rtirexec must be running to do latency tests.

You can run additional tests manually or run tests continually.

You can configure:

- ♦ The number of interactions run in each test.
- ♦ The time between interactions.
- ♦ The size of the interaction message.

Each test does the following for each interaction that it sends:

1. Records the start time.
2. Sends an interaction from the initiating federate to a recipient federate. The recipient returns the interaction.
3. Waits until the amount of time calculated as `start_time + time_between_interactions` has elapsed.

While the initiator is sending interactions, it is also processing the return interactions and recording individual results. After the last interaction is sent to a given recipient federate and the wait time has expired (plus some extra time), a complete result for the initiator:recipient pair is computed and displayed.

8.2.1. Enabling Latency Testing

Latency tests are run between federates. Latency testing is enabled at the federation level. You can enable and disable latency testing in the Federations View.

To enable or disable latency testing in the Federations View:

1. In the system tray, right-click the RTI Assistant icon (🐘). A menu is displayed.
2. Choose **Federations View**. The Federations View opens.
3. In the Current Connection box, select the connection that you want to view.
4. In the list of federations, select the federation that you want to test.
5. Choose **Federation** → **Latency Testing Enabled**. A check mark next to the menu command indicates whether or not testing is enabled.

8.2.2. Running Latency Tests

You can run latency testing when the rtiexec is running and in lightweight mode. You must enable latency testing before you can run a test.



You must have at least two federates in the federation to run latency tests.

To run a latency test:

1. In the system tray, right-click the RTI Assistant icon (🔧). A menu is displayed.
2. Choose **Federations View**. The Federations View opens.
3. In the Current Connection box, select the connection that you want to view.
4. If latency testing is not enabled, choose **Federation** → **Latency Testing Enabled**.
5. Select the federate that you want to test.
6. Choose **Federate** → **Run Latency Test**. The Latency Test window opens ([Figure 8-1](#)). The federate name is listed in the title bar.

8.2.3. Interpreting the Results of Latency Tests

The Latency Test window displays the results for tests between the initiating federate and each recipient in a table in the results window. It displays additional details in the Details group box. The Latency Test window displays results for best effort and reliable mode latency. If results are not available for a particular transport type, a dash is displayed (Figure 8-2). The data reported in the latency test table is as follows:

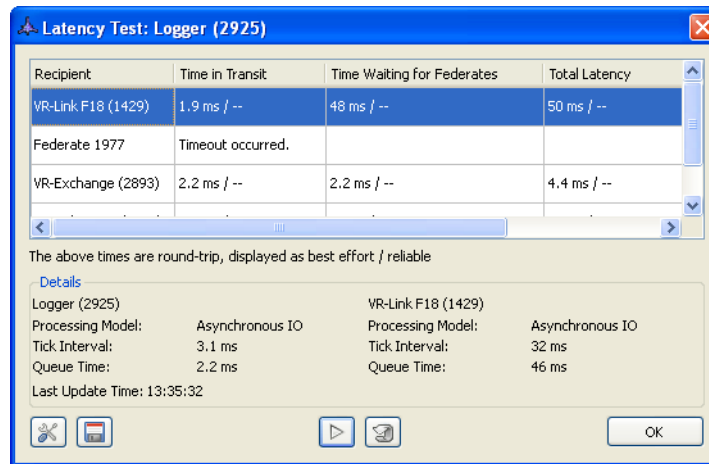


Figure 8-2. Latency test results, best effort only

- ♦ **Time in Transit.** The time in transit is the total latency of the message's round trip minus the time spent in queue waiting to be read, if any. The comparison of time in transit to total latency can help you understand the effect of using different processing modes and tick rates in your federates. For details, please see "[Understanding the Time in Transit Latency Test Results,](#)" on page 8-6.
- ♦ **Time Waiting for Federates.** The time waiting for federates is the amount of time a message spends in a queue waiting for a federate to retrieve it. In other words, it is the difference between the time in transit and total latency.
- ♦ **Total Latency.** Total latency is the round trip time – the time from when the initiator sends the interaction to when the recipient's response is received.



Each of the values reported is the average of the values for the individual interactions sent in the test.

Understanding the Time in Transit Latency Test Results

The total latency of a message is the sum of the transit time of the message and any time that it has spent in a queue waiting for a federate to read it. The transit time is a function of network topology and hardware. The time spent in queue depends on the queuing strategy of the RTI and how frequently a federate ticks the network for new messages. Therefore, the time in transit values in the Latency Test window must be evaluated in the context of the processing model being used. (The MÄK RTI's processing models are described in [“The MÄK RTI Process Model,”](#) on page 2-3.) The process models are:

- ♦ Synchronous
- ♦ Asynchronous
- ♦ Asynchronous message processing
- ♦ Asynchronous callbacks.

In synchronous mode, and asynchronous callbacks mode, there is no internal RTI queue. Therefore, there should be no difference between the time in transit and total latency time. The latency test does not report time in transit or time waiting for federates ([Figure 8-3](#)).

The asynchronous and asynchronous message processing modes use message queues to store messages until a federate ticks the RTI and retrieves the message for processing. The total latency time does not tell you how much time a message has been in transit and how much time it has spent sitting in a queue. If you want to improve the performance of your federation, you need to separate these issues so that you know where to focus your efforts. Therefore, during latency testing, the RTI records the time when a message is placed on a queue and when it is removed so that it can report transit time and waiting time separately.

In asynchronous mode, if there is a significant discrepancy between your federate's time in transit and total latency (as shown by the time waiting for federates value), increasing the frequency with which your federate ticks the RTI may improve performance.

In asynchronous message processing mode, the RTI does some message processing before it queues the message. As a result of this preprocessing, when the federate ticks the RTI and retrieves the message it has less work to do. You can compare the latency results of asynchronous mode to asynchronous message mode to see if your federates improve latency by changing the processing model. Increasing the tick rate may still provide improved performance in this mode.

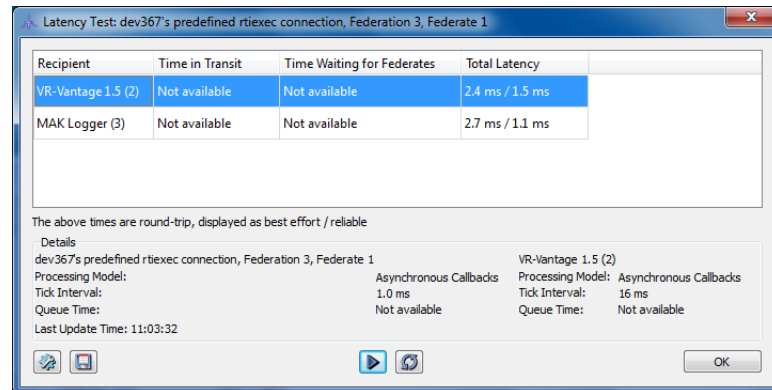


Figure 8-3. Latency test, asynchronous callbacks mode

Displaying Latency Test Details for a Federate

The Details section of the Latency Test window, (Figure 8-3) shows the following information:

- ♦ The timestamp of when the report was received and displayed.
 - ♦ The federate name (handle) of the initiator and recipient.
 - ♦ The processing model of the initiator and recipient, which can be:
 - Synchronous
 - Asynchronous
 - Asynchronous message processing
 - Asynchronous callbacks.
 - ♦ The average frequency with which each federate calls tick().
 - ♦ The average amount of time that a message was queued at each federate.
- To display details about a federate, select it in the Latency Test window. The Details group box is updated.

8.2.4. Running Latency Tests Manually

After the RTI automatically runs its first latency test, you can run additional tests manually.

- To run a latency test manually, in the Latency Test window, click the Run icon (▶).

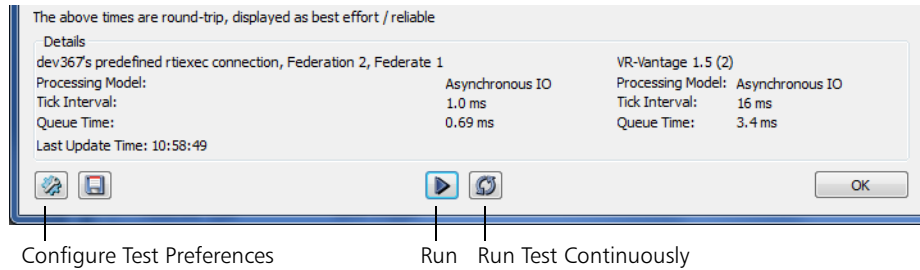


Figure 8-4. Latency Test window buttons

8.2.5. Running Continuous Latency Tests

You can have the RTI run continuous latency tests. There is no configurable break between each test run. The results of each test replace the results of the previous test in the Latency Test window.



If a federate drops out of an exercise, its last test results remain in the Latency Test window. They do not update, but there is no indication that the federate is no longer active.

- To run latency tests continuously, in the Latency Test window, click the Run Test Continuously icon (🔄).

8.2.6. Configuring Latency Tests

You can configure latency test parameters in the Latency Test window or in the RTI Preferences dialog box.

To configure latency test parameters:

1. Display latency test configuration options in one of the following ways:
 - On the RTI Assistant menu, choose **Preferences**. Then select the Latency Testing page (Figure 8-5).

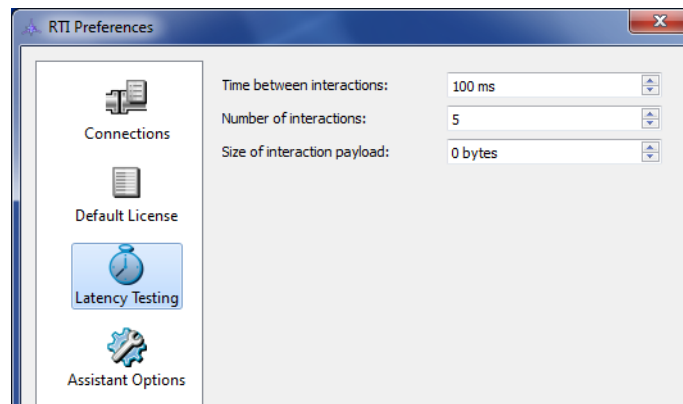


Figure 8-5. RTI Preferences dialog box, Latency Testing page

- In the Latency Test window, click the Configure Test Preferences icon(). The Latency Test Configuration dialog box opens (Figure 8-6).

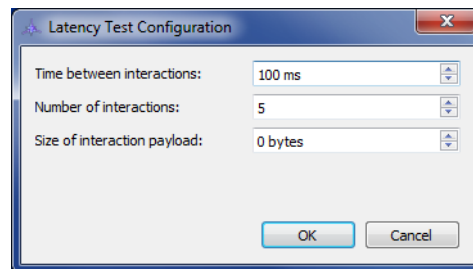


Figure 8-6. Latency Test Configuration dialog box

2. Edit any of the following parameters:
 - Time between interactions. The amount of time, in milliseconds, to wait between sending test interactions.
 - Number of interactions. The number of interactions to send per latency test.
 - Size of interaction payload. The size, in bytes, of the interaction message to send.

8.3. The RTIspy Network Monitoring Tool

The RTIspy Network Monitoring Tool is a window into the “black box” of the RTI. It records each message sent and each API call made. You can use this information to help weigh the costs and benefits of different RTI features. It can also help you locate the bottlenecks in your simulations, whether they are due to the underlying network, processing in the RTI, processing in Federate Ambassador callbacks, or the simulation execution itself.

The RTIspy Network Monitoring Tool exposes the internal processing of the RTI in the following ways:

- ♦ The Callbacks page can show you which RTI Ambassador or Federate Ambassador calls might be affecting execution.
- ♦ You can observe how much data is sent across the network to represent the simulation’s objects and interactions. This can help identify possible problems and optimizations.
- ♦ You can log the statistics to a file, allowing deeper analysis after a simulation run.

8.3.1. Enabling Federate Statistics Monitoring

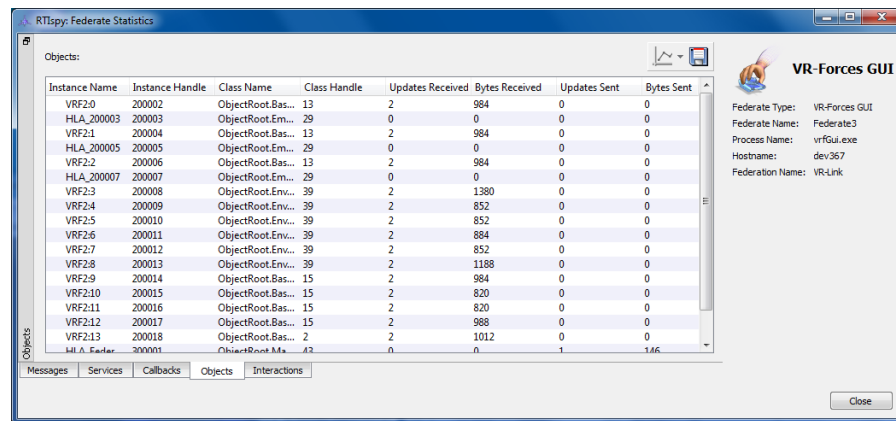
The `RTI_enableLRCNetworkStatisticsMonitoring` parameter specifies whether or not to publish information for the RTIspy Federate Statistics and the FOM View. Network statistics monitoring is enabled by default.

8.3.2. Displaying Object Statistics

The Objects tab (Figure 8-7) lists the objects sent and received by a federate. You can sort the list using any of the columns to make it easier to distinguish the entries.

To display object statistics:

1. In the system tray, right-click the RTI Assistant icon (🔍). A menu is displayed.
2. Choose Federations View. The Federations View opens.
3. Select a federate in the Network Map or Federations list.
4. Choose **Federate** → **RTIspy: Federate Statistics** or click the RTIspy: Federate Statistics icon (📊). The RTIspy Federate Statistics window opens.
5. Select the Objects tab (Figure 8-7).



Instance Name	Instance Handle	Class Name	Class Handle	Updates Received	Bytes Received	Updates Sent	Bytes Sent
VRf2:0	200002	ObjectRoot.Bas...	13	2	984	0	0
HLA_200003	200003	ObjectRoot.Em...	29	0	0	0	0
VRf2:1	200004	ObjectRoot.Bas...	13	2	984	0	0
HLA_200005	200005	ObjectRoot.Em...	29	0	0	0	0
VRf2:2	200006	ObjectRoot.Bas...	13	2	984	0	0
HLA_200007	200007	ObjectRoot.Em...	29	0	0	0	0
VRf2:3	200008	ObjectRoot.Emv...	39	2	1380	0	0
VRf2:4	200009	ObjectRoot.Emv...	39	2	852	0	0
VRf2:5	200010	ObjectRoot.Emv...	39	2	852	0	0
VRf2:6	200011	ObjectRoot.Emv...	39	2	884	0	0
VRf2:7	200012	ObjectRoot.Emv...	39	2	852	0	0
VRf2:8	200013	ObjectRoot.Emv...	39	2	1188	0	0
VRf2:9	200014	ObjectRoot.Bas...	15	2	984	0	0
VRf2:10	200015	ObjectRoot.Bas...	15	2	820	0	0
VRf2:11	200016	ObjectRoot.Bas...	15	2	820	0	0
VRf2:12	200017	ObjectRoot.Bas...	15	2	988	0	0
VRf2:13	200018	ObjectRoot.Bas...	2	2	1012	0	0
Int. A. Feder...	200001	ObjectRoot.Mx...	12	0	0	1	3.66

VR-Forces GUI
 Federate Type: VR-Forces GUI
 Federate Name: Federate3
 Process Name: vrfGui.exe
 Hostname: dev367
 Federation Name: VR-Link

Figure 8-7. RTIspy Federate Statistics, Objects tab

8.3.3. Displaying Interaction Statistics

The Interactions tab (Figure 8-7) lists the interactions sent and received by a federate. You can sort the list using any of the columns to make it easier to distinguish the entries.

To display interaction statistics:

1. In the system tray, right-click the RTI Assistant icon (🔍). A menu is displayed.
2. Choose Federations View. The Federations View opens.
3. Select a federate in the Network Map or Federations list.
4. Choose **Federate** → **RTIsPy: Federate Statistics** or click the RTIsPy: Federate Statistics icon (📊). The RTIsPy Federate Statistics window opens.
5. Select the Interactions tab (Figure 8-7).

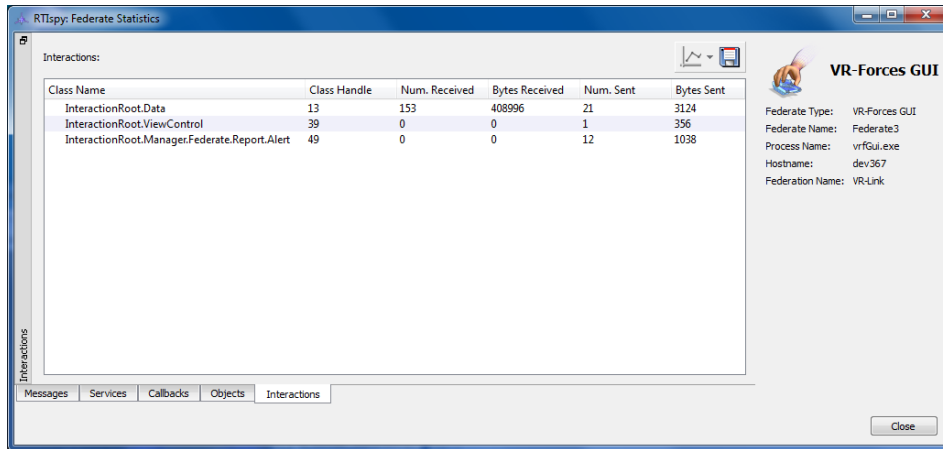


Figure 8-8. RTIsPy Federate Statistics, Interactions tab

8.3.4. Displaying RTI Message Statistics

The Messages page (Figure 8-9) lists the RTI message types and shows how often each message type has been sent and received and how large the messages are. It also provides summary statistics on the number of messages sent and received and their sizes.

To display a list of RTI message types:

1. In the system tray, right-click the RTI Assistant icon (🔍). A menu is displayed.
2. Choose Federations View. The Federations View opens.
3. Select a federate in the Network Map or Federations list.
4. Choose **Federate** → **RTISpy: Federate Statistics** or click the RTISpy: Federate Statistics icon (📊). The RTISpy Federate Statistics window opens.
5. Select the Messages tab (Figure 8-9).

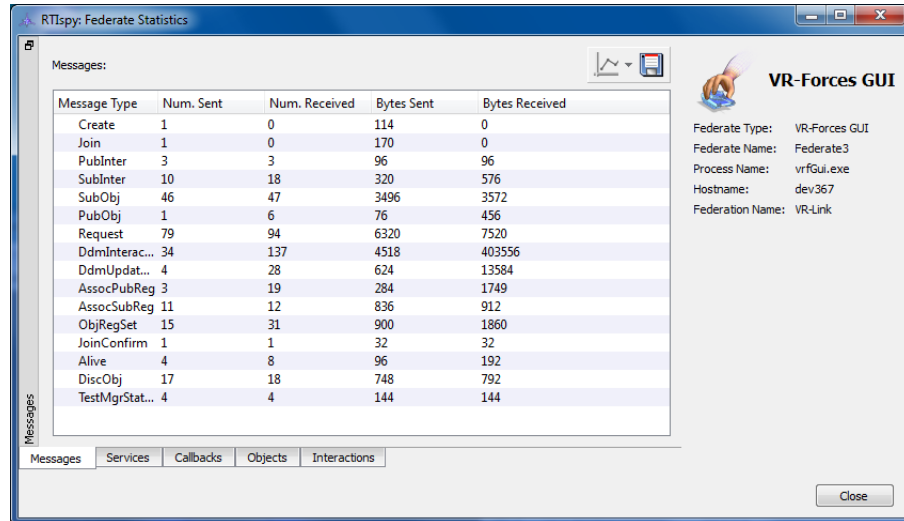


Figure 8-9. RTISpy Federate Statistics, Messages tab

8.3.5. Displaying RTI Services Statistics

The Services tab (Figure 8-11) displays a list of all the calls made to the RTI Ambassador. Observing the amount of time spent on calls that the federate makes can help you locate bottlenecks in your application's use of the RTI and in your callbacks.

To display services statistics:

1. In the system tray, right-click the RTI Assistant icon (📡). A menu is displayed.
2. Choose Federations View. The Federations View opens.
3. Select a federate in the Network Map or Federations list.
4. Choose **Federate** → **RTISpy: Federate Statistics** or click the RTISpy: Federate Statistics icon (📊). The RTISpy Federate Statistics window opens.
5. Select the Services tab (Figure 8-11).

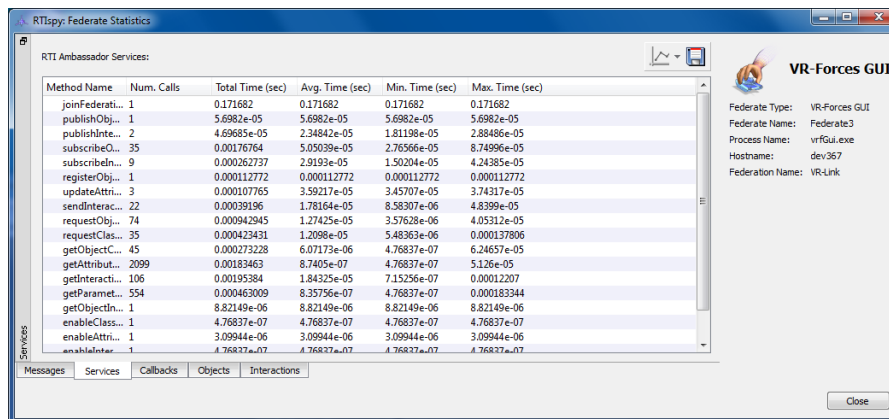


Figure 8-10. RTISpy Federate Statistics, Services tab

8.3.6. Displaying Callback Statistics

The Callbacks tab (Figure 8-11) lists the callbacks made to the Federate Ambassador.

To display callback statistics:

1. In the system tray, right-click the RTI Assistant icon (A). A menu is displayed.
2. Choose Federations View. The Federations View opens.
3. Select a federate in the Network Map or Federations list.
4. Choose **Federate** → **RTIspy: Federate Statistics** or click the RTIspy: Federate Statistics icon (L). The RTIspy Federate Statistics window opens.
5. Select the Callbacks tab (Figure 8-11).

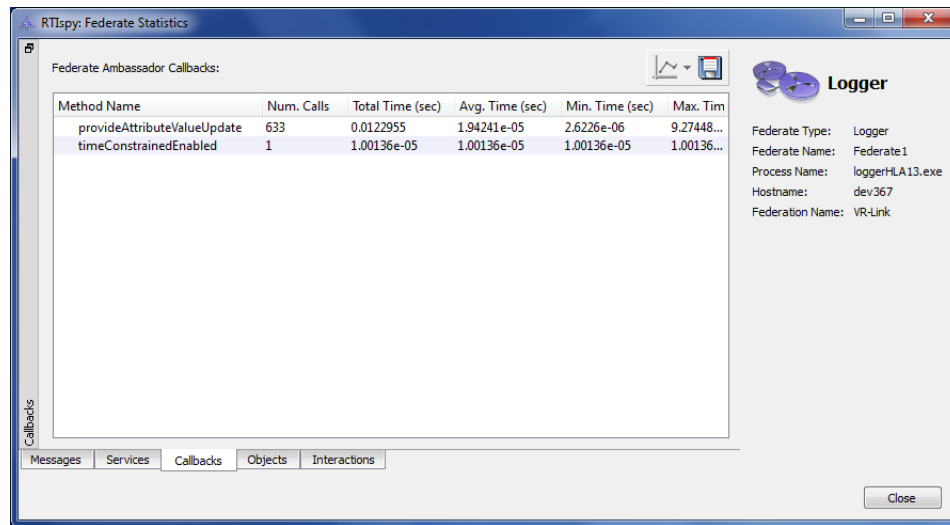


Figure 8-11. RTIspy Federate Statistics, Callbacks tab

8.3.7. Graphing Federate Statistics

You can display graphs of the statistics on the various tabs of the RTIsPy Federate Statistics window. You can graph by item (Figure 8-12) or rate (Figure 8-13).

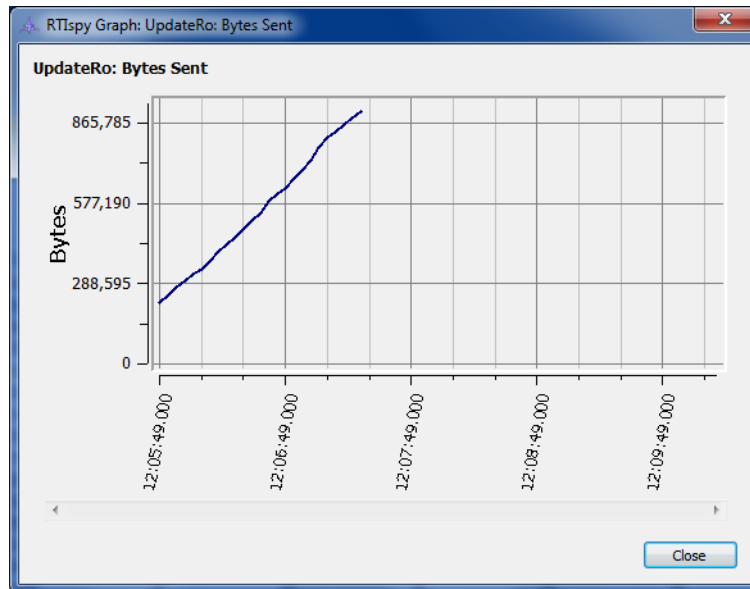


Figure 8-12. Graphing by item

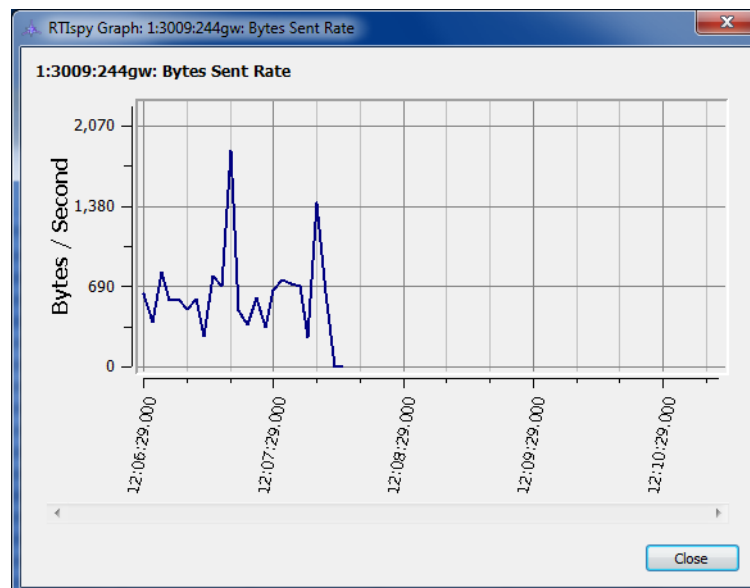


Figure 8-13. Graphing by rate

To graph federate statistics:

1. In the system tray, right-click the RTI Assistant icon (). A menu is displayed.
2. Choose Federations View. The Federations View opens.
3. Select a federate in the Network Map or Federations list.
4. Choose **Federate** → **RTIsPy: Federate Statistics** or click the RTIsPy: Federate Statistics icon (). The RTIsPy Federate Statistics window opens ([Figure 8-7](#)).
5. Select the tab for which you want to view statistics.
6. Select a row and column.
7. Click the Graph icon () on the toolbar. A menu is displayed.
8. Select an option on the Graph menu. A graph window is displayed. It plots statistics over time as new data arrives.

8.4. Examples of Using the RTIspy Network Monitoring Tool

The examples in this section show you how you can use the RTIspy Network Monitoring Tool to help resolve common problems.

8.4.1. Finding Bottlenecks Caused by Processing Callbacks

If you suspect that your application is spending too much time processing callbacks, the RTIspy Network Monitoring Tool can help you find the bottlenecks.

To locate bottlenecks caused by processing callbacks:

1. In the system tray, right-click the RTI Assistant icon (🐘). A menu is displayed.
2. Choose Federations View. The Federations View opens.
3. Select a federate in the Network Map or Federations list.
4. Choose **Federate** → **RTIspy: Federate Statistics** or click the RTIspy: Federate Statistics icon (📊). The RTIspy Federate Statistics window opens.
5. Select the Callbacks tab (Figure 8-11).
6. To locate any callbacks that are consuming resources, look at the Federate Ambassador Callbacks list and sort it by Total Time.
7. Review your callback code and look for optimizations. You might consider moving the processing of the callback into a separate thread to isolate the network I/O and simulation processing portions of your code (at the cost of greatly increased complexity).

8.4.2. Identifying the Cause of Slow-Downs Under Time Management

Suppose your simulation uses time management to synchronize its federates. If the federates advance through time at different rates, there may be an apparent slow-down in the federates that take larger time steps. For example, if one set of federates requests time advances of 10 seconds per step and a second set requests time steps of 1 millisecond per step, then the 10 second per step federates, which on their own would advance at a rate far greater than real-time, will appear to be slowing down. It may not be obvious what has caused the slowdown. The RTIspy Network Monitoring Tool and the Federations View can help you to identify the problem.

To locate slowdowns caused by time management:

1. In the Federations View, select one of the 10 second per step federates
2. Open the Federate Statistics window and select the Callbacks tab.
3. Sort the RTI Ambassador Callbacks list by Total Time. (Click the heading for the column.) This will show that almost all of the federate's time is spent processing tick() calls. This is a sign that your simulation is blocked and waiting for an RTI event to proceed – in this case a Time Advance Grant.

4. In the Federations View, select the federation. You should see the 1 millisecond per-step federates advancing through time while the 10 second per step federates advance approximately every 10 seconds. This is because they are constrained by the 1 millisecond federates and can only advance when the 1 millisecond federates have stepped 10,000 times.

8.4.3. Comparing the Costs and Benefits of RTI Features

The RTISpy Network Monitoring Tool can help you to weigh the costs and benefits of various RTI features. Some of the more advanced RTI features, such as MOM or DDM, offer a great deal of functionality, but for some simulations, the costs in terms of additional message passing and RTI processing outweighs the benefits. For example, the use of DDM requires the RTI to exchange additional messages for default region information even if simple DM calls are being used.

To examine the benefits of RTI features:

1. Run the rtiexec and a simple federate without DDM enabled.
2. In the system tray, right-click the RTI Assistant icon (). A menu is displayed.
3. Choose Federations View. The Federations View opens.
4. Select a federate in the Network Map or Federations list.
5. Choose **Federate** → **RTISpy: Federate Statistics** or click the RTISpy: Federate Statistics icon (). The RTISpy Federate Statistics window opens.
6. Select the Messages tab ([Figure 8-9](#)).
7. Run the federate with DDM enabled.
8. Even though DDM has no effect on a simple simulation, you will still see additional messages passed such as AssocPubRegMsgKind, which are required by the DDM implementation.



9. Managing Network Traffic

This chapter describes a variety of ways to configure how the RTI manages network traffic. It does not cover all aspects of network configuration. For a detailed discussion of packet forwarding strategies, including distributed forwarding, please see Chapter 10, *Configuring Message Forwarding*.

Choosing Best Effort or Reliable Transport	9-2
Using the Correct IP Address Format	9-3
Packet Bundling for Reliable and Best Effort Messages	9-3
Automatically Locating the RTI Forwarder and rtiexec	9-4
Configuring Sender-Side Filtering (Smart TCP Forwarding)	9-5
Configuring Sender-Side Filtering for rtiexec Messages	9-7
Compressing RTI Messages	9-7
Enabling Support for Large Attributes and Parameters	9-8
Configuring the Network Buffer Sizes	9-8
Controlling Congestion for Best Effort Sockets	9-9
Configuring Asynchronous Processing	9-9
Buffering Automatic Update Requests (1516 and Evolved)	9-9
Filtering by Multicast Groups Using Declaration Management	9-10
Assigning DM Multicast Groups to Network Interfaces	9-11

9.1. Choosing Best Effort or Reliable Transport

This section explains how to choose which type of network transport to use.

The type of message transport to be used for FOM data and internal messages is set by the `RTI_fomDataTransportTypeControl` and `RTI_internalMsgReliableWhenUsingRtiexec` parameters. If `RTI_internalMsgReliableWhenUsingRtiexec` is set to 0 and `RTI_fomDataTransportTypeControl` is set to 1, all messages are sent best effort (example 1 in Figure 9-1).

If you want the RTI's internal bookkeeping messages, such as federate subscription, to be sent using reliable transport, set `RTI_internalMsgReliableWhenUsingRtiexec` to 1 (example 2 in Figure 9-1).

In the FED file, you can specify how you want object attributes and interactions to be sent – reliable transport or best effort. If you want this data sent as stated in your FED file, set `RTI_fomDataTransportTypeControl` to 0 (example 3 in Figure 9-1).

If you want the RTI to send all FOM data reliable, regardless of the setting in the FED file, set `RTI_fomDataTransportTypeControl` to 2 (example 4 in Figure 9-1).

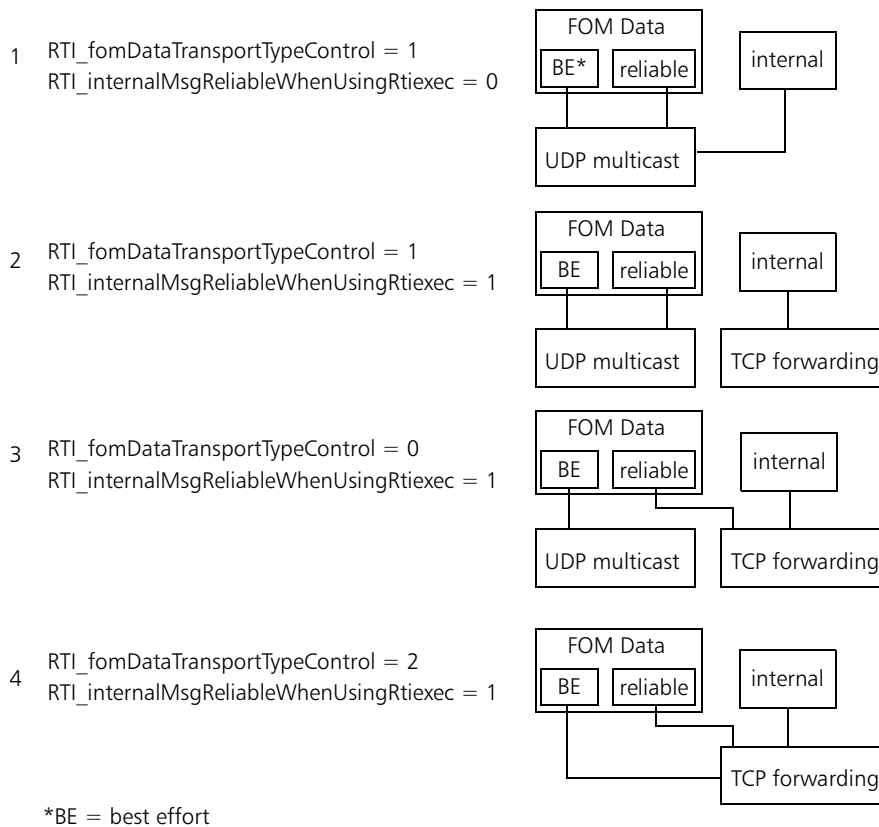


Figure 9-1. Configuring the transport type



Figure 9-1 does not illustrate use of an RTI Forwarder to forward UDP multicast traffic over a WAN. For details, please see “[Configuring UDP and Centralized TCP on a WAN](#),” on page 10-4.

9.2. Using the Correct IP Address Format

The MÄK RTI supports IPv4 and IPv6, but you cannot mix the two protocols. If your federation is using IPv4, then all IP addresses in the RID file and RTI Assistant must be in the IPv4 format. The same applies to use of IPv6.

9.3. Packet Bundling for Reliable and Best Effort Messages

The MÄK RTI supports message bundling. If bundling is enabled (with the `RTI_enablePacketBundling` parameter), the RTI bundles messages into a single TCP packet or UDP datagram, up to the size limit configured by the `RTI_packetBundlingSize` parameter. Message bundling can significantly reduce the amount of bandwidth consumed by packet headers and the processor time spent waiting for network I/O calls. The recommended maximum bundle size is 1492 bytes for WAN traffic, or the maximum transmission unit (MTU) of the local network, if you are just running on a LAN.



Bundles are flushed at the end of every tick(), even if the bundle is not full.

To enable packet bundling, set `RTI_enablePacketBundling` to 1. To specify the packet size, use `RTI_packetBundlingSize` as follows:

```
setqb RTI_packetBundlingSize size
```

where *size* is the maximum size of a bundled packet. *size* should be $\leq$ MTU of the network. If *size* is 0 (zero), then packet bundling is disabled. Default: 0.

9.4. Automatically Locating the RTI Forwarder and rtiexec

Using multicast discovery, the RTI can automatically locate an RTI Forwarder or rtiexec running on the LAN (that is, without specifying `RTI_tcpForwarderAddr`).

- To enable multicast discovery set `RTI_mcastDiscoveryEnabled` to 1.

With multicast discovery enabled, federates send a beacon to the multicast group selected by the `RTI_mcastDiscoveryAddrString` parameter. If an RTI Forwarder is running on the LAN, it responds with the correct address. The federate will continue trying to discover a forwarder until it reaches the limit specified by the `RTI_mcastDiscoveryTries` parameter. At that point, it defaults to best effort only.

You can use multicast discovery to ensure that only one RTI Forwarder and only one rtiexec are running on a LAN. This is particularly useful in cases where the rtiexec may run on different hosts from execution to execution.

9.5. Configuring Sender-Side Filtering (Smart TCP Forwarding)

Sender-side filtering (also called smart TCP forwarding) minimizes bandwidth by taking advantage of subscription information down to the level of each attribute instance, including taking DDM into account. If an attribute is not in scope for a receiving federate, it can be omitted from the transmission. Subscriptions are tracked at the federate level and a routing mask is appended to each update and interaction message. The routing mask is created based on the maximum number of federates permitted, as specified by the `RTI_maxNumFederates` parameter.

As you increase the number of federates permitted, the update and interaction message size increases. This leads to a possible trade-off between the cost of the small increase in message size and the lowered bandwidth achieved because entire transmissions may be filtered out.

Sender-side filtering is beneficial only if federates subscribe to a subset of the attributes being published. If a federate subscribes to all data, sender-side filtering can decrease performance. [Figure 9-2](#) compares TCP forwarding to sender-side filtering. When you use TCP forwarding without filtering, all federates receive all messages, all of which must travel over the LAN and WAN to the RTI Forwarder, then back to the other federates. When you use sender-side filtering, all federates still send updates through the RTI Forwarder. However, they receive updates based on their subscriptions. In the figure, M1A2 federates only receive updates from other M1A2 federates, in this case one update each. The F18 federate only receives updates from other fixed-wing entities, in this case, none. The COM federate receives all updates.



- ♦ If you use sender-side filtering, the rtiexec can support only one federation at a time.
- ♦ Sender-side filtering is not compatible with fixed grid DDM.

To configure sender-side filtering, edit the `RTI_smartForwardingLevel` and `RTI_maxNumFederates` parameters in *rid.mtl*.

```
(setqb RTI_smartForwardingLevel 0)
(setqb RTI_maxNumFederates 100)
```

`RTI_smartForwardingLevel` specifies the TCP forwarding mode, where:

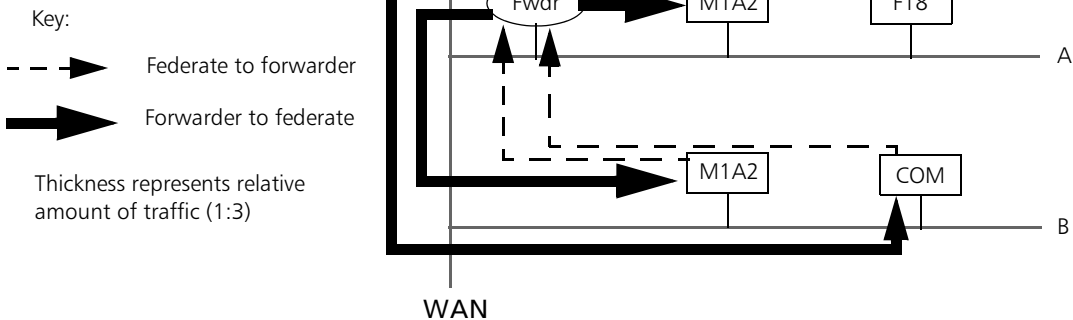
- ♦ 0 — basic TCP forwarding (no subscription-based routing or filtering).
- ♦ 1 — enable subscription based routing.
- ♦ 2 — enable subscription based routing and disable send for updates and interactions that have no subscribers.

Default: 0.

RTI_maxNumFederates specifies the maximum number of federates allowed in a federation at any one time. This parameter only applies when sender-side filtering is enabled. Each update and interaction message has a bitmask of at least this number of bits appended, so increasing the number of federates increases the overhead. Default: 100.

TCP forwarding

Each federate sends updates to the RTI Forwarder, which forwards them to all other federates, including other federates on the local LAN.



Sender-side filtering

Each federate sends updates through the RTI Forwarder. Only updates of interest are sent to receiving federates.

- M1A2s subscribe only to ground entity updates.
- F18 subscribes only to fixed-wing entity updates.
- COM subscribes to all updates.

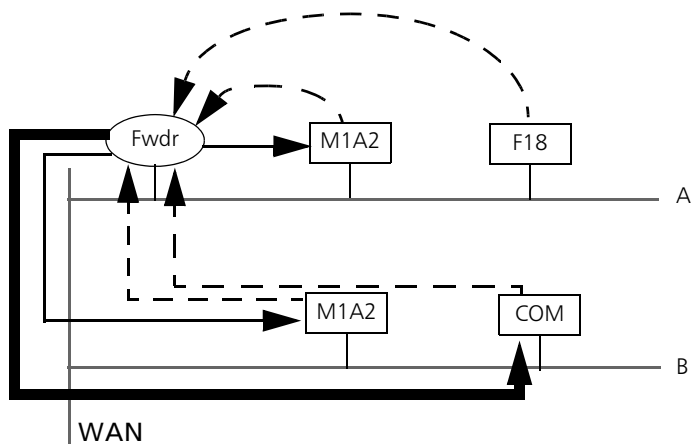


Figure 9-2. TCP forwarding compared to sender-side filtering

9.5.1. Configuring Sender-Side Filtering for rtiexec Messages

By default, the RTI Forwarder sends internal messages only to the rtiexec (but not to federates), and FOM data only to federates (but not to the rtiexec). This filtering can significantly reduce the number of internal message transmissions, reducing both bandwidth and network overhead. In those federations in which internal RTI messages consume a significant portion of network resources this can lead to a substantial, federation-wide performance improvement. You enable or disable this message filtering with the `RTI_enableFedexMsgRouting` parameter.

9.6. Compressing RTI Messages

The RTI supports compression and decompression of RTI messages. You can enable compression separately for UDP (best effort) and TCP (reliable). The amount of compression applied can also be controlled with separate configuration parameters. Compression can be configured separately for each federate, rtiexec, and forwarder in your federation.

To configure compression, use the following parameters in *rid.mtl*:

- ♦ `RTI_enableTcpCompression`. Enables compression of RTI message payloads transmitted over TCP connections. Consistency checking is enforced on this parameter.
- ♦ `RTI_tcpCompressionLevel`. Specifies the amount of compression applied to RTI message payloads over TCP connections as follows:
 - 1 — minimal compression.
 - 2 through 8 — increasing levels of compression.
 - 9 — maximum compression.
- ♦ `RTI_enableUdpCompression`. Enables compression of RTI message payloads transmitted in UDP datagrams. Consistency checking is enforced on this parameter.
- ♦ `RTI_udpCompressionLevel`. Specifies the amount of compression applied to RTI message payloads in UDP datagrams, using the same options as `RTI_tcpCompressionLevel`.



If you want to use the RTIspy API to override the socket compression implementation, please contact MÄK technical support for assistance.

9.7. Enabling Support for Large Attributes and Parameters

The `RTI_use32BitsForValueSize` parameter enables or disables support for sending update and interaction messages that have attributes and parameters that are larger than 64 KB. The default message format uses 16-bit integers (maximum message size 64 KB) to represent the size of attribute and parameter data elements. When you enable this parameter, the message format is modified to use 32-bit integers for each value. Any resulting large messages (> 64KB) must be sent using TCP. The fragmentation and reassembly of messages is only supported by the RTI reliable connection that uses TCP. The best effort connection does not support data fragmentation other than what is provided by the underlying UDP/IP, and it is limited to 64K packets. You can send messages using best effort when this parameter is enabled, but the messages must be smaller than 64K.

You must adjust the network buffer sizes to accommodate the largest message that will be transmitted.

9.8. Configuring the Network Buffer Sizes

You can configure the TCP and UDP network receive buffers, the send buffer, and the TCP buffer size. If you enable big messages, you must adjust the network buffer sizes to accommodate the largest message that will be transmitted.

The `RTI_socketReceiveBufferSize` parameter configures the size of the TCP and UDP network receive buffers. Increasing the size can increase the RTI's tolerance of peak network loading. This buffer size should be large enough to hold several of the largest messages. Default: 50K.

```
(setqb RTI_socketReceiveBufferSize buffer_size)
```

The `RTI_socketSendBufferSize` parameter configures the socket send buffer size. This buffer size should be large enough to hold the largest message to be sent. Default: 50K.

```
(setqb RTI_socketSendBufferSize buffer_size)
```

The `RTI_tcpBufferSize` sets the size of the internal buffer into which TCP packets get read. This buffer size should be large enough to hold the largest message to be received. Default: 50K.

```
(setqb RTI_tcpBufferSize buffer_size)
```

9.9. Controlling Congestion for Best Effort Sockets

When `RTI_enableBestEffortSendRetry` is enabled, the RTI tries to provide limited congestion control for best effort sockets. To configure congestion control, set `RTI_bestEffortSendRetries` and `RTI_bestEffortSendRetryWaitUsec`. `RTI_bestEffortSendRetries` specifies the number of send attempts before discarding the message. `RTI_bestEffortSendRetryWaitUsec` specifies the number of microseconds to wait after each send attempt for a blocked socket.

`RTI_bestEffortSendRetries` and `RTI_bestEffortSendRetryWaitUsec` are advanced network configuration parameters. When used together, they provide limited congestion control for best effort sockets. `RTI_bestEffortSendRetries` specifies the number of send attempts before discarding the message. `RTI_bestEffortSendRetryWaitUsec` specifies the number of microseconds to wait after each send attempt for a blocked socket.

9.10. Configuring Asynchronous Processing

The `RTI_processingModel` parameter specifies the processing model, as follows:

- ♦ 0 (zero) — synchronous mode.
- ♦ 1 — asynchronous I/O (default). The RTI processes network reads and writes in a secondary thread. Asynchronous I/O can improve performance in federations that often produce bursts of network traffic and may reduce the number of dropped messages.
- ♦ 2 — asynchronous message processing. The RTI processes messages in the asynchronous thread, but it does not invoke any resulting callbacks. This processing mode may improve the response and efficiency of some distributed algorithms (for example, time management). However, it requires the caching of callback parameters, which results in additional memory allocation and data copy operations.
- ♦ 3 — asynchronous callbacks. The RTI performs federate callbacks in the asynchronous thread. Asynchronous callbacks may offer performance benefits to certain classes of federate. However, asynchronous callbacks significantly increase the complexity of federates, because the federate designer must ensure that all calls to the Federate Ambassador are fully thread-safe.

9.11. Buffering Automatic Update Requests (1516 and Evolved)

HLA 1516 and HLA Evolved federates can instruct the RTI to buffer automatic update requests temporarily, to accumulate automatic requests from multiple federates. This can reduce the number of automatic `provideAttributeUpdate` callbacks required for changes in publication and subscription. To enable this feature, set `RTI_messageThrottling` to 1 and set `RTI_autoProvideDelay` to the number of seconds the RTI should delay before responding to requests.

To buffer all update requests, not just automatic requests, you can set `RTI_allProvideUpdateRequestsDelayed` to 1.

9.12. Filtering by Multicast Groups Using Declaration Management

You can assign object and interaction classes to separate multicast groups to enable basic filtering by multicast groups using declaration management (DM) services. Use the RID file parameters, `RTI-addDMObjectMulticastAddr` and `RTI-addDMInteractionMulticastAddr`.

The syntax for the parameters is:

```
(RTI-addDMObjectMulticastAddr "ObjectClassName" "MulticastAddress"
  "NestingOperator" "interface")
(RTI-addDMInteractionMulticastAddr "InteractionClassName"
  "MulticastAddress" "NestingOperator" "interface")
```

where:

- *ObjectClassName* is a fully qualified FOM class of the form `"ObjectRoot.BaseEntity.Platform"`.
- *MulticastAddress* is a valid multicast address of the form `"229.7.7.9"` for IPv4 or `"ff12::7:10"` for IPv6.
- *NestingOperator* is a quoted string containing either `exclusive` or `inclusive`. The nesting operator values determine whether the assignment of the multicast address will apply to the specific class exclusively or to that class and all derived classes.
- *interface* specifies a network interface. For details, please see [“Assigning DM Multicast Groups to Network Interfaces,”](#) on page 9-11.

Organize entries in the order of base classes to leaf classes. Exclusive entries must be placed after all inclusive entries from which the class inherits.

In the following example, the address 229.7.7.9 is assigned to all classes derived from `"ObjectRoot.BaseEntity.Platform"` except for `"ObjectRoot.BaseEntity.Platform.GroundVehicle"`, which is assigned 229.7.7.10:

```
(RTI-addDMObjectMulticastAddr "ObjectRoot.BaseEntity.
  Platform" "229.7.7.9" "inclusive" "0.0.0.0")
(RTI-addDMObjectMulticastAddr "ObjectRoot.BaseEntity.
  Platform.GroundVehicle" "229.7.7.10" "exclusive" "0.0.0.0")
```

Using these parameters will result in the following behavior:

- ♦ A federate subscription causes the LRC to join all multicast groups specified for the subscribed class and its derived classes. For example, given the previous example, a subscription to `ObjectRoot.BaseEntity.Platform` would result in the LRC joining multicast groups 229.7.7.9 and 229.7.7.10 on 0.0.0.0, the default interface.
- ♦ The LRC transmits object attributes to the multicast group specified by the class of the object instance (not the class where the attributes are defined). Given the previous example, the LRC transmits a `WorldLocation` attribute (defined in class *BaseEntity*) of an object instance of class `ObjectRoot.BaseEntity.Platform.GroundVehicle` to the multicast group 229.7.7.10. It would transmit the same attribute of an object instance of class `ObjectRoot.BaseEntity.Platform` to the multicast group 229.7.7.9.
- ♦ The LRC transmits interactions to the multicast group specified by the interaction class.



The functionality described in this section is separate from any filtering that the DDM services might perform.

9.12.1. Assigning DM Multicast Groups to Network Interfaces

The `RTI-addDMObjectMulticastAddr` parameter has a parameter that assigns DM multicast groups to specific network interfaces. If you have multi-homed machines, this parameter allows you to segment RTI traffic onto multiple physical networks without modifying your system's routing tables. For example, if a multi-homed machine has network interfaces with address 10.0.1.211 and 192.168.1.211, you can send all HLA object traffic to the 10.0.1.x network as follows:

```
(RTI-addDMObjectMulticastAddr "ObjectRoot" "224.0.0.1" "inclusive"
 "10.0.1.211")
```

The `RTI-addDMInteractionMulticastAddr` parameter has a similar parameter. For example, if a multi-homed machine has network interfaces with address 10.0.1.211 and 192.168.2.211 you can send all HLA interaction traffic to the 192.168.1.x network using the following setting:

```
(RTI-addDMInteractionMulticastAddr "InteractionRoot" "224.0.0.2"
 "inclusive" "192.168.2.211")
```



The multicast address and network interface must be of the same address family – IPv4 or IPv6.



10. Configuring Message Forwarding

The MÄK RTI offers a variety of options for configuring how messages are forwarded to federates. The first part of this chapter discusses networking on LANs and WANs using UDP or centralized forwarding. The rest of the chapter describes how to configure distributed forwarding. Use of distributed forwarding can significantly reduce network traffic over a LAN or WAN.

Configuring UDP and Centralized TCP Forwarding on a LAN	10-3
Configuring Best Effort (UDP) on a LAN.....	10-3
Configuring Centralized TCP Forwarding on a LAN.....	10-4
Configuring UDP and Centralized TCP on a WAN	10-4
Configuring Centralized TCP Forwarding	10-5
Configuring UDP Over a WAN without Distributed Forwarding.....	10-6
Distributed Forwarding Topologies on a LAN	10-7
Forwarder Groups	10-7
Singleton Forwarders.....	10-9
Advanced Distributed Forwarding on a LAN	10-10
Distributed Forwarding Topologies on an WAN.....	10-11
Optimizing Distributed Forwarding across a WAN	10-12
Configuring Federates for Distributed Forwarding.....	10-15
Configuring RTI Forwarders for Distributed Forwarding.....	10-16
Configuring RTI Forwarders Using the RTI Assistant	10-17
Creating a Routes File	10-18
UDP Forwarding.....	10-20
Configuring Single-Portal Forwarder Groups	10-20
Configuring Load-Balanced Forwarder Groups	10-22
Configuring Distributed UDP Forwarding.....	10-23
Configuring Routers or Firewalls for WAN Federations	10-25

Configuring Message Forwarding

Special Distributed Forwarder Networks.....	10-25
Configuring Hierarchical Forwarder Networks.....	10-26

10.1. Configuring UDP and Centralized TCP Forwarding on a LAN

As discussed in “[Network Topologies for RTI Messages](#),” on page 2-7, the MÄK RTI supports sending messages over a LAN via best effort, centralized forwarding, and distributed forwarding. For details about configuring distributed forwarding, please see “[Distributed Forwarding Topologies on a LAN](#),” on page 10-7 and the sections that follow it.



The MÄK RTI supports IPv4 and IPv6, but you cannot mix the two protocols. If your federation is using IPv4, then all IP addresses in the RID file and RTI Assistant must be in the IPv4 format. The same applies to use of IPv6.

10.1.1. Configuring Best Effort (UDP) on a LAN

To configure best effort communications, set `RTI_fomDataTransportTypeControl` to 0 or 1, or set `RTI_internalMsgReliableWhenUsingRtiexec` to 0, as described in “[Choosing Best Effort or Reliable Transport](#),” on page 9-2. Optionally, specify the following parameters:

- ♦ `RTI_udpPort`. Specifies the port number to be used for best effort messages sent among federates. Default: 4000.
- ♦ `RTI_destAddrString`. Specifies the IP address to which best effort federation execution traffic is sent. This will typically be a broadcast address or multicast address. Default: “229.7.7.7” (a multicast address). A value of “0.0.0.0” is a special value that indicates that the default broadcast address should be used. If any of your federates are running on platforms on which multicast is not supported, you must use a broadcast address rather than a multicast address.

10.1.2. Configuring Centralized TCP Forwarding on a LAN

By default, the RTI uses reliable transport and starts an RTI Forwarder when you start the `rtiexec`. In other words, the configuration instructions in this section are the default behavior of the RTI when you run an `rtiexec` using a connection configuration in the RTI Assistant.

To configure centralized TCP forwarding:

1. Enable use of reliable transport for internal messages or FOM data or both, by setting `RTI_fomDataTransportTypeControl` to 0, or `RTI_internalMsgReliableWhenUsingRtiexec` to 1. Optionally, you can set `RTI_fomDataTransportTypeControl` to 2 to force all FOM data to be sent reliably, regardless of the settings in the FED file.
2. Set `RTI_tcpForwarderAddr` to the IP address of the machine that is running the RTI Forwarder.
3. Set `RTI_tcpPort` to the port to be used for TCP connections by adding the following line to the RID file:

```
setqb RTI_tcpPort port
```

You must run the RTI Forwarder if you are using reliable transport (set `RTI_useRtiExec` to 1).

For example, if you want to use reliable transport for your internal messages and FOM data, and the machine that you are running the `rtiexec` on has the IP address 192.168.x.x, then your *rid.mtl* file should include the following:

```
(setqb RTI_useRtiExec 1)
(setqb RTI_internalMsgReliableWhenUsingRtiexec 1)
(setqb RTI_fomDataTransportTypeControl 0)
(setqb RTI_tcpForwarderAddr "192.168.x.x")
```



You can set the size of the buffer into which TCP packets get read. To set the buffer size, use the `RTI_tcpBufferSize` variable. The default size is 20000 bytes.

10.2. Configuring UDP and Centralized TCP on a WAN

You can use best effort or reliable transport over a WAN. The MÄK RTI supports various packet forwarding strategies for reducing the amount of bandwidth consumed in a WAN environment. The RTI Forwarder supports centralized TCP forwarding, distributed TCP forwarding, and distributed UDP forwarding. For details about configuring distributed forwarding on a WAN, please see [“Distributed Forwarding Topologies on a LAN,”](#) on page 10-7 and the sections that follow it.

10.2.1. Configuring Centralized TCP Forwarding

You can use the MÄK RTI's centralized TCP forwarding scheme in a WAN environment. This configuration is relatively simple to set up: as you would in a LAN, just set `RTI_tcpForwarderAddr` to the address of the RTI Forwarder.

Although centralized TCP forwarding is easy to configure, it is not particularly efficient. When you only have one RTI Forwarder, all TCP messages in the federation must travel through that central RTI Forwarder, even when both the sender and ultimate recipient are located on one LAN, and the RTI Forwarder is located on another. Obviously, this results in many more messages being sent across WAN links than are necessary. Therefore, the preferred method for running federations over a WAN is distributed forwarding.

Configuring Routers or Firewalls to Support WAN-based Federations

When you run a federation across a WAN, it is possible, and even likely, that the remote networks will be protected by firewalls or routers that perform Network Address Translation (NAT). The RTI Forwarder must be accessible to all other federate hosts or forwarders via the designated distributed forwarder port. Therefore, you will probably need to do some additional configuration to allow traffic to get through the firewalls to your RTI Forwarders. There are several options for doing this, including NAT with port forwarding, using a demilitarized zone (DMZ), virtual private networks (VPNs), static routing, and virtual LANs. You should consult with your network administrator and the administrators of other networks in your exercise to determine the best method to use. This section explains the port forwarding approach.

If you are using centralized TCP forwarding, you only need to configure one firewall – the one on the RTI Forwarder's LAN, as follows:

1. Make sure that all remote federates are configured to send TCP packets to the firewall's IP address, rather than the IP address of the RTI Forwarder's machine itself (which will not be reachable directly). In other words, set `RTI_tcpForwarderAddr` to the IP address of the firewall protecting the RTI Forwarder's LAN.
2. Configure that firewall so that it will forward TCP packets received on the RTI's TCP port to the machine that hosts the RTI Forwarder. (If you are using centralized TCP forwarding, then the RTI's TCP port will be the same as the RTI's UDP port).

If you are using distributed forwarding, please see [“Configuring Routers or Firewalls for WAN Federations,”](#) on page 10-25 for configuration details.

10.2.2. Configuring UDP Over a WAN without Distributed Forwarding

The preferred method of supporting best effort traffic over a WAN is to have a local RTI Forwarder listen to local multicast traffic, then forward those packets to remote RTI Forwarders via TCP. If you do not want to use the distributed forwarding method for UDP messages, you can use the strategy described in this section.

In this configuration, multiple copies of each message get sent over the WAN. The MÄK RTI supports the specification of multiple destination addresses for best effort packets. This is often necessary when communicating across a WAN, since most routers do not forward multicast packets.



If you are running two or more federates on the same computer and that computer is not available by multicast, then you must use the RTI Forwarder for best effort. This is because unicast UDP packets are only available to one application per IP:port pair. In other words, the procedure described in this section does not work if you run multiple federates on a computer.

To use this method, set the `RTI_distributedUdpForwarderMode` parameter to 0. Use `RTI_addDestAddrString` to add one or more destination addresses. All best effort data will be sent to each registered address. Configure a separate RID file for each LAN, such that a unicast address for each remote federate (or computer if a computer hosts multiple federates) is added as a destination. The default destination address (`RTI_destAddrString`) is automatically added to the list of destination addresses for LAN best effort communication, so do not add local federates.

For example, suppose two LANs have federates at the following IP addresses:

- ♦ LAN 1:
207.86.232.1
207.86.232.2
207.86.232.3
- ♦ LAN 2:
208.86.232.1
208.86.232.2
208.86.232.3

Add the following entries to the RID files:

- ♦ LAN 1 RID file
(RTI-addDestAddrString "208.86.232.1")
(RTI-addDestAddrString "208.86.232.2")
(RTI-addDestAddrString "208.86.232.3")
- ♦ LAN 2 RID file
(RTI-addDestAddrString "207.86.232.1")
(RTI-addDestAddrString "207.86.232.2")
(RTI-addDestAddrString "207.86.232.3")

10.3. Distributed Forwarding Topologies on a LAN

For very large federations that send large amounts of reliable data, a single RTI Forwarder may eventually limit performance of the federation, because it is responsible for sending a copy of each message to each federate. Running multiple RTI Forwarders can relieve this problem by allowing the burden of message distribution to be balanced among the forwarders. This preserves the benefits of employing RTI Forwarders while reducing the possibility of a forwarder overload.

If you use multiple RTI Forwarders, you can configure them in forwarder groups or as individual (singleton), fully connected forwarders. You can combine these two methods, where appropriate. For a discussion of when each alternative may be advantageous, please see “[Advanced Distributed Forwarding on a LAN](#),” on page 10-10.



If you run multiple forwarders on a LAN-only configuration, you must disable distributed UDP forwarding. (Set `RTI_distributedUdpForwarderMode` to 0.) There is no benefit to distributed UDP forwarding in this situation because multicast and broadcast over a LAN are more efficient.

10.3.1. Forwarder Groups

You can set up RTI Forwarders to share LAN traffic by configuring them into a forwarder group. A forwarder group consists of a set of RTI Forwarders and all of the federates associated with them.

In a forwarder group, each federate is assigned to a primary forwarder. Federates send messages only to their primary forwarder. The primary forwarder relays the messages to all of the other federates in the forwarder group. Federates receive messages from all of the forwarders in the group. To achieve a good load sharing arrangement, you must assign federates to primary forwarders in a way that assures proper load dispersal. The forwarders in a group can also communicate with each other, primarily to exchange internal messages and messages destined for the `rtiexec` (which only maintains a connection to a single forwarder in the group).

Figure 10-1 shows a forwarder group consisting of three RTI Forwarders, each of which serves several federates. The solid bi-directional lines represent connections between federates and their primary forwarders. The dashed uni-directional lines represent connections from the other (ancillary) forwarders. Federate B2 (shaded) sends a message to its primary RTI Forwarder (Forwarder B), which in turn sends it to all the other federates in the group (shaded lines).



The primary and ancillary forwarders are different for each federate. Forwarder A is the primary forwarder for federate A1, but is an ancillary forwarder to federate B1.

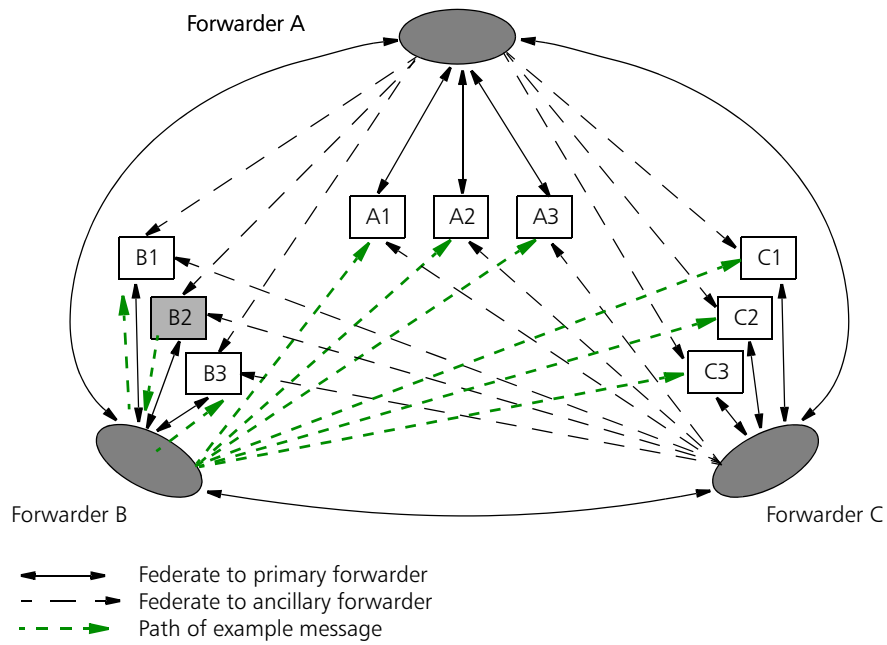


Figure 10-1. Distributed forwarding on a LAN with a forwarder group

10.3.2. Singleton Forwarders

If you do not want to create forwarder groups, you can connect federates to individual forwarders. These singleton forwarders can then be connected in a fully-connected configuration as shown in (Figure 10-2). This is known as a distributed singleton forwarder network. Each forwarder and its associated federates are essentially treated as a forwarder group that has one forwarder. The difference between this configuration and the forwarder group configuration is that the federates do not connect to any ancillary forwarders. So a messages sent by a federate (shaded federate and lines in Figure 10-2) must be relayed by its forwarder to the other forwarders, which then send it to the federates they are connected to.

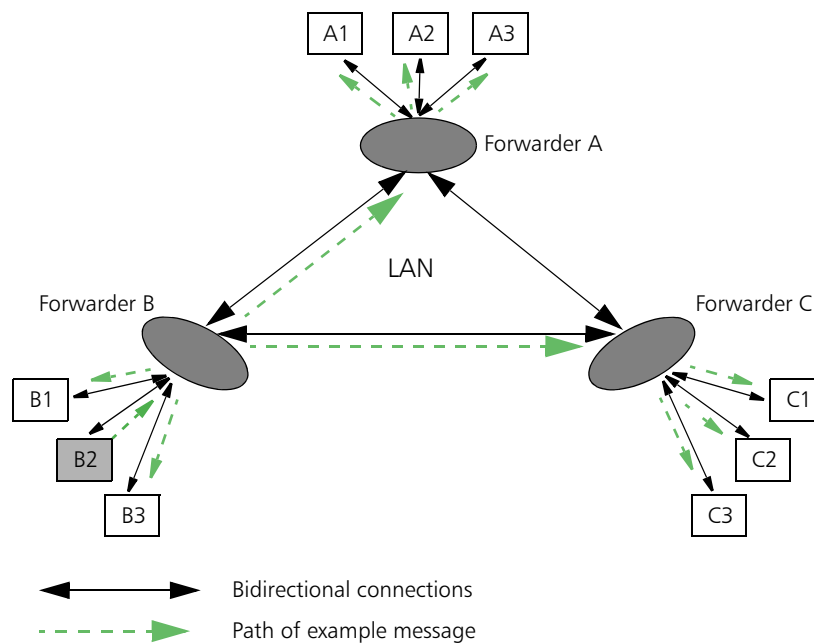


Figure 10-2. Distributed Singleton Forwarder Network on a LAN

10.3.3. Advanced Distributed Forwarding on a LAN

Forwarder groups and singleton forwarder networks both spread LAN traffic among multiple RTI Forwarders, thereby reducing the potential bottleneck of a centralized forwarder setup. In choosing which topology to use for your LAN, consider the following:

- Since group forwarders relay messages directly to the other federates on the LAN, group forwarding reduces latency (in most cases) by eliminating the hop between forwarders that is necessary if the distributed singleton forwarder network is used.
- Depending on the number of federates in a federation, a singleton forwarder network can have advantages over a forwarder network comprised of a single forwarder group.

Consider the case of a federation with a very large number of federates, for example 3000. If all of these are in a single forwarder group of 30 forwarders, in which each RTI Forwarder acts as the primary forwarder for 100 federates, each message from a federate must be retransmitted 2999 times by a primary forwarder in order to reach all 3000 federates. Since the primary forwarder likely only has one network interface over which to send these messages, the average latency is calculated as:

$$(t_{\text{msg}} * (\# \text{ of federates} / 2))$$

where t_{msg} is the time required to transmit the message once over the LAN.

In contrast, consider a distributed singleton forwarder network and the time required to distribute a message. The primary forwarder only has to relay the message 128 times (99 copies to the other federates it is connected to and 29 copies to the other RTI Forwarders). Since individual forwarders can probably transmit simultaneously if they are on a switched Ethernet backbone, all 30 forwarders could theoretically be distributing the message simultaneously to the federates connected to them. Potentially, the average latency is reduced to:

$$((t_{\text{msg}} * (\# \text{ of forwarders} / 2)) + (t_{\text{msg}} * (\# \text{ of federates per forwarder} / 2)))$$

The number of federates per forwarder is an order of magnitude less than the total number of federates. The time it takes for each forwarder to distribute the message to all federates connected to it is the largest contributor to the overall latency. Therefore, the latency should be reduced by an order of magnitude.

There is another way to configure large single-LAN federations. You can use one of the distributed forwarding methods used for sending reliable traffic over a WAN. Since the only difference between reliable communication over a LAN and over a WAN is the availability of bandwidth, it may be advantageous to use multiple forwarder groups on a LAN. Each group would consist of multiple RTI Forwarders that share the load and then interconnect over the LAN in a load-balanced configuration. This allows RTI Forwarders in disparate groups to handle message relay simultaneously within each group, thus potentially reducing latency even further.

There is no one correct topology. You must consider the unique circumstances of your federation when determining the best strategy for optimizing communication.

10.4. Distributed Forwarding Topologies on an WAN

The simplest distributed forwarding configuration for a WAN is to use individual (singleton), fully connected forwarders at each LAN. The forwarder at each LAN forwards messages to its local federates and between forwarders on remote LANs. The forwarders handle both reliable (TCP) and best effort (UDP) messages.

Similar to the centralized forwarder strategy, the sending federate passes the message only to the RTI Forwarder to which it is connected and the forwarder re-sends the message to all other federates connected directly to it (its federation subset). However, the RTI Forwarder also sends a copy of the message to all remote RTI Forwarders whose federation subsets contain federates that require the message. The remote forwarders distribute the message to all interested federates in their subset. (Figure 10-3) shows a distributed forwarding network. This figure is essentially identical to Figure 10-2. The only difference is that now the RTI Forwarders are on separate LANs.

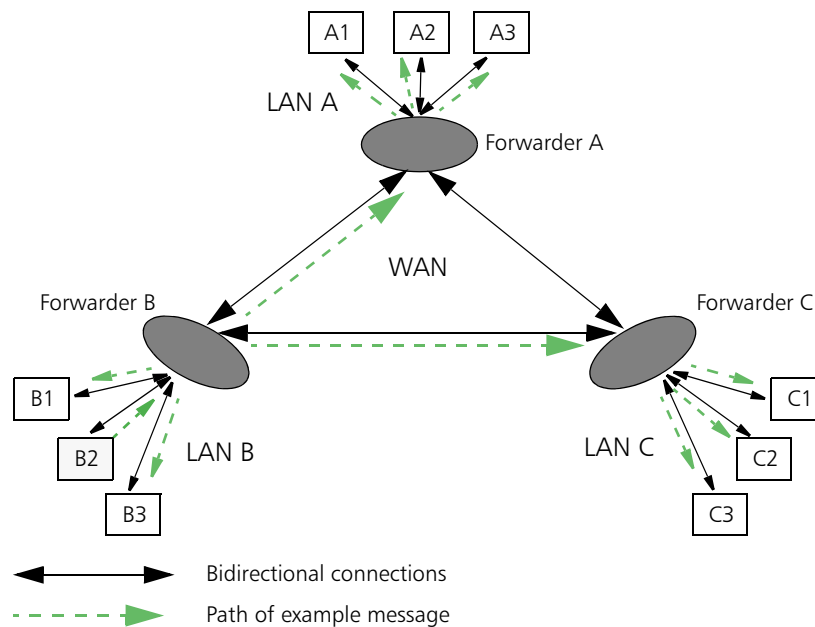


Figure 10-3. Distributed Singleton Forwarder Network on a WAN

10.4.1. Optimizing Distributed Forwarding across a WAN

Forwarding across a WAN can be optimized by adding more forwarders. To optimize distributed forwarding across a WAN, you would create one (or more) forwarder groups on each LAN. Each group can consist of one or more RTI Forwarders and individual groups can have different numbers of group members. A forwarder cannot be assigned to more than one group. A forwarder that is not explicitly assigned to any group is considered a singleton group (that is, a group consisting of a single member). There are two options available to interconnect the groups, single-portal and load-balance.



The simple configuration with a single forwarder at each LAN is a special case of interconnecting forwarder groups in which each LAN has a singleton group.

Single-Portal Interconnections

Using single-portal interconnections, one forwarder in each group is designated as the ‘portal’ forwarder. The portal forwarder acts as the entryway into the forwarder group. However, each forwarder in the group is responsible for forwarding its messages out of the group. To achieve this behavior, all local forwarders connect to the portal forwarder in foreign forwarder groups. Each forwarder then forwards messages from the federates they service to each foreign portal, which in turn relays the messages to all the federates in the portal forwarder’s local forwarder group.

The portals also handle messages destined for the rtiexec and the distribution of internal messages to the other non-portal forwarders within their groups. [Figure 10-4](#) illustrates a single-portal forwarder network. The solid lines represent bi-directional connections between two portals; the dashed lines represent connections from non-portal forwarders to portal forwarders. Non-portal forwarders send messages to the portals they are connected to, but the portals do not send messages directly to non-portals, only to the other portals. In a forwarder group network it is the groups that are considered fully-connected, not each individual forwarder.

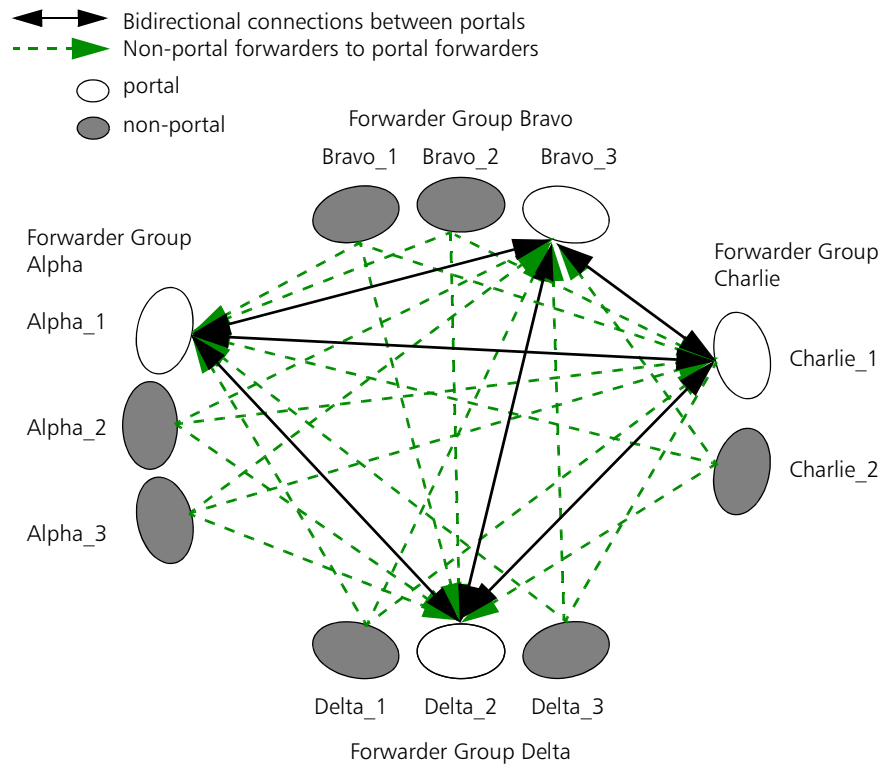


Figure 10-4. Distributed forwarder network (single-portal)

From a federate's perspective, the single-portal WAN configuration is similar to the LAN-based group forwarder strategy. The sending federate passes the message to its primary forwarder, which relays the message to all other federates in its forwarder group (also known as its federation subset). The RTI Forwarder also sends a copy of the message to a portal forwarder in each foreign forwarder group whose federation subsets contain federates that require the message. Those portal forwarders distribute the message to all interested federates in their group.

Load-Balanced Interconnections

In a load-balanced forwarder network, multiple forwarders (preferably all forwarders) in each group act as portals. There are multiple entry points into the group. Again however, each forwarder is responsible for forwarding messages out of the group. So instead of all local forwarders connecting to just a single portal forwarder in foreign groups, each local forwarder selects a different portal forwarder in each foreign group. In this arrangement, each local forwarder sends messages from the federates it services to a portal in each foreign forwarder group which in turn relays the messages to all the federates in its group. Use of multiple portals distributes the load of traffic sent between groups among several forwarders in each group, thus eliminating the potential bottleneck created by the single-portal scheme. Figure 10-5 illustrates a load-balanced configuration. In an ideal configuration, all groups have an equal number of forwarders and each forwarder has a bidirectional connection with a single forwarder in each foreign group.

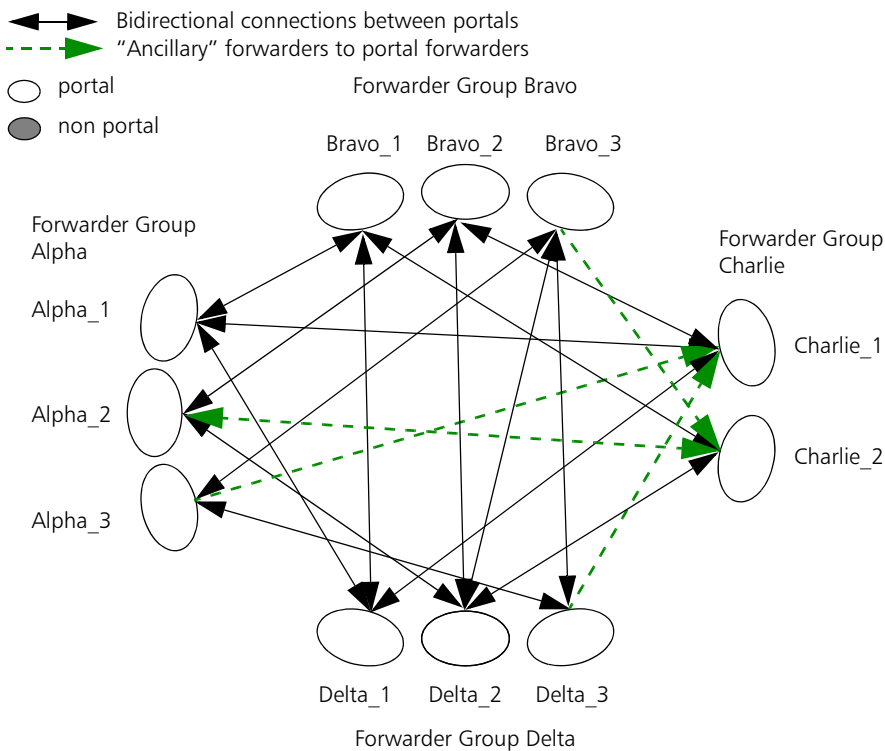


Figure 10-5. Distributed Forwarder Network (load-balanced)

In [Figure 10-5](#), there is an unequal number of forwarders in one group. One or more forwarders in this smaller forwarder group must maintain connections with more than one forwarder in the larger foreign forwarder groups. However, a forwarder with multiple connections can have only one bidirectional connection to each foreign group. The other connections to a foreign group are treated like ancillary connections, from which it only receives messages. It sends messages only to the bidirectional connection, but receives them from both. The configuration of a forwarder forming multiple connections to a single foreign group is illustrated by forwarder group Charlie, which has only two members (compared to three for the other groups). The ancillary connection from each of the other groups is automatically distributed evenly between the two portals in the group so as to avoid overloading one of the portals.

10.5. Configuring Federates for Distributed Forwarding

You configure federates for distributed forwarding by editing the RID file on each computer on which federates are running.

To configure federates to use distributed forwarding:

1. Enable reliable transport, as described in “[Choosing Best Effort or Reliable Transport](#),” on page 9-2.
2. Specify the primary forwarder. In the RID file, set the `RTI_tcpForwarderAddr` parameter to point to the RTI Forwarder to use as the primary forwarder.
3. If you are using forwarding groups, specify the forwarders in the forwarding group. Add an `RTI-addForwarderGroupAddrString` parameter to the RID file for each RTI Forwarder in the forwarder group. If your network does not use forwarder groups, do not include this parameter in the RID file.
4. Set `RTI_distributedUdpForwarderMode` to 0, which disables distributed UDP forwarding.



When you use forwarder groups, each forwarder serves as a primary for a subset of the federates. As a result, the configuration will be different for federates with different primary forwarders.

10.6. Configuring RTI Forwarders for Distributed Forwarding

If you use a fully-connected forwarder network across a WAN, you can configure RTI Forwarders through the RTI Assistant. For other network topologies, RTI Forwarders are configured in the routes file (*routes.mtl*). You must copy the routes file to each computer that is running an RTI Forwarder. For a given distributed forwarding topology, the routes file is the same whether it is used for a LAN or WAN.

The RTI Forwarder determines how to function as follows:

- ♦ If you specify its connection using the RTI Assistant, it uses the selected connection configuration. It switches between distributed forwarding and centralized TCP forwarding dynamically as other forwarders connect to and disconnect from the network. It ignores the routes file even if it exists.
- ♦ If you specify use of the connection configured in the RID file by specifying the `-M` command-line option, or by setting `RTI_configureConnectionWithRid` to 1:
 - If there is a routes file, the RTI Forwarder uses distributed forwarding.
 - If there is no routes file, it uses centralized TCP forwarding.

10.6.1. Configuring RTI Forwarders Using the RTI Assistant

To configure multiple forwarders using the RTI Assistant, you specify the network address of one of the forwarders in the Advanced Forwarder Options group box of the connection configuration dialog box. As you add RTI Forwarders, they dynamically share their network addresses to make connections.

To configure distributed forwarder connections:

1. When creating or editing a connection configuration, click the Advanced button. The Add New [Local rtiexec] Connection dialog box expands (Figure 10-6).

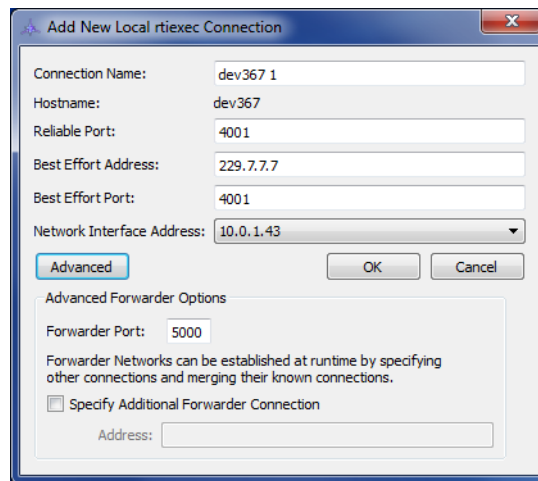


Figure 10-6. Expanded Add New Local rtiexec Connection dialog box

2. Optionally, specify a port for the RTI Forwarder.
3. Select Specify Additional Forwarder Connection.
4. Type the address of the RTI Forwarder that you want this forwarder to connect to. (It can be any forwarder on the network.)
5. Click OK.

10.6.2. Creating a Routes File

The routes file must specify each RTI Forwarder that will be part of the network (using `RTI_addForwarder`). The `RTI_distributedForwarderPort` parameter, in *rid.mtl*, specifies the port on which each RTI Forwarder will accept incoming connection attempts from other forwarders.

If you do not use forwarder groups, these are the only parameters required to construct a fully-connected forwarder network. A fully-connected network is one in which each forwarder maintains a connection to every other forwarder in the network, as illustrated in [Figure 10-4](#).

The list of forwarders should be identical in each routes file. The name:IP address pairs must be identical (that is, for a given IP address, the associated name must always be the same).

The syntax of the `RTI_addForwarder` parameter is:

```
(RTI_addForwarder "ForwarderName" "IP address | hostname" Port)
```

where:

- *ForwarderName* is an arbitrary name assigned to a forwarder. It cannot contain spaces.
- *IP address* is the IP address of the computer on which the forwarder is running.
- *hostname* is the host name of the computer on which the forwarder is running.
- *Port* is the port to be used to connect to this forwarder. If you specify 0, the value of the `RTI_distributedForwarderPort` RID parameter is used. The only situation where a value other than 0 would normally be specified would be when trying to run two forwarders on the same computer.

Both input values must be enclosed by double-quotes (" ").



The use of hostnames rather than IP addresses in the routes file is strongly discouraged. Although specifying hostnames may work in some limited cases, in most WAN situations, issues such as network address translation (NAT) traversal or VPN tunneling will lead to incorrect or unstable routing networks.

The following example is a routes file with three forwarders:

```
;; Forwarder List
;; List all Distributed Forwarder endpoint IPs here
(RTI_addForwarder "A" "192.168.1.1" 0)
(RTI_addForwarder "B" "192.168.1.2" 0)
(RTI_addForwarder "C" "192.168.1.3" 0)
```

[Table 10-1](#) describes all of the routes file parameters.

Table 10-1: Routes file parameters

Parameter	Description
RTI_addForwarder	Specifies the IP address (or hostname) of an RTI Forwarder to be added to the forwarder list.
RTI-enableCompression	Enables compression and sets the compression level for individual forwarder connections.
RTI-enableBundling	Enables bundling and sets the bundle size for individual forwarder connections.
RTI_forwarderInterfaceAddr	Specifies the IP address of the host interface on which to try to initiate connections to other RTI Forwarders. Only necessary for multi-homed hosts.
RTI-allowMulticastForwarding	Specifies the forwarder name of an RTI Forwarder enabled to handle distributed UDP forwarding duties on its LAN. A separate entry for each RTI Forwarder that will act as the distributed UDP forwarder for its LAN is necessary. It is required only when forwarder groups are used and RTI_distributedUdpForwarderMode is 2.
RTI_forwarderGroupInterconnectMethod	Specifies the type of distributed forwarder network that will be created. Acceptable values are: ♦ “single-portal” ♦ “load-balance” ♦ “manual”. For information about single-portal and load-balanced networks, please see “Configuring Single-Portal Forwarder Groups,” on page 10-20 and “Configuring Load-Balanced Forwarder Groups,” on page 10-22. For information about manual configuration of forwarder networks, please see “Special Distributed Forwarder Networks,” on page 10-25.
RTI-addForwarderGroup	Specifies the name of a Forwarder Group that will be included in the distributed forwarder network.
RTI-addForwarderToGroup	Adds the named RTI Forwarder to the specified Forwarder Group.

Routes File Search Order

The search order for the routes file is as follows:

1. Load *routes.mtl* from the working directory.
2. Try to load the routes file from the directory specified by the `RTI_CONFIG` environment variable.
3. Use the default settings.

You can specify a different name for the routes file with the `RTI_forwarderRoutesFile` parameter.

10.6.3. UDP Forwarding

If you use distributed UDP forwarding to handle multicast traffic between LANs, you must add an `RTI-allowMulticastForwarding` parameter for the RTI Forwarder on each LAN that will monitor and relay those messages. The syntax is:

```
(RTI-allowMulticastForwarding "ForwarderName")
```

The *ForwarderName* string cannot contain spaces and must be enclosed by double-quotes (" "). Each name must be identical to a name specified in one of the `RTI_addForwarder` parameters.

10.6.4. Configuring Single-Portal Forwarder Groups

If you are using forwarder groups to manage network traffic, you must configure the group membership rosters and the interconnection between groups in the forwarder network.

The `RTI_forwarderGroupInterconnectMethod` parameter specifies how the RTI Forwarders will assemble themselves into a network. The syntax of the parameter is:

```
(setqb RTI_forwarderGroupInterconnectMethod {"single-portal" |  
"load-balance" | "manual"})
```

where:

- ♦ `single-portal` specifies a single portal interconnection method, as described in [“Single-Portal Interconnections,”](#) on page 10-12. This is the default interconnect method.
- ♦ `load-balance` specifies a load balanced interconnection method, as described in [“Load-Balanced Interconnections,”](#) on page 10-14.
- ♦ `manual` specifies that interconnections are configured manually as described in [“Special Distributed Forwarder Networks,”](#) on page 10-25.

The value string must be enclosed in double-quotes (" ").

To configure the group membership rosters, create a group using the `RTI-addForwarderGroup` parameter. Then populate it with RTI Forwarders using the `RTI-addForwarderToGroup` parameter. The RTI Forwarders must have already been specified in the forwarder list created by the `RTI_addForwarder` entries. The syntax of the two parameters is:

```
(RTI-addForwarderGroup "GroupName" )
(RTI-addForwarderToGroup "GroupName" "ForwarderName" "URL"
 acceptRemoteConnections)
```

where:

- ♦ *ForwarderName* must be identical to a name specified in one of the `RTI_addForwarder` parameters and it must appear before the group configuration section of the routes file.
- ♦ *URL* is currently not supported and should be left as an empty string ("").
- ♦ *acceptRemoteConnections* specifies that the forwarder is a portal (1) or not a portal (0).

The *GroupName* and *ForwarderName* strings cannot contain spaces and must be enclosed by double-quotes (" ").

If none of the forwarders in a group is explicitly assigned to act as the portal for the group, the forwarder in the group whose name occurs first alphabetically acts as the portal.

The following example configuration shows the creation of four groups interconnected using the single-portal method (illustrated in [Figure 10-4](#)):

```
;; Forwarder Groups
(RTI-addForwarderGroup "Alpha")
(RTI-addForwarderToGroup "Alpha" "Alpha_1" "" 1)
(RTI-addForwarderToGroup "Alpha" "Alpha_2" "" 0)
(RTI-addForwarderToGroup "Alpha" "Alpha_3" "" 0)

(RTI-addForwarderGroup "Bravo")
(RTI-addForwarderToGroup "Bravo" "Bravo_1" "" 0)
(RTI-addForwarderToGroup "Bravo" "Bravo_2" "" 0)
(RTI-addForwarderToGroup "Bravo" "Bravo_3" "" 1)

(RTI-addForwarderGroup "Charlie")
(RTI-addForwarderToGroup "Charlie" "Charlie_2" "" 0)
(RTI-addForwarderToGroup "Charlie" "Charlie_1" "" 0)

(RTI-addForwarderGroup "Delta")
(RTI-addForwarderToGroup "Delta" "Delta_1" "" 0)
(RTI-addForwarderToGroup "Delta" "Delta_2" "" 1)
(RTI-addForwarderToGroup "Delta" "Delta_3" "" 0)

(setqb RTI_forwarderGroupInterconnectMethod "single-portal")
```

There is no portal explicitly identified in group Charlie. Charlie_1 is chosen by default to be the portal because it is first in its group alphabetically (even though it is listed last in the roster for the group.)

10.6.5. Configuring Load-Balanced Forwarder Groups

To optimize load balancing of network traffic, the forwarder groups must be configured such that each of the forwarders in the group is a portal. [Figure 10-5](#) depicts such a network. The configuration of that example is given below:

```
;; Forwarder Groups
(RTI-addForwarderGroup "Alpha")
(RTI-addForwarderToGroup "Alpha" "Alpha_1" "" 1)
(RTI-addForwarderToGroup "Alpha" "Alpha_2" "" 1)
(RTI-addForwarderToGroup "Alpha" "Alpha_3" "" 1)

(RTI-addForwarderGroup "Bravo")
(RTI-addForwarderToGroup "Bravo" "Bravo_1" "" 1)
(RTI-addForwarderToGroup "Bravo" "Bravo_2" "" 1)
(RTI-addForwarderToGroup "Bravo" "Bravo_3" "" 1)

(RTI-addForwarderGroup "Charlie")
(RTI-addForwarderToGroup "Charlie" "Charlie_2" "" 1)
(RTI-addForwarderToGroup "Charlie" "Charlie_1" "" 1)

(RTI-addForwarderGroup "Delta")
(RTI-addForwarderToGroup "Delta" "Delta_1" "" 1)
(RTI-addForwarderToGroup "Delta" "Delta_2" "" 1)
(RTI-addForwarderToGroup "Delta" "Delta_3" "" 1)

(setqb RTI_forwarderGroupInterconnectMethod "load-balance")
```

The RTI Forwarders automatically determine the necessary connections for each individual forwarder and assemble themselves into the optimal forwarder network.

If it is not feasible to have every forwarder in a group act as a portal (for instance if some forwarders in a group are behind a firewall and no port forwarding is available) they should be marked as non-portals (`acceptRemoteConnections = 0`) in their **RTI-addForwarderToGroup** entry. The other RTI Forwarders will automatically distribute connections to the affected group among the portals in that group. The non-portal forwarders will still connect to other portals in foreign forwarder groups, and these connections are accounted for when determining the optimal interconnect routing to ensure that every portal has a roughly equal number of connections to foreign forwarder groups to handle.

10.6.6. Configuring Distributed UDP Forwarding

The RTI Forwarder can send both TCP and UDP messages across a WAN. (UDP messages are sent between forwarders over a TCP connection.). The federates on a LAN send messages to the multicast address on their LAN. When you enable distributed forwarding for UDP messages, a single RTI Forwarder running on the LAN monitors the multicast messages and sends them to all the remote forwarder groups using the TCP network. The portal forwarder in that remote group then multicasts the messages to federates on its local LAN.

To configure distributed UDP forwarding:

1. Set the RID parameter `RTI_distributedUdpForwarderMode` to 2.
2. Configure distributed forwarding as you would for TCP.
3. Specify a single forwarder on each LAN that will be allowed to monitor multicast traffic by adding `RTI-allowMulticastForwarding` entries in the routes configuration files.

Sending Packets Directly to Remote RTI Forwarders Using UDP Unicast

An alternative way of supporting distributed UDP forwarding is to bypass the local RTI Forwarder and have each federate send a message directly to all of the remote RTI Forwarders via UDP unicast. To use this strategy, set the `RTI_distributedUdpForwarderMode` parameter to 1.



You must use distributed forwarding to communicate with multiple federates on a single remote host that cannot be reached via multicast. Adding an additional destination address to the host is not sufficient, because unicast UDP packets are only available to one application on a single IP:port pair. This UDP unicast limitation also means that the RTI Forwarder must run on a dedicated host so that it is assured of receiving any remote messages.

Assume LANs A, B, and C ([Figure 10-7](#)). Lan A has one federate. LANs B and C have multiple federates and each have a RTI Forwarder. Each federate's RID file must list the multicast address for the local LAN (`RTI_destAddrString`) and the address of each remote forwarder (`RTI-addDestAddrString`) (or machine for LANs that do not run a forwarder).

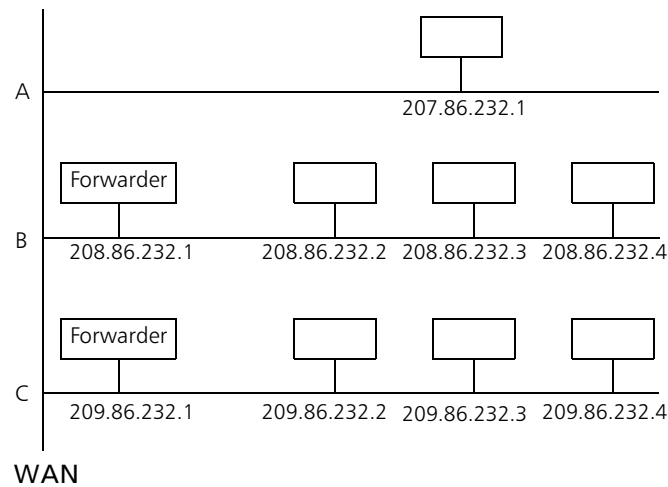


Figure 10-7. UDP forwarding

For the federate on LAN A, there are no other local federates; its only destinations are the federates on LANs B and C. Even so, there are some messages that can be sent by an LRC that are processed by the sending LRC (for example, `requestAttributeValueUpdate`). Therefore, the primary destination address must still be either a broadcast or multicast address (which will loop back the message). Then the addresses of the two RTI Forwarders at LAN B and C would be added as additional destinations.

The RID file for LAN A might have the following entries:

```
(setqb RTI_destAddrString "229.7.7.7")
(RTI-addDestAddrString "208.86.232.1")
(RTI-addDestAddrString "209.86.232.1")
```

The RID files for federates on LAN B should be configured with a multicast address as the primary destination for the other federates on the LAN. Then the address of the federate on LAN A and the UDP Forwarder on LAN C should be added as additional destinations.

```
(setqb RTI_destAddrString "229.7.7.7")
(RTI-addDestAddrString "207.86.232.1")
(RTI-addDestAddrString "209.86.232.1")
```

The RID files for federates on LAN C should be configured similarly, but use LAN B's UDP Forwarder address.

```
(setqb RTI_destAddrString "229.7.7.7")
(RTI-addDestAddrString "207.86.232.1")
(RTI-addDestAddrString "208.86.232.1")
```

10.7. Configuring Routers or Firewalls for WAN Federations

As explained in [“Configuring Routers or Firewalls to Support WAN-based Federations,”](#) on page 10-5, when you use distributed forwarding, you will probably need to configure your system to allow traffic to get through firewalls to your RTI Forwarders.

If you are using distributed forwarding, you will typically be running one copy of the RTI Forwarder application on each LAN. But if you tried to configure your *routes.mtl* file with the IP addresses of the various machines that are running the RTI Forwarders (as described in [“Configuring RTI Forwarders for Distributed Forwarding,”](#) on page 10-16), those addresses would be unreachable, since those machines are behind firewalls.

To configure distributed forwarders:

1. Configure your *routes.mtl* file so that it uses the IP addresses of the various LANs' firewalls.
2. Configure your firewalls so that they will forward TCP packets received on the RTI's distributed forwarder port to the machines that host the RTI Forwarders. The port number used for messages destined for distributed RTI Forwarders is indicated by the `RTI_distributedForwarderPort` parameter in *rid.mtl*.

10.8. Special Distributed Forwarder Networks

The distributed forwarder networks described in previous sections can all be described as fully-connected in that each singleton forwarder or forwarder group connects to all other singleton forwarders or groups. Where forwarder groups are used, each group connects to every other group. The appropriate connections between individual forwarders are determined automatically at run-time when single-portal or load-balanced interconnects are selected in the routes file.

However, certain situations may dictate more complex network layouts. Manual configuration of forwarder interconnections permits you to construct an intricate forwarder network.

Such situations are likely to involve forwarders that cannot communicate with all other forwarders to produce a fully-connected network, whether because of infrastructure restrictions or security concerns. In place of a fully-connected network, you can set up a hierarchical network.

10.8.1. Configuring Hierarchical Forwarder Networks

In order to create a hierarchical forwarder network, every connection between individual forwarders must be specified in the *routes.mtl* file and the routing of messages to and from adjacent nodes must be specified for each forwarder.



Large forwarder networks can be quite complex. If you plan to configure a hierarchical network, we recommend that you contact MÄK technical support for assistance.

To set up a hierarchical forwarder network, set the `RTI_forwarderGroupInterconnectMethod` parameter to `manual`.

Specify connections between adjacent forwarder nodes by including an `RTI_addForwarderConnection` entry in the routes file for each connection. The syntax of this parameter is:

```
(RTI_addForwarderConnection "ForwarderName1" "ForwarderName2")
```

The *ForwarderName* strings cannot contain spaces and must be enclosed by double-quotes (" "). The names must be identical to a name specified in one of the `RTI_addForwarder` parameters. The `RTI_addForwarder` parameters must be specified before the connections between them are specified.

The routing of messages through a forwarder node is specified by including an `RTI_addForwarderRoute` entry in the routes file for each adjacent node. The syntax of this parameter is:

```
(RTI_addForwarderRoute "LinkNode" "Source" "NextHop")
```

where:

- ♦ *LinkNode* is the RTI Forwarder through which the message passes.
- ♦ *Source* is the RTI Forwarder from which the message originates.
- ♦ *NextHop* is the destination RTI Forwarder for this network hop.

The *LinkNode*, *Source*, and *NextHop* strings must be valid forwarder names. There can be multiple entries between source and link nodes with different next hop nodes, and likewise there can be multiple entries dictating different sources through a link node to any particular next hop node.

Each of these entries configures a routing rule at the link node such that any message received by the link node from the source node will be forwarded to all the next hop nodes for which a matching routing rule exists at the link node. It is not necessary to establish a route beyond the next hop from any link node. However forwarder routes are uni-directional, so to establish a complementary return path for messages, a separate `RTI_addForwarderRoute` entry with the source and next hop values swapped is required.

Consider the simple hierarchical network illustrated in Figure 10-8. Forwarders A and B serve as link nodes between all other forwarders. Consequently routes must be configured to direct messages from Forwarder C through Forwarder A to Forwarders B and D, and both reverse routes must be configured (from B through A to C and from D through A to C). Likewise routes from Forwarder D through Forwarder A to Forwarder B and C (and the reverse) must be created, as well as routes from Forwarders E and F through Forwarder B and their reverse routes. No explicit entry is necessary to spell out the path from Forwarder C to Forwarder E since the entries covering the path from C through A to B and from A through B to E will allow the messages to be delivered end-to-end. Since in this example Forwarders C, D, E, and F are leaf nodes, none of the routes go through them. In other words, leaf nodes cannot be link nodes.

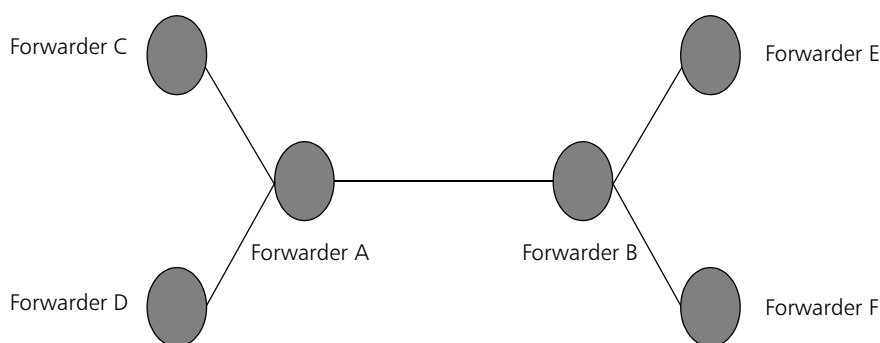


Figure 10-8. Hierarchical Forwarder Network

The necessary entries in the routes file to create this simple network are:

```

(RTI_addForwarderConnection "A" "B")
(RTI_addForwarderConnection "A" "C")
(RTI_addForwarderConnection "A" "D")
(RTI_addForwarderConnection "B" "E")
(RTI_addForwarderConnection "B" "F")

(RTI_addForwarderRoute "A" "C" "B")
(RTI_addForwarderRoute "A" "B" "C")

(RTI_addForwarderRoute "A" "C" "D")
(RTI_addForwarderRoute "A" "D" "C")

(RTI_addForwarderRoute "A" "D" "B")
(RTI_addForwarderRoute "A" "B" "D")

(RTI_addForwarderRoute "B" "E" "A")
(RTI_addForwarderRoute "B" "A" "E")

(RTI_addForwarderRoute "B" "E" "F")
(RTI_addForwarderRoute "B" "F" "E")

(RTI_addForwarderRoute "B" "F" "A")
(RTI_addForwarderRoute "B" "A" "F")
  
```




11. Configuring HLA Services

For a listing of all configuration parameters, with brief descriptions, please see Appendix A, *RID File Parameters Reference*.

Enabling and Disabling HLA Services.....	11-2
Configuring MOM Services.....	11-2
Configuring Time Management Services.....	11-2
Configuring Internal Messages.....	11-3
Configuring the Delay Time for Processing Internal Messages.....	11-3
Transmitting Internal Messages Across Ticks	11-4

11.1. Enabling and Disabling HLA Services

MOM, time management, and DDM services may incur additional overhead in the RTI. Since many federations do not use these services, or only some of them, the default MÄK RTI configuration disables them to optimize RTI performance. If your federation requires full HLA compliance, you can enable all of these services by setting `RTI_forceFullCompliance` to 1. If your federation uses a subset of the HLA services, you can enable or disable them independently.

11.1.1. Configuring MOM Services

- To enable MOM services, set `RTI_momServiceAvailable` to 1.
- To generate and log MOM exceptions, set `RTI_exceptionReportingSwitch` and `RTI_momExceptionLogging` to 1.
- To set the interval at which the MOM Federate object is updated, set `RTI_momFederateUpdateInterval`. The default (0) means that the MOM federate object is not updated.

Enabling MOM Service Reports

You can instruct the RTI to enable MOM service reports even if the federate does not enable them using the RTI Ambassador service call. This feature may be useful for managing federations that have federates that do not automatically enable service reports. To enable MOM service reporting, set the `RTI_serviceReportingSwitch` parameter to 1.

11.1.2. Configuring Time Management Services

Time management requires the use of the `rtiexec`.

- To enable time management services, set `RTI_timeMgmt` to 1.

11.2. Configuring Internal Messages

The configuration options for internal messages help you manage internal network traffic. The implementation of the HLA services requires messages to be exchanged between the RTI components. In order to adhere to the HLA Interface Specification, these message exchanges can sometimes be redundant and also cause message bursts. A slight relaxation of the specification allows the RTI to regulate these internal messages in order to improve performance. You can use the configuration options in this section to regulate the internal message traffic.

11.2.1. Configuring the Delay Time for Processing Internal Messages

The RTI can delay the processing of requests by setting `RTI_enableMessageThrottling` to 1. To configure the delay, set `RTI_transmitDelay` to the amount of time (in seconds) that the RTI should delay before processing requests.

During federation startup it is typical for federates to perform declaration and object management services that require the RTI to exchange a significant number of internal messages. Often, these messages are redundant, simply satisfying duplicate requests from each joining federate. For example, the LRC of a federate that has registered an object will resend the register information for each subscription message that it receives (that matches the registered object). The LRC can condense these duplicate responses (for example, register messages) by delaying the processing of requests (for example, subscription messages) allowing a single response to satisfy multiple requests. Another example is the processing of request attribute values. By delaying the invocation of the federate ambassador provide attribute value service, a single invocation can handle the multiple requests typically occurring during federation startup.



In the 1516 APIs, the user supplied tag is dropped.

11.2.2. Transmitting Internal Messages Across Ticks

The RTI can send out internal messages at a throttled rate. This is enabled by setting `RTI_enableMessageThrottling` to 1. To configure the transmission rate, set `RTI_transmitRate` to the rate, in messages per second, that the LRC should transmit all required internal messages across multiple ticks (based on the time since the last tick()). The default setting is 0.0, which means the LRC should send all messages during a single tick.

During federation startup it is typical for federates to perform declaration and object management services that require the RTI to exchange a significant number of internal messages. Often, the LRC has to respond to messages that it receives by retransmitting messages about its internal state (for example, object registrations and class publications). The LRC retransmits all the necessary messages during a single tick. This message retransmission process can cause a spike in the message bandwidth. To smooth out these message spikes, the LRC can be throttled to retransmit messages at a specified rate across subsequent ticks.



The throttle only affects the retransmission of internal messages during tick(). It does not affect messages required by services invoked by the federate (for example, updates and interactions).



12. Using Data Distribution Management

This chapter describes the approaches to Data Distribution Management (DDM) that are implemented by the MÄK RTI.

Configuring DDM Services	12-2
Enabling DDM.....	12-2
Configuring Distributed Region DDM.....	12-2
Configuring a Fixed Grid DDM	12-3
Configuring Implicit DDM	12-5
The Distributed Region Approach	12-7
Attribute Passelization	12-9
The Fixed Grid Approach	12-9
The Fixed Grid Representation.....	12-11
Federate Region Intersections with the Fixed Grid.....	12-12
Normalization of Federate Data for Range Bounds.....	12-14
The Fixed Grid Approach and DDM Services	12-15
Implicit DDM	12-17
Implicit DDM Implementation	12-18
Adding Implicit DDM to the FED or FDD.....	12-18
Implicitly Associating DDM Regions	12-20
Modifying Region Extents.....	12-20
Modifying Fixed Grid Region Extents	12-22

12.1. Configuring DDM Services

The MÄK RTI implements the following approaches to DDM:

- ♦ Distributed region.
- ♦ Fixed grid.
- ♦ Implicit DDM.

This section explains how to enable DDM and configure the different DDM approaches. The rest of this chapter provides conceptual background for the different approaches to DDM.



The HLA Evolved implementation of DDM is the same as the HLA 1516 implementation. Therefore, in this chapter, all references to HLA 1516 apply to HLA Evolved as well.

12.1.1. Enabling DDM

- To enable DDM services, set `RTI_dataDistMgmt` to 1.

12.1.2. Configuring Distributed Region DDM

Distributed region DDM is explained in “[The Distributed Region Approach](#),” on page 12-7. To use the distributed region approach, specify values for the `RTI_minChannelAddr` and `RTI_maxChannelAddr` parameters. They define a pool of multicast addresses that the LRC will assign to regions used for sending interactions and updating attributes. For optimal DDM filtering, each federate should define a separate pool of multicast address for its LRC to use.



The MÄK RTI supports IPv4 and IPv6, but you cannot mix the two protocols. If your federation is using IPv4, then all IP addresses in the RID file and RTI Assistant must be in the IPv4 format. The same applies to use of IPv6.

The parameter `RTI_addressDelay` is used to temporarily bypass the use of an updated region's multicast address when sending an interaction or attribute update. During the delay, the region change can propagate to subscribing federates and allow any that form new region overlaps to receive the messages.

12.1.3. Configuring a Fixed Grid DDM

Fixed grid DDM is explained in “[The Fixed Grid Approach](#),” on page 12-9. To use the fixed grid approach, you enable settings in *rid.mtl* and create a file that specifies the grid. The fixed grid configuration specifies the partitioning of the axes and the association of the axes with FOM dimensions. It specifies a routing space that must contain all the dimensions used to configure the fixed grid. In HLA 1516, a notional global routing space is assumed, but it may be specified as *HlaGlobalSpace*. A dimension may be specified as the subspace axis. If specified, its partitioning determines the number of application spaces. The remaining dimensions used to define the fixed grid are listed and only these dimensions may appear in the specification of the application spaces. The dimensions must be a subset of the routing space dimensions.

The RID parameters for fixed grid DDM are as follows:

- ♦ **RTI_ddmFixedGrid.** Enables or disables the fixed grid approach.
- ♦ **RTI_ddmFixedGridFilename.** Specifies the file name (and path) of the fixed grid specification file.
- ♦ **RTI_minChannelAddr.** Specifies the base multicast address used to initialize the fixed grid.

The syntax of the fixed grid specification file is as follows:

```
;;with subspace;;
([RoutingSpaceName]
  (SubspacePartition subspaceDimensionName partitionSize
    (dimName*) [defaultPartitionSize]
    (
      [ (index (descriptiveName (dimName partitionSize)* )]*
    )
  )
)
;;without subspace;;
([RoutingSpaceName]
  (
    (<dimName> [defaultPartitionSize])*
  )
)
```

where:

- ♦ *RoutingSpaceName* specifies the name of the routing space. For HLA 1.3, the routing space name is required to get dimension handles. For HLA 1516, the routine space name is optional. The default is an internal routing space named *HlaGlobalSpace*.
- ♦ *SubspacePartition* is a keyword. Its components are:
 - *subspaceDimensionName*. Specifies the FOM dimension.
 - *partitionSize*. Specifies the number of partitions for the subspace axis.
 - *dimName*. Specifies one or more dimension names of the remaining axes.
 - *defaultPartitionSize*. Specifies the default partition size.
- ♦ Each index line specifies partitions for the application space, as follows:
 - *index*. Specifies an application space, beginning with 0. If an application space index is omitted, its axes are partitioned using the default partition size.
 - *descriptiveName*. Used for documentation only.
 - *dimName*. Specifies how the dimensions will be partitioned for each application space. If the dimension name is omitted, its axes are partitioned using the default value partition size.
- ♦ *;;* indicates a comment.

The following example fixed grid specification shows six application spaces in the subspace partition:

```
(RS1
  (SubspacePartition subspace 6 (one two) 1
    (
      (0 (level0 (one 1) (two 1)))
      (1 (level1 (one 2) (two 2)))
      (2 (level2 (one 4) (two 4)))
      (3 (level3 (one 8) (two 8)))
      (4 (level4 (one 16) (two 16)))
      (5 (level5 (one 32) (two 32)))
    )
  )
)
```

Fixed Grid Search Order

The fixed grid configuration file search order is as follows:

1. Try to load the grid file specified by *RTI_ddmFixedGridFilename* in the RID file.
2. Try to load *RTI_CONFIG/grid_file_name_from_RID_file*.
3. If the configuration file is not found, the RTI throws an exception.

12.1.4. Configuring Implicit DDM

Implicit DDM is explained in “[Implicit DDM](#),” on page 12-17. You can configure the Implicit DDM plug-in. Configuration options include the:

- ♦ Upper and lower bounds of the dimensions.
- ♦ Update region size.
- ♦ Update region margin.
- ♦ Sensor range, which determines the subscription region size.
- ♦ Weapon range, which determines the interaction region size.

The configuration file uses MÄK Technologies Lisp (MTL) format (as described in Appendix A, [RID File Parameters Reference](#)). The name of this file is specified by the RID file parameter `RTI_implicitDdmParamsFile`. The syntax for this parameter is:

```
(setqb RTI_implicitDdmParamsFile "fileName")
```

where *fileName* is a quoted string containing the name of the implicit DDM configuration file.

[Table 12-1](#) describes the parameters in the implicit DDM configuration file:

Table 12-1: Implicit DDM parameters

Parameter	Description
<code>RTI_implicitDdmDefaultUpdateRange</code>	Specifies the maximum range, in meters, that the object can travel between successive location updates. This value is not used when fixed grid DDM is enabled. The default update range is used when a range is not specified for the object class using <code>RTI-setObjectUpdateRange</code>. This value is not used when fixed grid DDM is enabled. Default: 0.0.
<code>RTI_implicitDdmDefaultSensorRange</code>	Specifies the maximum range, in meters, within which the object can sense another object. This value is added to the update range to determine the furthest point an object can sense another object between successive location updates. The default sensor range is used when a range is not specified for the object class using <code>RTI-setObjectSensorRange</code>. Default: 100.0.
<code>RTI_implicitDdmRegionMargin</code>	Specifies a factor that increases the update region range so that the region does not have to be modified each time the object updates its location. The update range is multiplied by this factor so that the region is not modified unless the resulting region extent does not encompass the object’s actual update range. This value is not used when fixed grid DDM is enabled. Default: 5.0.

Table 12-1: Implicit DDM parameters

Parameter	Description
RTI_implicitDdmMinExtentLimit	Specifies the range over which the location values are normalized. Defaults: -12000000.0 and 12000000.0.
RTI_implicitDdmMaxExtentLimit	
RTI_implicitDdmOriginLat	Specifies the relative center location used to normalize location values. Defaults: 0.0 and 0.0.
RTI_implicitDdmOriginLong	
RTI-setObjectUpdateRange	Specifies an update range for an object class. Multiple instances of this parameter are permitted.
RTI-setObjectSensorRange	Specifies a sensor range for an object class. Multiple instances of this parameter are permitted.
RTI-setObjectWeaponRange	Specifies a weapon range for an object class. Multiple instances of this parameter are permitted.

The following is an example of an implicit DDM configuration:

```
;; All distances in meters
(setqb RTI_implicitDdmDefaultUpdateRange 0.0)
(setqb RTI_implicitDdmDefaultSensorRange 2000.0)
(setqb RTI_implicitDdmMinExtentLimit -12000000.0)
(setqb RTI_implicitDdmMaxExtentLimit 12000000.0)
(setqb RTI_implicitDdmRegionMargin 6.0)

;; Latitude and Longitude in degrees
;;(setqb RTI_implicitDdmOriginLat 10.0)
;;(setqb RTI_implicitDdmOriginLong 60.0)

(RTI-setObjectUpdateRange "BaseEntity.PhysicalEntity.Platform.Aircraft"
 328.8)
(RTI-setObjectSensorRange "BaseEntity.PhysicalEntity.Platform.Aircraft"
 160000.0)
(RTI-setObjectWeaponRange "BaseEntity.PhysicalEntity.Platform.Aircraft"
 56000.0)
```

12.2. The Distributed Region Approach

In the MÄK RTI distributed region approach, each federate's LRC exchanges its region information with remote LRCs. The RTI must exchange information about update regions and subscription regions. Update regions are regions used for sending updates and interactions. Subscription regions are regions used in DDM subscriptions. The individual LRCs perform matching between the update and subscription regions. An LRC uses the region matches to establish communication channels between publishers and subscribers. Publishers then send data using the established communication channels. Only subscribers that are listening to those channels receive the data.

The MÄK RTI establishes best effort communication channels by mapping the update regions to multicast groups. These mappings are also distributed among the LRCs. When an LRC's subscription region matches an update region (that is, it overlaps and has common attributes), the LRC joins the update region's multicast group. The data is sent once to the multicast address and only subscribers that have joined that multicast group receive the data. In [Figure 12-1](#), each update region has its own multicast address and subscription regions join the multicast group of overlapping update regions.

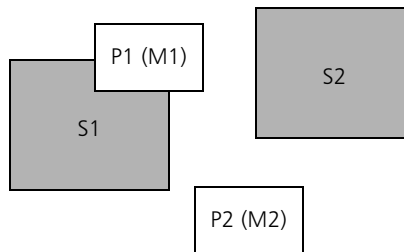


Figure 12-1. Distributed region using update regions

It is important to understand that multicast filtering is really just a very efficient receive side filtering. The actual bandwidth is not reduced. However, the processing at the receiver is greatly reduced as filtering occurs at the network layer rather than in the RTI layer. One caution with this approach is that the number of effective multicast groups is limited. Multicast groups will probably need to be shared among the communication channels. As a result, the RTI may receive messages that do not match the federate's subscriptions. The LRC handles these cases through an efficient channel identifier filter. Only messages with channel identifiers from matching update regions are processed.

The MÄK RTI also uses region matching information for reliable transmissions. Because both update and subscription region information is exchanged between the LRCs, an LRC can determine exactly which remote region subscriptions match its local update regions. The MÄK RTI uses this information to establish the destination mask used in sender-side filtering. The use of DDM matching to support smart forwarding results in true sender-side filtering. In fact, if no matching subscriptions are found on the sending side, the MÄK RTI can prevent updates from being sent for both reliable and best effort messages.

In Figure 12-2, P1 and P2 both have a subscription set of S1 and S2 while P3 has a subscription set of S1.

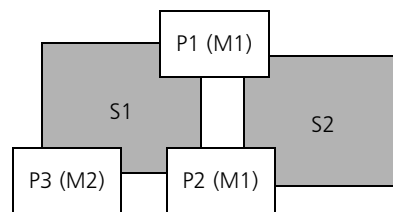


Figure 12-2. Distributed region using subscription regions

The advantage of distributed region matching is that the LRC can establish communication channels that carry relevant data only to receiving federates (in other words, perfect filtering). Additional unsubscribed attributes may be carried through the channel, but this multiple association problem exists in practically any approach, including the fixed grid approach. Also, the transmission of attributes and interactions is always sent only to a single channel (versus fixed grid where updates may have to be sent to multiple channels).

The disadvantage of distributed region matching is the considerable overhead of distributing the region information and performing matching between regions. With the distributed region approach, the overhead required to maintain regions becomes similar to object updates (with reliable attributes). A federation that naively uses regions and region updates can easily overwhelm any advantages of DDM implemented this way. Also, region matching scales poorly with the number of regions. Therefore, federates should limit the number of regions and the frequency that the regions are updated. An analysis of how using regions affects federation performance is provided in the paper SIW 99 1-054 “Characterizing Scenarios for DDM Performance and Benchmarking RTIs”.

A detailed description of the distributed region implementation for the MÄK RTI is provided in 02S-SIW-056 “Implementation of DDM in the MÄK RTI” which is available at http://www.mak.com/pdfs/wp_ddm.pdf.

12.2.1. Attribute Passelization

When a federate invokes an `updateAttributeValues` service, the LRC separates the submitted attributes into the designated region set channels formed from previous region associations. Therefore, the LRC may transmit more than one message for a given update even though all the attributes have the same transport type and order type. The LRC shares region sets across all object classes, but creates them separately for interaction classes. A federate should use separate regions when associating regions across multiple objects of different classes. Otherwise, the LRC will transmit the attributes from these objects using the same channel and filtering will be diminished.

12.3. The Fixed Grid Approach

A fixed grid approach to DDM allows the RTI to approximate the routing that would occur through update and subscription region overlap calculations, without having to exchange region information between LRCs. The fixed grid approach relies on an a priori configuration of multicast addresses into a fixed grid. Each axis of the fixed grid is associated with a FOM dimension. Each cell of the fixed grid is assigned a multicast address. The fixed grid takes the place of the opposing region in the DDM region overlap calculations. The federate regions are overlapped with the fixed grid and the overlapped grid cells establish the multicast addresses used for message routing. For subscription regions, the LRC joins each multicast address that is found in overlapped grid cells. For update regions, messages are sent using the multicast addresses found in overlapped grid cells.



The fixed grid approach is not fully compliant with either HLA 1.3 or HLA 1516. It relaxes some requirements and imposes some restrictions. (For details, please see “[The Fixed Grid Approach and DDM Services](#),” on page 12-15.)

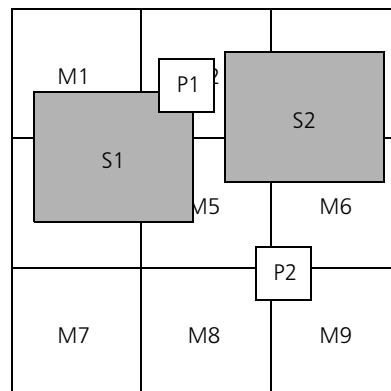


Figure 12-3. Fixed grid approach with overlaid regions

The MÄK RTI fixed grid approach is modeled after application space partitioning (introduced by Coffin, et. al. and Helfinstine, et. al.^{1, 2}). A few generic dimensions are defined, with one “subspace” dimension used to partition the others into application spaces. The remaining dimensions can then be interpreted and partitioned to meet the specific application requirements.

The same fixed grid approach is used for both the HLA 1.3 and 1516 APIs. The application space partitioning is less useful for DDM in HLA 1516, because each attribute is associated with individual dimensions rather than routing spaces. In HLA 1.3, a region contains all the dimensions in a routing space, while in HLA 1516 a region can be comprised of exactly the dimensions needed (that is, a subset of the available dimensions). Using the same implementation makes it possible for federates that use the different APIs to interoperate.

-
1. Experimentation with DDM schemes, D. Coffin, M. Calef, D. Macanucco, and W. Civinskas, Spring 1999 Simulation Interoperability Workshop, 99S-SIW-053.
 2. Experiences with Data Distribution Management in Large-Scale Federations, B. Helfinstine, D. Wilbert, M. Torpey, and W. Civinskas, Fall 2001 Simulation Interoperability Workshop, 01F-SIW-032.

12.3.1. The Fixed Grid Representation

The fixed grid is defined by a set of n axes that form grid cells when they are partitioned. One specific axis can be defined as a subspace axis. The partitioning of a subspace axis creates application spaces. For each application space, the partitioning of the remaining $n-1$ axes is separately defined. If no subspace axis is specified, there is one specification for the partitioning of the n axes.

Each cell of the fixed grid is assigned a multicast address. The assignment of multicast addresses starts with a base address. The addresses are assigned sequentially through a “depth first” recursion. With no subspace axis, this amounts to assigning the addresses uniformly across the dimensions. The assignment is similar with a subspace axis, but each subspace results in a distribution of addresses for the remaining dimensions based on the subspace partitioning.

Figure 12-4 illustrates a fixed grid partitioning and multicast address assignment. The figure shows a subspace axis partitioned into six application spaces. Each application space has a single axis. In the 0th application space partition the axis has one partition, in the 1st application space it has two partitions, in the 2nd application space it has four partitions, and so on.

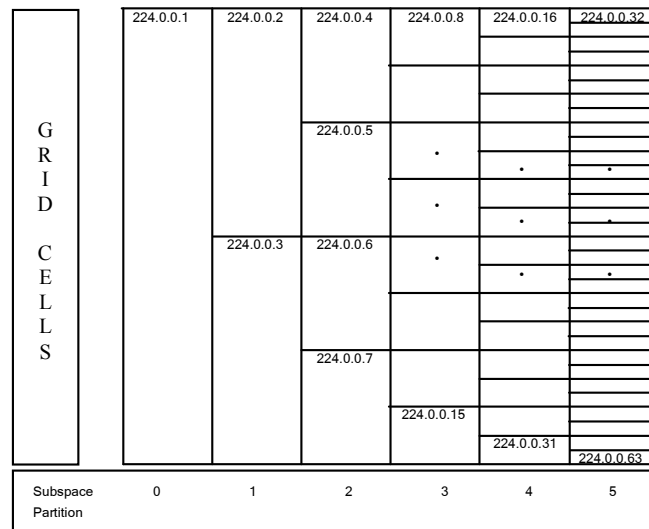


Figure 12-4. Fixed grid partitions and multicast assignment

For details about configuring the fixed grid approach, please see “[Configuring a Fixed Grid DDM](#),” on page 12-3.

12.3.2. Federate Region Intersections with the Fixed Grid

A federate region intersection with the fixed grid maps each dimension range onto the associated fixed grid axes. The result of this mapping is a beginning and an ending index along each of the fixed grid axes. These indices specify the overlapped grid cells that contain the multicast addresses. The set of multicast addresses are then used for sending updates and interactions or subscribing to object class attributes or interaction classes.

Each fixed grid axis has an upper and lower bound. The lower bound is always 0. For HLA 1.3, the upper bound is the maximum value of an unsigned long integer (that is, 4,294,967,295 or ((unsigned long)-0)). For HLA 1516, the associated FOM dimension defines the upper bound. The width of a grid cell along an axis is determined by dividing the axis upper bound by the number of partitions. For an axis with n partitions the width is calculated as:

$$W = \text{upperBound}/n$$

The mapping of a region's upper or lower range bound value, V , to an index along a fixed grid axis is calculated as:

$$I = \text{floor}(V / W)$$

For example, assume the following configuration with an upper bound of 400 for all dimensions:

```
(RS1
  (SubspacePartition subspace 6 (one two) 1
    (
      (0 (level0 (one 1) (two 1)))
      (1 (level1 (one 2) (two 2)))
      (2 (level2 (one 4) (two 4)))
      (3 (level3 (one 8) (two 8)))
      (4 (level4 (one 16) (two 16)))
      (5 (level5 (one 32) (two 32)))
    )
  )
)
```

The fixed grid with the same partitioning as [Figure 12-4](#) would have grid cell boundaries as illustrated in [Figure 12-5](#). A federate region has a lower and an upper bound for each dimension in the region. Using the index formula, the lower bound is mapped to a beginning index and the upper bound is mapped to an ending index. The dimension specified as the subspace dimension is mapped first. The range for the subspace is assumed to be a point range (only the lower bound used), because a single subspace must be selected.

Given that the subspace dimension has 6 partitions, a range bound value from 0 through 66 would result an index of 0, from 67 through 133 would result in an index of 1, and so on. For the last partition, the maximum upper bound would be mapped down into the maximum index, so a value of 400 would result in an index of 5 versus 6. For the other dimensions, the index would depend on which subspace index was specified. For subspace 0, any value would result in an index of 0. For a subspace of 1, values 0 through 199 would result in an index of 0, and values of 200 through 400 would result in an index of 1. The indices for the other subspace partitions are calculated similarly.

GRID CELLS	399				375	388	
				350	374		
				349			
			300				
			299	.	.	.	
				.	.	.	
				.	.	.	
		200					
		199		.	.	.	
					.	.	.
			100				
			99				
				50			
	49		25	13			
		24					
0							
Subspace Partition							

Figure 12-5. Grid Cell Partition Boundaries

12.3.3. Normalization of Federate Data for Range Bounds

Similar to the mapping of the region's range bounds onto the fixed grid axes, federate data must be mapped or normalized into the region range bounds. Mappings that work well with the fixed grid approach are “enumerated” (for example, vehicle type) and “linear” (for example, location).

For an enumerated mapping, the magnitude of a dimension's full extent is partitioned by the number of enumerations. The range bound is then set as a point value in the midpoint of the partition. An obvious configuration for a dimension with an enumerated mapping would be to match the fixed grid partitions on that axis with the number of enumerations. Then each value of the enumeration would specify a separate multi-cast address.

The formula¹ for an enumerated mapping is calculated as follows:

1. Determine a scale between the dimension extent and the enumeration:

```
double scale = dimensionUpperBound / double(maxEnum - minEnum + 1)
```
2. Move the rangeBound into the center of the partition by adding $scale/2$:

```
double rangeBound = (scale * (value - minEnum)) + scale / 2
```
3. Truncate the final value to the nearest integer:

```
unsigned long result = rangeBound
```

For a linear mapping, the magnitude of the dimension's full extent is scaled by the linear extent. A typical linear mapping for a coordinate system would first define the bounds of the coordinate values (for example, minimum and maximum longitude and latitude). The partition of the fixed grid axes could then represent the resolution of filtering (that is, more partitions would allow finer-grained location filtering).

The formula for a linear mapping is similar to that for an enumerated mapping, but without the adjustment to the center of the partition. It is calculated as follows:

1. Determine a scale between the dimension's extent and the linear bounds:

```
double scale = dimensionUpperBound / double(max - min)
```



```
double rangeBound = scale * (value - min)
```
2. Truncate the final value to the nearest integer:

```
unsigned long result = rangeBound
```

1. Based on formulas used by MC02.

12.3.4. The Fixed Grid Approach and DDM Services

The fixed grid approach is not fully compliant with any of the HLA specifications. It relaxes some requirements and imposes some restrictions. This section lists each of the DDM services and related object management services with a description of how the MÄK RTI fixed grid DDM implementation behaves and how the services may differ from strict HLA requirements.



In the following sections, all comments regarding HLA 1516 also apply to HLA Evolved.

Create Region

A fixed grid region is initialized with the exact dimensions that are used to configure the fixed grid. As a result, any additional dimensions are ignored (even in HLA 1.3 when they belong to the same routing space). Since the region is initialized with the fixed set of dimensions, any of these dimensions not specified when creating the region are automatically added. The initial values for the range bounds are the default range bounds. In HLA 1.3, the default range bounds are 0 to 4,294,967,295. In HLA 1516, the default range bounds are set by the FOM. If the FOM omits the default range bounds or the default range bounds are excluded, the default range bounds are 0 to 1.

Modify Region / Commit Region Modifications

A region can be committed without setting all of its range bounds. Any range bound that has not been set assumes the dimension's default range. In HLA 1516, you cannot exclude fixed grid dimensions. Excluded dimensions take on the default range bound values of 0 to 1.

Delete Region

This service behaves as expected. A region in use cannot be deleted.

Register Object Instance With Region

For a given object instance, all of its attribute instances must use one, and only one, region. The RTI uses the first region and ignores any others. Registering an object with region for any attribute results in all attributes being associated with that region.

Associate Object Instance With Region

All object attribute instances must use one, and only one, region. The RTI uses the first region and ignores any others. Associating an object with region for any attribute results in all attributes being associated with that region. Subsequent associations must be with that same region and thus are redundant, including a region used to register the object.

Unassociate Object Instance With Region

All attribute instances of the object become unassociated with region when any one or more attributes are unassociated.

Subscribe Object Class Attributes With Region

Multiple regions can be used for object class attribute subscriptions, including successive subscriptions. However, the object class attribute subscriptions are additive across all regions. In essence, an additive declaration management subscription occurs along with the subscription to the regions' multicast addresses. The result is that all subscribed attributes that match an update are reflected regardless of which region's multicast subscription transported them.

Unsubscribe Object Class Attributes With Region

All attributes of a class are unsubscribed from the region. When no regions are subscribed to the object class attributes, the object class is unsubscribed. Any declaration management subscriptions to the class are also unsubscribed. Further, a declaration management unsubscription results in those attributes no longer being included in reflects (even though the messages are received by the LRC).

Subscribe Interaction Class With Regions

An interaction subscription with region behaves as expected.

Unsubscribe Interaction Class With Regions

The region is unsubscribed from the interaction class. When no regions are subscribed with the interaction class, the interaction becomes unsubscribed. Any declaration management subscription is also unsubscribed. Further, a declaration management unsubscription results in the interaction no longer being received (even though the messages are received by the LRC).

Send Interaction With Regions

When sending interactions with regions, only point regions are supported. The RTI only uses the lower bound.

Request Attribute Value Update With Regions

A request with region is sent to each of the region's multicast addresses.

Update Attribute Values

When sending attribute updates that have been associated with regions, only point regions are supported. The RTI only uses the lower bound.

Miscellaneous

In HLA 1.3, the region's first extent is used and any additional extents are ignored. In HLA 1516, a region only has one extent.

The fixed grid approach disables all advisories. No subscription or publication information is exchanged between federate LRCs.

12.4. Implicit DDM

Implicit DDM provides the advantages of DDM filtering without a federate using the DDM services. Implicit DDM uses a MÄK RTI plug-in that substitutes non-DDM method calls from a federate with DDM method calls. The DDM calls create regions and modify region extents using a configurable set of criteria, based on geographic data as specified by the RPR FOM.

The Implicit DDM plug-in provides geographic range-based filtering. It allows you to specify three ranges: an update range, a sensor range, and a weapon range, for any RPR FOM BaseEntity object, but primarily for PhysicalEntity::Platform objects. The update range is the distance an entity can move in one update interval. The sensor range is the range in which an entity can sense other vehicles. The weapon range is the range in which an entity can engage another entity. It allows different BaseEntity subclasses to be configured with different ranges to reflect the different capabilities of the platform. For example, the sensor range of an aircraft can be set to a different value than that of submersible vessels.

The effect of the Implicit DDM plug-in is that as the federate executes, it will only receive updates and interactions from entities that are within range of the federate's entities. Based on implicitly created and modified DDM regions, entities are within range when the update range or weapon range of discovered entities overlaps the sensor range of the federate's registered entities.

The plug-in works with either the MÄK RTI's distributed region approach (described in [“The Distributed Region Approach,”](#) on page 12-7) or its fixed grid approach (described in [“The Fixed Grid Approach,”](#) on page 12-9.) At runtime the plug-in determines what type of approach is in use based on RID file parameters and adjusts its behavior so you can use the same plug-in DLL (or .so) regardless of the underlying DDM approach.

The following sections describe how implicit DDM is implemented and how to configure the RTI to use it.

12.4.1. Implicit DDM Implementation

The Implicit DDM plug-in uses the RTIspy API. (For details about the RTIspy API, please see the online API documentation.) The plug-in changes the way objects are registered, published, subscribed, and updated, and introduces changes when the federation joins (for example, modifying the RTI's internal FED routing space).



Almost all of the the plug-in's work is performed above the actual RTI Ambassador implementation, with perhaps some alterations to other classes employed by the RTI Ambassador such as the FOM Manager (*DtFomClassManager*). It was not necessary to change the Federate Ambassador to implement the implicit DDM approach.

Since the plug-in must intercept and decode attribute value updates and interactions, it needs some knowledge of the underlying federation object model. The Implicit DDM plug-in was designed to be compatible with HLA RPR FOM 1.0 and HLA RPR FOM 2.0 Draft 17 or their derivatives. All references to actual classes, attributes, interactions, and parameters will use RPR FOM 1.0 nomenclature.

12.4.2. Adding Implicit DDM to the FED or FDD

During the join process, the Implicit DDM plug-in creates its own routing space with its own dimensions representing geocentric coordinates. In HLA 1.3, the plug-in adds a routing space named “ImplicitDdmSpace” to the RTI's internal FED. In the 1516 specifications, just the dimensions are added to the RTI's internal FDD. The added dimensions are called HLA_X, HLA_Y, and HLA_Z and correspond to the geocentric coordinates X, Y, and Z. The routing space and dimensions are associated with the attributes of certain classes of objects (*BaseEntity*) and to certain interactions associated with those objects (*WeaponFire* and *MunitionDetonation*).

The implicit DDM routing space is automatically added to the RTI's internal FED and it should not be declared in the actual FED file.

The 1516 implementations of the Implicit DDM plug-in add the implicit DDM dimensions to the MÄK RTI's 1516 global routing space.

Normalization and Initial Bounds

By default the implicit DDM dimensions are centered on the geocentric origin (0,0,0). This can be changed to any point on the Earth's surface by specifying the latitude and longitude of the origin in the implicit DDM configuration file.

The default implicit DDM routing space defines the limits of each dimension to be:

- ♦ min — -12000000.0 m.
- ♦ max — 12000000.0 m.

The approximate radius of the Earth is 6000 km. Therefore, the default space subtends a cube roughly twice the diameter of the Earth on all sides. The minimum and maximum extent limits are configurable.

All the dimensions are normalized to take values between 1 and MAX_INT-1 (for 1516 the normalized boundaries are from 2 to MAX_INT-2). This range allows for point regions to be created at {0,0,0} and {MAX_INT,MAX_INT,MAX_INT} which an object can never occupy.

Because the DDM is implicit, no region information is associated with an object instance when it is registered. So until the first location attribute for the new object instance is decoded by the plug-in, it cannot set the region bounds based on the actual coordinates of the object instance. Instead, the plug-in creates initialization regions and sets the initial bounds to one of the two inaccessible points. This ensures that when a new object instance is created, its update regions will not inadvertently overlap with any remote federate's subscription region and trigger erroneous detection by remote federates. Similarly, the federate's subscription region will not inadvertently overlap with remote federate update regions.

12.4.3. Implicitly Associating DDM Regions

The Implicit DDM plug-in keeps track of each instance of certain object classes. It maintains a list of handles for all the object instances of type BaseEntity that are registered by the federate. For each such instance it creates two regions: an update region (the update range) similar to that used in normal DDM processing, and an interaction region (the weapon range). The plug-in also creates a single subscription region (the sensor range) used by all objects. For each registered object it adds a subscription extent.



HLA 1516 APIs do not support subscription regions with multiple extents. However it was necessary for the plug-in to be able to create and modify an arbitrary number of extents within each object's subscription region. Consequently, in certain circumstances, the range-based Implicit DDM plug-in bypasses the HLA 1516 API calls to directly access the underlying classes.

The plug-in then intercepts the attribute updates and interactions from each instance of the desired classes and extracts location information. Before it allows the attribute updates or interactions to be processed further, the plug-in uses the location information to modify the extents of the regions it has created and to make the necessary DDM calls to distribute the region modifications. If necessary, a DDM call is substituted for the normal DM call (for example, `sendInteractionWithRegion`). No additional changes are necessary, because the normal underlying DDM processing uses the implicit DDM region information as if the federate had made the DDM calls directly.

12.4.4. Modifying Region Extents

Region extents are modified slightly differently depending on the DDM approach that is being used by the RTI.

Modifying Distributed Region Extents

The three regions used for implicit DDM are updated based on the changes to the locations of the federate's objects. Each object has an update region and a weapon region. A single subscription region is maintained for the federate, but the region has an extent for each registered object. The update and weapon region as well as the subscription extent are checked whenever the corresponding object's location changes. The implicit DDM uses ranges and margins that can reduce the actual changes significantly, which is important with distributed regions. (For details, please see [“Configuring Implicit DDM,”](#) on page 12-5.)

When using the distributed region approach the update region reflects the furthest distance the object instance could move during a single update interval (the update range). The region has a single extent which surrounds the object. The range of the extent can be configured based on the class used to register the object instance. It assumes that the object can change direction instantaneously, including 180° reversals. In other words the object's current orientation and velocity (momentum) are ignored in calculating the object's range. This simplifies the determination of region boundaries when processing location updates.

The object's weapon region reflects the range at which an object can interact with another (that is, sending a weapon fire or detonation interaction). Its range is an extension of the update range.

The subscription extent reflects the furthest range at which an object can detect another object (the sensor range). The sensor range is also an extension of the object's update range.

The Implicit DDM plug-in allows all range values to be configured on a class-by-class basis, so update region, interaction region, and subscription region sizes can be tailored to the type of object (vehicle, aircraft, surface vessel, and so on).

When any BaseEntity-class object performs an attribute value update, the plug-in decodes the WorldLocation attribute if it is included in the update and compares it against the three regions' extents, updating any of them if necessary. The region modifications are initiated before the attribute value updates are processed further. Aside from initiating the region modifications, the plug-in does no further special processing on the attribute value updates. The RTI's DDM processing checks for overlaps with other known objects' regions and establishes the communications channels.

To minimize the number of region modifications that must be performed, the plug-in can expand the boundaries of the regions by a factor that you can configure. This is particularly beneficial when using distributed regions in which each region modification results in one or more messages being sent over the network to be processed by all federates. This is less important when fixed grid DDM is used, because region modifications do not prompt additional network traffic or require processing at the remote federates.

When a federate sends an interaction using `sendInteraction()`, the plug-in decodes the `FiringObjectIdentifier` parameter and looks in a map of object instance names to determine if the interaction was sent by a BaseEntity object which has an interaction region associated with it. If an interaction region can be associated with the interaction, the plug-in simply substitutes the `sendInteractionWithRegion()` call to the RTI for further processing.

i

If you use reliable internal messaging, it is strongly recommended that you enable the `RTI_dualTransmitFirstInteractionRegions` RID file parameter to compensate for a potential race condition between the region modification messages and the interaction message.

12.4.5. Modifying Fixed Grid Region Extents

When fixed grid DDM is enabled, the update and interaction regions become point regions rather than volumes. The update range and weapon range do not affect the region scope. Instead, when the federate updates an object's location attribute the update region's extent is set to the single point specified by the location. No change is made to the interaction region. This single point is enough for the underlying fixed grid implementation to establish a communication channel.

The interaction region is also handled differently in that the region is based on the location of the interaction, rather than the location of the object that initiated the interaction. The plug-in decodes the `FiringLocation` parameter (for `WeaponFire` interactions) or `DetonationLocation` parameter (for `MunitionDetonation` interactions), and the `FiringObjectIdentifier` parameter from the interaction message data. It looks in the map of the registered object instance to retrieve the interaction region for the object that sent the interaction. It then modifies that interaction region to reflect the interaction location. Again, this single point is sufficient for the fixed grid implementation to establish a communication channel.

The subscription region is also modified when the federate updates the location of one of its objects. The object's subscription region extent represents a volume determined by the corresponding object's location extended in all dimensions by the sensor range. The subscription region volume results in the local RTI listening to the communication channels where the sensor range overlaps the update or weapon range.

Fixed Grid DDM does not exchange region modification messages, so additional bandwidth savings can be realized.



The bandwidth savings will be offset somewhat by the fact that the smart forwarding feature is incompatible with fixed grid DDM, so all updates and interactions will transit the network even when there are no subscribers joined to the same multicast group.



13. Running the MÄK RTI Using Shared Memory

This chapter explains how to configure, run, and tune the use of shared memory.



HLA Evolved does not support use of shared memory.

Introduction	13-2
Configuring Use of Shared Memory	13-2
Enabling Shared Memory Mode.....	13-3
Specifying the Name of the Shared Memory Region.....	13-4
Specifying the Shared Memory Queue Length.....	13-4
Specifying the Shared Memory Manager Maximum Wait Interval.....	13-5
Message Queue Limits.....	13-5
Starting the Shared Memory Manager.....	13-5
Shared Memory Queue Manager Command-Line Options	13-6
Terminating the Shared Memory Manager.....	13-8
Abnormal Termination of the Shared Memory Manager	13-9
Tuning Shared Memory	13-9
Calculating the Queue Length.....	13-9
The RTI tick() Member Function	13-11
The Shared Memory Manager.....	13-12

13.1. Introduction

The MÄK RTI allows co-located federates (federates running on the same CPU or multi-processor machine) and an rtiexec process to communicate with each other using a message queue that is implemented using shared memory. This chapter describes how to configure and use this feature.



HLA Evolved does not support use of shared memory.

13.2. Configuring Use of Shared Memory

To configure the use of shared memory, edit the following configuration parameters in *rid.mtl*:

- ♦ **RTI_sharedMemoryMode**. Enables or disables use of shared memory.
- ♦ **RTI_sharedMemoryName**. Specifies a name for the shared memory region.
- ♦ **RTI_sharedMemoryQueueLength**. Specifies the length of the shared memory queue.
- ♦ **RTI_sharedMemoryMgrMaxWait**. Specifies how long the shared memory manager waits for incoming messages before it polls the network.

Each co-located federate or rtiexec in a federation using shared memory must set the shared memory RID parameters to the same values.



For simplicity, it is assumed that all co-located federates belong to the same federation. It is possible to support multiple distinct federations either on a single shared memory message queue or on their own distinct shared memory message queues.

13.2.1. Enabling Shared Memory Mode

To enable or disable shared memory mode, edit the `RTI_sharedMemoryMode` parameter. The possible values are:

- ♦ 0 — disable shared memory mode. The RTI communicates using the default TCP or UDP sockets.
- ♦ 1 — enable shared memory communication only. All federates and the `rtiexec` (if used) must be co-located on the same host.
- ♦ 2 — enable shared memory communication with messages relayed to the network. All co-located federates communicate using shared memory. Messages are relayed between shared memory and the network to other remote federates or RTI components. This mode should only be used if there are RTI components executing on remote hosts. Otherwise, the shared memory manager will waste processing time sending messages on the network for no purpose.

When the shared memory feature is enabled, a Shared Memory Queue Manager process is required. It creates the shared memory region, sets up and manages the message queue within that shared memory region, and relays messages between shared memory and the network. You can start the Shared Memory Queue Manager manually or automatically. For details, please see [“Starting the Shared Memory Manager,”](#) on page 13-5.

13.2.2. Specifying the Name of the Shared Memory Region

You must specify a name for the shared memory region. To specify a name, edit the `RTI_sharedMemoryName` parameter. The name can have a maximum of 32 characters, with no spaces allowed.

The shared memory name uniquely identifies the shared memory region allocated by the operating system. The operating system creates a special file using the shared memory name specified as the filename. On Windows this file is in `.lib`. On UNIX this file is in `/tmp`, with `.shared` appended to the filename. Make sure the user process that the federate application runs under has sufficient privileges to create this file in the appropriate location.

On Windows, the Shared Memory Manager process also creates a special lock file. This lock file only exists while a Shared Memory Manager process is running. It prevents a second manager process from running. The lock file is in the same location as the shared memory file. Its filename is the same as the shared memory file with `_mgr` appended to the end. The file's hidden attribute is set.

All federates that attach to the same shared memory region have read access to all messages in the message queue within that region. As a result, they must process each of those messages to some extent. Therefore, it is advisable to create a different shared memory region for each federation when there is more than one federation running on the same machine. However, if a single `rtiexec` is to be used by all the federations and that `rtiexec` is connected to shared memory on the same host, then you must use a single shared memory region.

13.2.3. Specifying the Shared Memory Queue Length

To specify the shared memory queue length, edit the `RTI_sharedMemoryQueueLength` parameter. The shared memory queue length specifies the number of message queue segments (called buckets) that are generated in the circular queue structure used by the MÄK RTI shared memory subsystem. Each bucket consists of a 20 byte header and a 200 byte payload. The shared memory subsystem automatically fragments and re-assembles messages larger than 200 bytes. There is also a queue header structure in shared memory that occupies a little over 1.3 KB.

On Windows, there is no fixed maximum size for the shared memory region, other than that which the operating system can allocate within memory at the time the shared memory region is created. On UNIX, the maximum size of the shared memory region is governed by the value of the kernel parameter `SHMMAX`. Typically this is 32 MB for 32-bit Linux kernels (versions 2.4 and 2.6), but may be tuned within the distribution you are using (check `/proc/sys/kernel/shmmax` for the maximum segment size of your kernel). For more information, please see [“Calculating the Queue Length,”](#) on page 13-9.

13.2.4. Specifying the Shared Memory Manager Maximum Wait Interval

The shared memory manager maximum wait interval controls how long the Shared Memory Queue Manager process waits for messages to arrive in the message queue before it polls the network interface for incoming messages. To specify the wait interval, edit the `RTI_sharedMemoryMgrMaxWait` parameter. Since the network interface is only enabled in shared memory mode 2, this value has no effect in mode 1. For details, please see “[Calculating the Queue Length](#),” on page 13-9.

13.2.5. Message Queue Limits

The maximum number of concurrent attachments to a single shared memory message queue is 16,384. The Shared Memory Queue Manager counts as an attachment, as does the `rtiexec` process.

13.3. Starting the Shared Memory Manager

A separate shared memory manager process is needed to create and initialize the shared memory region before federates can attach to the message queue created in shared memory. By default, the `rtiexec` or a federate’s LRC automatically starts the shared memory manager process. The shared memory manager should exist for the lifetime of its shared memory region.



Each distinct shared memory region must have its own shared memory manager.

You can start the shared memory manager manually prior to starting the `rtiexec` or any federates. The shared memory manager application is in `./bin`. The executable is named `rtiShmQMgr` (for HLA 1.3) or `rtiShmQMgr1516`. The shared memory manager process must have access to a RID file with the same parameters used by the `rtiexec` or federates.



The shared memory manager does not support the connection configuration feature used by federates and the `rtiexec`. When you run the shared memory manager, it must be configured to listen to the port and address being used by the federation execution you want to join.

On Windows, the shared memory manager runs in a separate console window.

On Linux, if the shared memory manager is started automatically, it runs as a foreground task attached to the terminal owned by the LRC that launched it. This possible sharing of the console terminal can cause difficulties for some federates. For example, the rtiexec running in console mode would lose its console input to the shared memory manager process. Therefore, on Linux we recommend that you start the shared memory manager manually from a separate terminal session before you start your federate (or the rtiexec).



You must restart the shared memory manager process when you change RID parameters.

13.3.1. Shared Memory Queue Manager Command-Line Options

If you start the shared memory manager from the command line, the syntax is as follows:

```
{rtiShmQMgr | rtiShmQMgr1516} options
```

Table 13-1 describes the command-line options.

Table 13-1: Shared memory manager command-line options

Option	Description
(-A --destAddrString) address	Overrides the IP address (configured by RTI_destAddrString) to which best-effort federation execution traffic is sent.
(-D --Daemon)	Run ShmExec in the background. (Linux only)
(-h --help)	Displays a syntax help screen.
(-k --ruthLess)	Specifies ruthless takeover. This option forces the Shared Memory Queue Manager process being launched to take over the shared memory queue named in the RID file and reinitialize the queue regardless of whether or not another active Shared Memory Queue Manager process exists or other processes are attached to and using the shared memory region. This can cause unexpected behavior among other processes subscribed to the shared memory queue at the time. It will not terminate any other processes, although that may be a side-effect. It should only be used in situations where attempting a graceful takeover has failed.
(-K --AutoExit)	Run ShmExec and automatically exit after the last subscriber disconnects.
(-l --setLogFileName) logfile	Enables logging to the specified file.

Table 13-1: Shared memory manager command-line options

Option	Description
(-n --notifyLevel) <i>level</i>	Overrides the notification level configured in the RID file. <i>level</i> can be: 0 — Fatal 1 — Warn (default) 2 — Notify 3 — Verbose 4 — Debug.
(-P --setUdpPort) <i>port</i>	Overrides the value specified by <code>RTI_udpPort</code> . This port is used to exchange UDP messages between federates, the <code>rtiexec</code> , and RTI Forwarders, if applicable.
(-q --setNotifyQuiet)	Sets the notification level to Fatal (0).
(-R --setRidFileName) <i>ridfile</i>	Specifies the name of the RID file to use.
(-t --graceful)	Specifies graceful takeover. This option forces the Shared Memory Queue Manager process being launched to try to take over the shared memory queue named in the RID parameters, even if the queue was created by another Shared Memory Queue Manager process. This option is useful if the Shared Memory Queue Manager process that created the queue terminates abnormally or becomes unresponsive. This can cause unexpected behavior among other processes subscribed to the shared memory queue at the time.
(-T --setTcpPort) <i>port</i>	Overrides the value specified by <code>RTI_tcpPort</code> . This port is used to establish a TCP connection with the RTI Forwarder to exchange TCP messages among federates, the <code>rtiexec</code> , and the RTI Forwarders.
(-v --version)	Displays version information and exits.
(-- --ignore_rest)	Ignore the command-line options that follow this option.

13.4. Terminating the Shared Memory Manager

The Shared Memory Queue Manager process shuts down automatically when all other processes have successfully detached from shared memory. There is a 30 second delay between the last federate detaching and the shared memory manager exiting. If a new federate attaches to shared memory during this interval the shared memory manager continues to operate without interruption.

It is possible that an abnormally terminating federate may not successfully detach from shared memory. When the other federates have detached from shared memory, the Shared Memory Queue Manager may still act as if the crashed federate is connected. In this case, you may need to shut down the shared memory manager manually.

- To shut down the shared memory manager manually, in the console window enter:

`q`

If there are still federates attached to shared memory a warning prompt will be displayed and the shared memory manager will enter a pending state.

- To override the warning and continue with the shut down, enter `q` again.



Ignoring the warning about attached federates will result in unexpected behavior for any federates that are still attached and the loss of communication to federates on remote hosts.

13.4.1. Abnormal Termination of the Shared Memory Manager

If the shared memory manager process terminates abnormally it may affect the operation of all federates attached to shared memory. In this case, it is recommended that you stop all co-located federates and the rtiexec (if it also co-located). Depending upon how the shared memory manager process terminated, the shared memory region may not get properly de-allocated. In these situations any attempt to start a new shared memory manager for that named shared memory region may fail and report error messages stating that a shared memory manager is already running. This error may occur despite the fact that a shared memory manager does not show up in the process (or task) list. The cause is most likely that a shared memory manager lock file has been left behind. You can delete the file manually, or you can take over the shared memory region with a new shared memory manager.

You can take over a shared memory region with a new shared memory manager process by launching the new process with the `-t` command-line option, for example:

```
rtiShmMgr -t
```



A shared memory manager initializes the internal shared memory structures. Therefore, attempting to take over an existing shared memory region that has federates attached can result in unexpected behavior in the federates' execution.

13.5. Tuning Shared Memory

This section discusses ways to improve performance when you are using shared memory.

13.5.1. Calculating the Queue Length

The value of the `RTI_sharedMemoryQueueLength` parameter depends on the following factors:

- ♦ The amount of available memory.
- ♦ The number of federates.
- ♦ The average rate at which federates generate messages.
- ♦ The rate at which the slowest federate processes messages.

The RTI 1.3 and RTI 1516 specifications process messages in slightly different ways. In RTI 1.3, a federate processes messages by calling the `tick()` or `tick(min,max)` member functions. In RTI 1516, a federate processes messages by calling `evokeCallback()` or `evokeMultipleCallbacks()`. In this section, both methods are referred to by the term `tick`.

Available Memory and Number of Federates

The more memory available in the machine, the more that can be dedicated to shared memory. The more federates simultaneously attached to the message queue in shared memory, the larger the queue needed to support them.

Message Generation Rate

The rate at which the federates generate and process messages affects performance. The message queue employed within shared memory operates as a reliable broadcast, meaning every message is delivered to every federate attached to shared memory. Consequently, messages are retained in the shared memory queue until they have been read by every federate attached to shared memory. A disparity between a fast producer and a slow consumer can fill up the shared memory queue. To compensate for this case, the shared memory subsystem buffers new messages in main memory. Buffering messages prevents fast producers from blocking when the shared memory queue is full. However, buffering degrades performance and can use up all of the main memory.

MÄK recommends that you use the following formulas to calculate queue length:

```
Capacity = (average_updates_per_second_per_federate) *  
            (number_of_federates) / (slowest_tick_rate)  
Queue Length = Capacity * ceil(average_msg_length /  
                                bucket_payload_size)
```

where:

- `average_updates_per_second_per_federate` is the rate at which most federates generate messages (assumed to be updates).
- The `slowest_tick_rate` is the rate at which the slowest federate ticks its RTI, assuming all messages in shared memory are processed in one tick (that is, `RTI_singleCallbackPerTick = 0`).

For example, consider a scenario in which there are 1000 co-located federates (ignoring the `rtiexec` and Shared Memory Queue Manager for now). Federates #1 – #999 each generate 10 updates per second, or one update every 100 msec. Federate #1000 only ticks its RTI every 50 msec. The average update rate is 10 updates/sec and the slowest tick rate is 20 ticks/sec. This yields a required message capacity of 500 messages. Put another way, on average federates #1 – #999 generate 500 messages between them in the 50 msec between federate #1000's last tick. Since the average update message is 240 bytes long and bucket payloads are fixed at 200 bytes (this is not configurable), this equates to a required queue length of 1,000 buckets. This will occupy about 220 KB of RAM.

If some federates generate a lot of messages, while other federates read messages infrequently (that is, they do not tick their RTI often), the queue can fill up, preventing new messages from being queued. The shared memory subsystem can deal with this to prevent blocking. However, if the disparity between the message generation rate and the slowest federate's tick rate is too great, a serious bottleneck can occur.

A more serious issue arises if a federate has become totally unresponsive (hung or crashed) while subscribed to the shared memory queue. Since these federates are no longer reading messages, the queue will eventually fill up. To avoid permanently blocking new messages, the shared memory subsystem detects unresponsive federates and unsubscribes them from the queue if they have been inactive for one second or more. Once unsubscribed, these unresponsive federates cause an exception to be generated the next time they try to access the message queue in shared memory (if they start processing again). There is no way to allow these federates to resubscribe. Therefore, when you are debugging federates that employ shared memory you must remember that when execution of the federate process is intentionally halted, for example, when a breakpoint is hit, the other federate processes still running may unsubscribe the halted federate.

While it is tempting to simply set the queue size to the maximum allowed by your platform, remember that any memory not allocated to a shared memory region is available for other uses which may improve the overall performance of your federate application.

13.5.2. The RTI tick() Member Function

The way in which a federate ticks the RTI can affect performance. For instance, it is strongly recommended that `RTI_singleCallbackPerTick` be set to 0 when using shared memory, because each federate should try to read all unread messages in shared memory to keep up with the rate at which they are generated and avoid the bottleneck mentioned in the previous section.

Also, when multiple federates share CPU time, as they do when you use shared memory, you must be sure each federate process is given its share of CPU time. If the federate application does not yield the CPU occasionally, it is advisable to use the RTI's `tick(min,max)` member function to allow other federates to run once the RTI has processed all available messages.

13.5.3. The Shared Memory Manager

When shared memory is configured in mode 2, the shared memory manager process relays messages between the message queue and the network. However, due to limitations in the way processes can wait for messages in shared memory and the way the `select()` call works for network sockets, the shared memory manager process will only wait (suspend) while waiting for new messages to be enqueued on the message queue in shared memory. To minimize the amount of latency incurred by messages coming from the network, you can configure the shared memory manager to use a timed wait. If the timed wait expires because no new message was queued in shared memory, the manager process activates and checks for messages arriving from the network. If there are no messages arriving from the network, the manager process performs some basic house-keeping functions and again waits (suspend) for messages in shared memory. The federate designer should choose a reasonable wait interval based on the amount of latency that can be tolerated for messages arriving from the network. Setting the `RTI_sharedMemoryMgrMaxWait` parameter to 0 prevents the shared memory manager process from yielding the CPU if there are no messages to process. Instead it continuously polls the queue and the network interface.



14. Using FOM Modules

Use of FOM modules is functionality from the HLA Evolved specification. It has been implemented in the MÄK RTI so that it can be used in RTI 1.3 and 1516 federations.

Using FOM Modules.....	14-2
Merging FOM Modules into the Current FOM	14-3
Creating and Joining with FOM Modules	14-4
Validating FOM Modules	14-5
Configuring Use of Modular FOMs.....	14-6
Configuring a MOM Module	14-6
Configuring Create FOM Modules	14-7
Configuring Join FOM Modules	14-7
Configuring Use of a Local FOM Module File	14-8
Example FOM Module Configuration for 1.3 and 1516.....	14-8

14.1. Using FOM Modules

The MÄK RTI allows a federation to be formed and modified using FOM modules. The use of FOM modules allows federates with different FOMs to interoperate without having to merge the FOM files. The different FOMs must use the same reference FOM, and have non-conflicting extensions. Using Modular FOMs supports more agile federations, because only FOM modules pertinent to a particular federate or subset of federates need to be introduced into the federation. Federates can specify one or more FOM modules when creating a federation, and more significantly, a federate can specify one or more FOM modules when it joins. Examples of FOM modules are:

- ♦ A normal, fully formed FOM. A federate can create a federation using a FOM just as it always has in the past. It can also submit a FOM when joining, to ensure that the classes it uses are included in the federation.
- ♦ A fully formed FOM that is an extension of an existing FOM. It is common to add new classes to a reference FOM to support new simulation concepts or extensions to existing concepts. The use of FOM modules allows these FOM extensions to be introduced by various federates. The extensions do not have to be integrated into a single superset FOM. However, the extensions must not conflict with each other.
- ♦ A partial FOM containing new or derivative concepts. New or derivative concepts are supplied in a self-contained FOM module that is not a complete FOM. The new or derivative concepts might depend on concepts found in an existing FOM (especially in the case of derivative concepts).



Modular FOMs is not part of either the 1.3 or the 1516 API, so the MÄK RTI configures its use through configuration parameters in the RID file. HLA Evolved federates can specify FOM modules during create and join using the HLA Evolved API.

14.2. Merging FOM Modules into the Current FOM

To help understand how FOM modules work together in an HLA 1.3 or 1516 federation we use the concept of the “current FOM”. The current FOM is the result of merging all the FOM modules that have been submitted by federates. The RTI starts the current FOM with the basic MOM classes. Then it merges in the FOM modules specified by the creating federate and joining federates. (In HLA Evolved federations, modular FOMs work as defined in the specification.)

The MÄK RTI supports three types of FOM modules – the MOM module, the create FOM module, and the join FOM module. A FOM module must satisfy specific merging rules when submitted to the RTI. A valid FOM module can extend the current FOM only by adding subclasses. It cannot extend an existing class by adding attributes or parameters, or changing the datatype or any other FOM characteristic of an existing class or its attributes or parameters. All FOM Modules to be merged must have identical time types and switches.

The MOM module is a special case that relaxes the restrictions on adding class attributes and parameters to existing MOM classes. It is explicitly stated in the HLA standard that the MOM classes can be extended, including adding attributes and parameters. Because the initial current FOM consists of the base MOM classes, the rules for adding class attributes and parameters to existing base MOM classes are allowed, but only through the MOM module. In effect, a MOM module replaces the base MOM classes and it becomes the initial current FOM. It is validated to ensure that it contains the necessary classes for the RTI to operate.

The federate that creates the federation can specify one or more create FOM modules in its RID file. It can also specify one MOM module.



In the HLA Evolved specification, the term MOM module, used in early drafts, and therefore in the initial implementation of modular FOMs in the MÄK RTI, was changed to MOM and Initialization Module, or MIM. If FOM module merging is disabled, a MIM cannot be used. If FOM module merging is enabled, a MIM is always used. The federate can specify the MIM it would like to use in the `createFederationExecution` call. If it does not specify the MIM, the standard MIM is used. The standard MIM is *./bin/HLAstandardMIM.xml*.



Merging FOM modules is non-commutative and non-associative. Therefore, the order in which FOM modules are specified may affect whether or not merging a FOM module with the current FOM is a valid operation. The same is true for join modules. This is true both for the order that modules are specified in a particular RID file and the order in which federates join the federation.

14.3. Creating and Joining with FOM Modules

When the FOM module feature is enabled, the MÄK RTI enhances the behavior of the `createFederationExecution` call by merging FOM modules in addition to the FOM specified in the create call. For HLA 1.3 and 1516, the FOMs are merged in the following order:

1. The MOM module (if specified in the RID file).
2. The FED file specified in the create call.
3. The create FOM modules, in the order specified.

For HLA Evolved, FOMs are merged in the following order:

1. The MIM.
2. The FOM modules, in the order specified in the create call.

The join FOM modules are introduced for merging in a similar fashion. When a federate joins, there is already a current FOM consisting of the base MOM (or MOM module) and at least one FOM module (the FOM submitted in the create call). The join FOM modules are merged into the current FOM in the order specified in the RID file.

If you use FOM modules, the RTI must distribute the FED file (specified by the `RTI_distributeFedFile` parameter). This ensures that every federate has the complete set of FOM data being used by the federation. The use of FOM modules also requires the use of the `rtiexec` and that internal messages be sent reliably (`RTI_useRtiExec` and `RTI_internalMsgReliableWhenUsingRtiexec`).

If a federate tries to create a federation that already exists, any FOM modules it specifies have no effect on the current FOM. Additionally, the create and join operations, including the merging of the FOM modules, are an atomic action. A failure to merge a single FOM module results in the failure of the entire call and the current FOM does not change.

14.4. Validating FOM Modules

A FOM module merge requires that the time type and switches tables be identical. A valid merge also requires that a class definition must be complete. A valid module cannot extend a class with new attributes or parameters that have already been defined in another module; it can only extend the FOM by adding new classes.

If a module contains definitions of classes that already exist in the FOM, they must be identical to the existing class definitions or they must be scaffolding definitions. A scaffolding class does not replace existing class definitions nor does it have to match them. However, if a FOM with scaffolding classes is introduced out of order, its empty class definition takes precedence and subsequent complete class definitions will be flagged as an invalid merge.

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A scaffolding definition is one that describes the class hierarchy and inheritance information of a class without specifying any attributes or parameters of the class. Since an object class definition must include its entire parentage, but may not be specifying the object classes of its parentage, often a FOM module will include so-called scaffolding class definitions, which do not include any object or interaction class information beyond the hierarchy.

To restate the basic merging rule, once an object or interaction class is added to the current FOM, its attributes and parameters cannot be changed. Merging a non-scaffolding object or interaction class definition requires that the object or interaction class be absent in the current FOM or, if present, match the existing class attributes and parameters exactly.

14.5. Configuring Use of Modular FOMs

The use of FOM modules is configured in the RID file with the `RTI_fomModuleMerging` parameter.

For HLA 1.3 and 1516, the presence of any of the FOM module functions in the RID file enables the FOM module functionality. For HLA Evolved, `RTI_fomModuleMerging` must be enabled to use FOM modules. The use of FOM modules also requires enabling the `rtiexec`, internal message reliable transport, and FED file distribution.

It is not necessary for each federate to have the same entries in its RID file. However, the use of any FOM module must adhere to the modular FOM merging rules described in “[Merging FOM Modules into the Current FOM](#),” on page 14-3.



- ♦ The previous paragraphs in this section apply to all three HLA specifications. However everything else in this section, including the following paragraph applies only to HLA 1.3 and 1516.
 - ♦ Not all modular FOM configuration parameters affect a federation. For example, `RTI-addCreateFomModule` and `RTI_momModuleExtensionFileName` only affect the federation if the federate creates the federation. A MOM module extension or create FOM module of a federate that joins an already created federation have no effect on the federation.
-

14.5.1. Configuring a MOM Module

To specify a MOM module file, use the `RTI_momModuleExtensionFileName` parameter in the RID file. To be executed, the federate must create the federation execution. The syntax is:

```
(setqb RTI_momModuleExtensionFileName "momModuleName")
```

where *momModuleName* is a quoted string that specifies the MOM module file name. The file name can be an absolute path, a path relative to the working directory, or just the filename if it is in the working directory.

The specified MOM module can contain extensions to the existing MOM classes. The module specified in this parameter can be considered the first FOM module specified, because it will be merged into the current FOM before any other modules specified in the RID file. This parameter is optional and the default base MOM classes are used if omitted.

14.5.2. Configuring Create FOM Modules

Create FOM modules are FOM modules specified by the federate that creates the federation. To specify a create FOM module, use the `RTI-addCreateFomModule` function in the RID file. The syntax is:

```
(RTI-addCreateFomModule "fomModuleName")
```

where *fomModuleName* is a quoted string that specifies a FOM module file name. The file name can be an absolute path, a path relative to the working directory, or just the filename if it is in the working directory.

Each function specifies a single create FOM module. You can include multiple entries in the RID file. The order that they appear in the file is the order they are merged into the current FOM. The RTI will try to merge the contents of each FOM module into the current FOM during the create federation execution service call. If successful, the FOM module becomes part of the current FOM supplied to federates when they join. If unsuccessful, the create call fails.

14.5.3. Configuring Join FOM Modules

Join FOM modules are FOM modules specified by a federate that is joining a federation. To specify a join FOM module, use the `RTI-addJoinFomModule` function in the RID file. The syntax is:

```
(RTI-addJoinFomModule "fomModuleName")
```

where *fomModuleName* is a quoted string that specifies a FOM module file name. The file name can be an absolute path, a path relative to the working directory, or just the filename if it is in the working directory.

Each function specifies a single join FOM module. You can include multiple entries in the RID file. The order they appear in the file determines the order that they are merged into the current FOM. The RTI will try to merge the contents of each FOM module into the current FOM during the join federation execution service call. If successful, the FOM module becomes part of the current FOM supplied to other federates when they join. If unsuccessful, the join call fails.

14.5.4. Configuring Use of a Local FOM Module File

When a federate submits a FOM module in a create or join call, the file is transmitted to the rtiexec. The rtiexec sends the FOM module back to the federate when it joins. (The FOM module is also sent to federates that have already joined and to subsequent joiners.) A federate can use its local copy of a FOM module instead of having it sent back from the rtiexec. The `RTI_preferLocalFomModule` RID parameter controls whether a LRC uses its local copy or requests a new copy from the rtiexec for any FOM module files that it has submitted. The syntax is:

```
(setqb RTI_preferLocalFomModule enableOption)
```

where *enableOption* is 1 to enable (use local copy) and 0 to disable (rtiexec retransmits copy).

14.5.5. Example FOM Module Configuration for 1.3 and 1516

The following example configures the RTI to merge the contents of *momExtFomModule.xml* with the FOM specified in the create federation execution service call. After the MOM module is merged into the FOM, a create module, *createModule1.xml*, is merged into the current FOM. When the federate joins, two join FOM modules, *joinFomModule1.xml* and *joinFomModule2.xml*, are merged into the current FOM. The LRC uses its local copy of the FOM modules to perform merges.

```
(setqb RTI_fomModuleMerging 1)
(setqb RTI_useRtiExec 1)
(setqb RTI_internalMsgReliableWhenUsingRtiexec 1)
(setqb RTI_distributeFedFile 1)
(setqb RTI_preferLocalFomModule 1)

(setqb RTI_momModuleExtensionFileName "momExtFomModule.xml")
(RTI-addCreateFomModule "createModule1.xml")
(RTI-addJoinFomModule "joinFomModule1.xml")
(RTI-addJoinFomModule "joinFomModule2.xml")
```



15. Update Rate Reduction

Update rate reduction is functionality from the HLA Evolved specification. It has been implemented in the MÄK RTI so that it can also be used with RTI 1.3 or RTI 1516 federates.

Update Rate Reduction.....	15-2
How Update Reduction is Implemented	15-4
Configuring Update Rate Reduction.....	15-5
Specifying the Update Rate in 1.3 and 1516.....	15-5
Specifying the Rate for Object Class Subscriptions in 1.3 and 1516	15-6
Specifying the Receive Filtering Tolerance	15-6
Example Update Rate Reduction Configuration (1.3 and 1516 Only) .	15-7

15.1. Update Rate Reduction

Update rate reduction is a mechanism that allows federates to specify the rate at which best effort attribute updates can be delivered to the federate. This feature augments the declaration management (DM) and data distribution management (DDM) services that provide mechanisms for reducing or filtering the data that a federate receives based on class and data content. Update rate reduction does not affect interactions or reliable attribute updates.

The DM and DDM services provide mechanisms for reducing or filtering the data that a federate receives. The DM services provide filtering on the type of data; the DDM services provide filtering on the content or value of the data (that is, whether the value of the data is within a given range). It may be that even with these powerful filtering mechanisms, a federate might still not be able to keep up with the data that meet its filter criteria. In these cases, the federate would be better off receiving some sampling of the data than being overloaded, falling behind, and overflowing its buffers.

An example of this requirement could be a low fidelity plan view display federate that is viewing an entire simulation. It is not interested in the detailed maneuvers and interactions of the simulation, but in the general macro view of the entity placement and long term movements. While this federate may require a sample of all the data (both type and value), it does not require the data at the resolution that is necessary for entity level simulations. [Figure 15-1](#) illustrates the update rate reduction for this example.

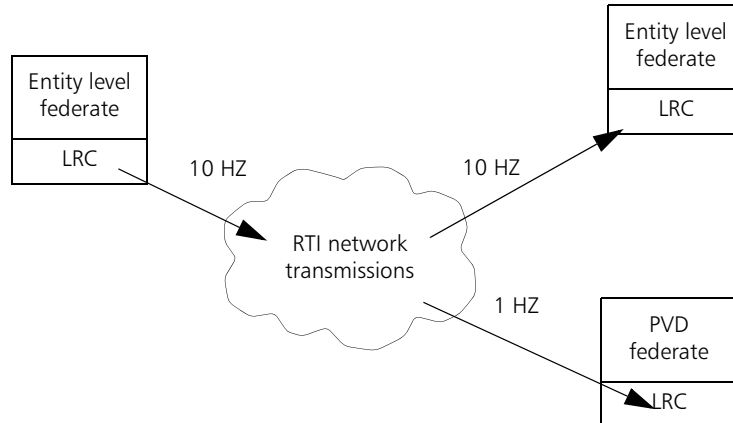


Figure 15-1. Update rate reduction

By using update rate reduction, the federate can specify a hard limit on the rate at which the RTI delivers attribute updates from each object instance. The RTI is responsible for delivering attribute updates for each object to the federate up to the specified rate. There is no guarantee that the RTI will send attribute updates at a given rate, just that the rate will not be exceeded. The criterion used for delivering updates is based on the specified rate and message inter-arrival times. Given a maximum update rate of x Hz and a message that has been delivered at wall-clock time t , no message shall be delivered before $t + (1 / x)$.

The update rate applies to each object attribute instance independently. That means that in practice, the rate that attributes can be reflected (where a reflection contains the attributes from one object) is the number of discovered objects times the update rate.

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- ♦ The maximum rate would actually be:
`number_of_attributes * number_of_objects * rate`.
However, this maximum is a degenerate case in that it would require the sending federates to update all the object attributes (in practice just a few) each independently of the others (in practice in a single update).
 - ♦ If no update rate reduction is specified for a federate, the federate will receive attribute updates at whatever rate they are sent.
-

15.2. How Update Reduction is Implemented

The MÄK RTI implements update reduction using multicast and receive filtering. The implementation relies on the DM multicast filtering feature that allows object classes to be assigned multicast addresses. (For details, please see “[Filtering by Multicast Groups Using Declaration Management](#),” on page 9-10.) A set of update rates is then defined in the RID file (“[Configuring Update Rate Reduction](#),” on page 15-5) and each rate is assigned an offset. The combination of an object class’s multicast address and update rate offset determine an update rate channel.

When sending an attribute update message, the RTI inspects the set of attributes and determines the interval since each attribute was sent. It selects the greatest interval, and sends the update to the appropriate update rate channel.

On the subscriber side, when a federate subscribes to object class attributes, the RTI inspects the update rate subscription specified for the subscribed class. The RTI then joins the update rate channels for the specified rate and all slower rates. The result is that an update sent at the specified rate or slower will be received by the federate and the sum of the updates on all the update rate channels will equal the subscribed update rate, as illustrated in [Figure 15-2](#). This multicast filtering provides an efficient means for the LRC to receive and process only those update messages that will be delivered to the federate. However, to compensate for timing issues, the LRC also performs receive side filtering to further guarantee the specified rate.

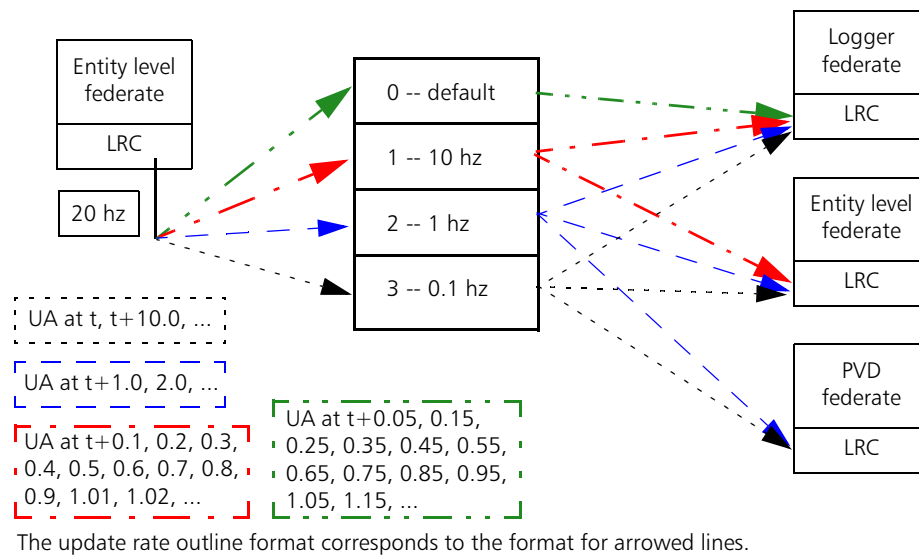


Figure 15-2. Update rate routing

15.3. Configuring Update Rate Reduction

To use update rate reduction, you must specify a set of update rates and associate them with object class attribute subscriptions. You must also configure use of DM multicast filtering. The update rates are specified as named values given in hertz (updates per second). These named values are then associated with object classes with a nesting operator similar to that used in the configuration of DM multicast filtering (that is, inclusive indicates the specified class and all subclasses and exclusive indicates just the specified class). The DM multicast addresses must be assigned to leave room for the update rate offsets, including a base address of no rate.

For example, if three update rates are specified, then each DM multicast assignment must have at least 4 addresses separating it from any other (for example, 229.7.7.10, 229.7.7.14, 229.7.7.18, and so on). You can specify a receive tolerance to allow fine tuning of receive filtering versus multicast filtering.

The update rate reduction is configured in the RID file.

- To enable update rate reduction set `RTI_enableUpdateRateReduction` to 1.

For detailed explanation of DM multicast configuration, please see [“Filtering by Multicast Groups Using Declaration Management,”](#) on page 9-10.

15.3.1. Specifying the Update Rate in 1.3 and 1516

- Specify update rates with the function `RTI-addUpdateRate`. Include an entry for each rate as follows:

```
(RTI-addUpdateRate "name" rate)
```

where *name* is a quoted unique string and *rate* is a floating point value specifying the rate in hertz.



In HLA Evolved, the update rates are specified in the FDD file.

15.3.2. Specifying the Rate for Object Class Subscriptions in 1.3 and 1516

You can specify an update rate for object class subscription with the RID function `RTI-addUpdateRateSubscription`. Add an entry for each class that should have update rate reduction applied to its subscription. The nesting qualifier (`inclusive` or `exclusive`) is a shortcut that allows the rate to be applied to all subclasses of the specified class. The entries are applied in the order they appear in the RID file, and the nesting operators override previous operations. For example, a top level class could specify a rate as `inclusive`, meaning it applies to all subclasses. Selected subclasses could override that rate with `exclusive` entries (that apply only to themselves), or `inclusive` entries (that apply to themselves and their subclasses).

The syntax for `RTI-addUpdateRateSubscription` is as follows:

```
(RTI-addUpdateRateSubscription "class" "rateName" "nesting")
```

where:

- `class` is a quoted string specifying an object class name, which must be in the joined FOM.
- `rateName` is a quoted string specifying the name of an update rate, which must be specified in an `RTI-addUpdateRate` entry previously in the RID file.
- `nesting` is a quoted string specifying either `inclusive` or `exclusive`, where `inclusive` indicates the rate applies to the specified class and all subclasses and `exclusive` indicates the rate applies to just the specified class.



In HLA Evolved, the subscription rate is specified using the API when a federate subscribes to object class attributes.

15.3.3. Specifying the Receive Filtering Tolerance

Specify the receive-filtering tolerance with the `RTI_receiveTolerance` parameter. This parameter is a percentage reduction to the inter-arrival time between attribute updates. It reduces the inter-arrival time for a given rate so that an update that appears to arrive early at the receiver is accepted. Given a rate of 10 hertz, a tolerance of 0.1 would allow the LRC to accept an update arriving 0.09 seconds after a previous update. This tolerance value allows for differences in timing measurements between sending and receiving federates as well as allowing for latency fluctuations (that is, previous update was late, but the next is received faster). The syntax for `RTI_receiveTolerance` is as follows:

```
(setqb RTI_receiveTolerance reductionPercentage)
```

where `reductionPercentage` is a floating point value specifying the percentage to reduce the inter-arrival interval used for receive filtering.

15.3.4. Example Update Rate Reduction Configuration (1.3 and 1516 Only)

Here is an example configuration of update rate reduction using all the necessary parameters:

```
(setqb RTI_enableUpdateRateReduction 1)
(RTI-addDMObjectMulticastAddr "ObjectRoot.BaseEntity" "229.7.8.1"
 "inclusive" "0.0.0.0")
(RTI-addDMObjectMulticastAddr "ObjectRoot.BaseEntity.GroundVehicle"
 "229.7.8.5" "exclusive" "0.0.0.0")
(RTI-addDMObjectMulticastAddr "ObjectRoot.BaseEntity.Aircraft"
 "229.7.8.9" "exclusive" "0.0.0.0")

(RTI-addUpdateRate "high" 10.0) ;; up to 10 updates per second
(RTI-addUpdateRate "medium" 1.0) ;; up to 1 update per second
(RTI-addUpdateRate "low" 0.1) ;; up to 1 update every 10 seconds

(setqb RTI_receiveTolerance .01)

(RTI-addUpdateRateSubscription "ObjectRoot.BaseEntity" "low" "inclusive")
(RTI-addUpdateRateSubscription "ObjectRoot.BaseEntity.GroundVehicle"
 "medium" "exclusive")
(RTI-addUpdateRateSubscription "ObjectRoot.BaseEntity.Aircraft" "medium"
 "exclusive")
```




A. RID File Parameters Reference

This appendix describes the parameters in the *rid.mtl* file.

MÄK Technologies Lisp (MTL) Files	A-2
Using Environment Variables in an MTL File	A-2
Using Conditional Statements	A-3
Converting Between Strings and Numbers	A-3
RID File Parameters	A-4
Federation-Wide Parameters	A-5
LRC-Specific Parameters	A-14
Configuring tick(min,max)	A-28

A.1. MÄK Technologies Lisp (MTL) Files

Many of the configuration files for VT MÄK products are ASCII text files that use MÄK Technologies Lisp (MTL) to encode configuration information. MTL files have the extension *.mtl*. You can edit them in any text editor. Be sure that your text editor uses the proper end-of-line characters for your platform.

Most parameter entries take the format:

```
(setq parameter_name value)
```

For example:

```
(setq EnableWireframe 1)
```

or:

```
(setqb parameter_name value)
```

The `setqb` syntax indicates a bound variable.

To comment out a line, precede the text with two semi-colons (`::`). You can also add a comment at the end of a line by preceding it with two semi-colons.

In most cases, the parameter names are known to the MÄK application and the MTL commands simply assign values to them. However, you can use the `setq` command to create arbitrary symbolic names or aliases that are then used in later commands. For example, in the following two commands the symbolic name `plugin-directory-root` is assigned to a directory path. Then the symbolic name is used in the `if` command. The name `plugin-directory-root` has no intrinsic meaning to the application. It is given meaning by the `setq` command, which allows it to be used later in the `if` command.

```
(setq plugin-directory-root "../plugins/B-HAVE/")
(if (equal Transport "DIS") (setq plugin-directory (string-append plugin-
  directory-root "binDIS/")))
```

In addition to the `setq` command, a commonly used command is the `load` command. This command instructs the application to load the file specified, for example:

```
(load "C:\\MAK\\MAKproduct\\config\\config.mtl")
```

You could also create a variable to hold the path and load files as follows:

```
(setq rid-path "C:\\MAK\\MAKproduct\\config\\")
(load (append-string rid-path "base-rid.mtl"))
```

A.1.1. Using Environment Variables in an MTL File

If you want to use an environment variable in an MTL file, use the following syntax:

```
(setqb parameter_name (getenv (quote env_var)))
```

For example:

```
(setqb disDestAddr (getenv (quote DEST_ADDR)))
```

A.1.2. Using Conditional Statements

MTL commands can be conditional. Conditional statements are used frequently when parameters are different for DIS and HLA. A simple conditional statement has the format:

```
(if (condition) (statement_to_evaluate))
```

If you have more than one statement to evaluate, use a sequence block:

```
;; HLA specific parameters
(if (equal HLA 1)
  (sequence
    (setqb fomMapperLib "")
    (setqb fomMapperInitData "")
    (setqb rprFomVersion 1.0)
    (setqb pathToSublistFile "sublist.mtl")
    (setqb ignoreAdvisories 0)
    (setqb fedLookahead 1.0)
  )
)
```

A.1.3. Converting Between Strings and Numbers

MTL has the following functions for converting strings to numbers and numbers to strings:

- ♦ `string->number` converts a string to a number.
- ♦ `number->string` converts a number to a string.

Examples:

```
(setqb RTI_udpPort (string->number "4000"))
```

or

```
(setqb someLispStringVariable (number->string 6382))
```

You can chain these with other commands as in the following:

```
(setqb RTI_udpPort (string->number (getenv (quote
  RTIEXEC_PORT))))
```

A.2. RID File Parameters

The MÄK RTI RID file uses two formats for parameters. Most parameters are in the following format:

```
(setqb RTI_parameterName value)
```

This format behaves like an assignment in which the value is assigned to *RTI_parameterName*. Repeated occurrences of an assignment parameter result in its taking the value from the last occurrence. Assignment RID parameters begin with **RTI_**.

Some RID parameters behave more like a function, in which the function is applied to the value. Repeated occurrences of these function parameters usually result in the values from each occurrence being accumulated. The function parameters begin with **RTI-** and they omit the **setqb** keyword as in the following example:

```
(RTI-parameterName value)
```

A default *rid.mtl* file is in the MÄK RTI root directory.

A.3. Federation-Wide Parameters

Table A-1 lists and briefly describes parameters in *rid.mtl* that must be the same for every federate in a federation. The table is organized to match the *rid.mtl* organization. If applicable, the description includes a cross reference to further information in the manual.

Table A-1: Exercise-wide RID file parameters (Sheet 1 of 9)

Parameter	Description
RTI Compliance	
RTI_forceFullCompliance	Specifies all relevant RID file parameters to support full compliance with the HLA Interface Specification. 0 — Do not force full compliance. 1 — Force full compliance. Default: 0. For more information, please see “Enabling and Disabling HLA Services,” on page 11-2. This parameter is ignored unless RTI_configureConnectionWithRid is set to 1.
Communications Configuration	
RTI_useRtiExec	Determines whether the application should try to connect to an rtiexec application when it creates, destroys, or joins a federation execution. 0 — Do not use the rtiexec. 1 — Use the rtiexec. Default: 0. This parameter is ignored unless RTI_configureConnectionWithRid is set to 1.
RTI_tcpPort	Specifies the port number to be used for TCP messages. Default: 4000. This parameter is ignored unless RTI_configureConnectionWithRid is set to 1.
RTI_udpPort	Specifies the port number to be used for UDP messages. Default: 4000. This parameter is ignored unless RTI_configureConnectionWithRid is set to 1.

Table A-1: Exercise-wide RID file parameters (Sheet 2 of 9)

Parameter	Description
RTI_destAddrString	Specifies the IP address to which best effort federation execution traffic is sent. This will typically be a broadcast address or multicast address. Default: "229.7.7.7" (a multicast address). A value of "0.0.0.0" is a special value that indicates that the default broadcast address should be used. If any of your federates are running on platforms on which multicast is not supported, you must use a broadcast address rather than a multicast address. For more information, please see "Configuring Best Effort (UDP) on a LAN," on page 10-3. This parameter is ignored unless RTI_configureConnectionWithRid is set to 1.
RTI_tcpForwarderAddr	Specifies the IP address of the machine that the rtiexec application is running on. This value is required if you are using reliable transport. Default: "127.0.0.1" For more information, please see "Configuring UDP and Centralized TCP Forwarding on a LAN," on page 10-3 and "Configuring UDP and Centralized TCP on a WAN," on page 10-4. This parameter is ignored unless RTI_configureConnectionWithRid is set to 1.
RTI_internalMsgReliableWhenUsingRtiexec	Specifies whether or not you want to send the RTI's internal bookkeeping messages using reliable transport. This parameter is ignored if RTI_useRtiExec is set to 0. 0 — Use best effort for all internal messages. 1 — Use reliable for all internal messages. Default: 1. For more information, please see "Choosing Best Effort or Reliable Transport," on page 9-2. This parameter is set to 1 unless RTI_configureConnectionWithRid is set to 1.
RTI_InternalMsgSmartForwardingWhenUsingRtiexec	Allows internal messages, such as subscribe and register, intended for individual federates, to be directed at those federates instead of being sent directionless. This will dramatically decrease the number of internal messages required to register new objects or late joining federates. This new parameter can be independent of the RTI_smartForwardingLevel, which handles update messages only. It is recommended that it remain on, although it can be turned off in order for the RTI to work as it had previously.

Table A-1: Exercise-wide RID file parameters (Sheet 3 of 9)

Parameter	Description
RTI_fomDataTransportTypeControl	This parameter sets the FOM Data Transport Type Controller as follows: ♦ 0 – FOM data is sent either best effort or reliable based on FOM settings. This is the default. It is forced when forceFullCompliance is enabled. ♦ 1 – All FOM data is sent best effort. It is the forced setting when using lightweight configurations. ♦ 2 – All FOM data is sent reliable. This is permitted only when RTI_configureConnectionWithRid is 1.
Optional Services	
RTI_momServiceAvailable	Enables (1) or disables (0) management object model (MOM) services. Default: 0. For more information, please see “Configuring MOM Services,” on page 11-2
RTI_timeMgmt	Enables (1) or disables (0) time management services. Default: 0. For more information, please see “Configuring Time Management Services,” on page 11-2.
RTI_extend13and1516interop	Extends interoperability between 1.3 and the 1516 versions (for example, handling DDM dimensions). For more information, please see “RTI Interoperability,” on page 1-7.
RTI_dataDistMgmt	Enables (1) or disables (0) data distribution management (DDM) services. Default: 0. For more information, please see “Configuring DDM Services,” on page 12-2.
RTI_ddmFixedGrid	Enables (1) or disables (0) fixed grid DDM versus distributed region DDM when DDM is enabled. Default: 0. For more information, please see “Configuring a Fixed Grid DDM,” on page 12-3.
RTI_ddmFixedGridFilename	Specifies the fixed grid configuration file name. For more information, please see “Fixed Grid Search Order,” on page 12-4.

Table A-1: Exercise-wide RID file parameters (Sheet 4 of 9)

Parameter	Description
Service Implementation	
RTI_responseInterval	Specifies the amount of time (in seconds) that the local RTI component waits to receive a response from the rtiexec when processing the createFederation, destroyFederation, or joinFederation service calls. Default: 3 seconds. For more information, please see “Specifying the Response Interval,” on page 6-13.
RTI_useRandomNumberForFedHandle	Instructs the RTI to create federate IDs based on random numbers rather than the federate’s process ID, when not using the rtiexec. 0 — Use process ID. 1 — Use pseudo random number. Default: 0.
RTI_enableHlaObjectNamePrefix	Specifies that the RTI, and only the RTI, will create object names that begin with “hla”. 0 — Do not force object names to start with “hla”. 1 — Force object names to start with “hla”. Default: 0.
RTI_sendDiscoveredClass	Enables (1) or disables (0) transmission of discovered class advisory messages. Default: 0. To meet the interface specification requirements for the turn updates on or off advisories, the discovery class of remote objects must be relayed to federates that own attributes of those objects. The transmission of the discover messages can be disabled, reducing the overhead with only a slight degradation of the advisory functionality (the actual class is used instead of the discovered class).
RTI_enableFomBackwardsCompatibility	Enables (1) or disables (0) use of the handle numbering scheme used in MÄK RTI 2.3.3 and earlier. It supports federates that recorded old handles in a file. Default: 0.
RTI_variableLengthDataUsesNull	Determines how VariableLengthData represents zero length data. By default, when an instance of the 1516 (or HLA Evolved) VariableLengthData class is empty (that is, length is zero), its data method returns a pointer to a single byte initialized to zero. To have the data method of an empty VariableLengthData instance return a NULL pointer, enable RTI_variableLengthDataUsesNull.

Table A-1: Exercise-wide RID file parameters (Sheet 5 of 9)

Parameter	Description
RTI_reuseReleasedObjectHandles	Allows the RTI to reuse object instance handles if the original instance has been deleted. Use of this feature breaks the guarantee that handles are unique over the lifetime of a federation. Handles will still be unique at any given instant.
RTI_distributeFedFile	Enables (1) or disables (0) distribution of the FED or FDD file. Default: 0. The federation must also enable RTI_useRtiExec and RTI_internalMsgReliableWhenUsingRtiexec. For more information, please see “Distributing the FED File,” on page 6-3.
RTI_fullFedFileDistribution	Federates and the federation execution will only request FOMs not locally available if set to 0. If set to 1, the federation execution and federates will distribute all FOM files to all federates and federations even if they already have it.
RTI_enableNameReservation	Enables (1) or disables (0) the name reservation service in HLA 1516 or HLA Evolved. Default: 1.
RTI_strictNameReservation	Enables (1) or disables (0) use of strict 1516 name reservation. If enabled, it ensures that no more than one object can reserve a name for the lifetime of the federation. Default: 0.
Fault Tolerance	
RTI_deleteOrphans	Specifies whether or not the objects for which a terminated federate owns the privilegeToDelete will be automatically deleted. 0 — disabled (all owned attributes are orphaned). 1 — enabled. Default: 1. For more information, please see “Handling Orphaned Objects,” on page 6-12.
RTI_enableFederateHeartbeat	Enables (1) or disables (0) the requirement that federates send a heartbeat.
RTI_federateHeartbeatInterval	Specifies the frequency, in seconds, with which each federate LRC sends a heartbeat message. Default: 10. Valid only if RTI_enableFederateHeartbeat is set to 1. For more information, please see “Responding to Abnormal Termination,” on page 6-11.

Table A-1: Exercise-wide RID file parameters (Sheet 6 of 9)

Parameter	Description
RTI_federateTimeoutInterval	Specifies the time period in which the federation must receive a heartbeat or it will forcibly remove the federate. Default: 25. Valid only if RTI_enableFederateHeartbeat is set to 1. For more information, please see “Responding to Abnormal Termination,” on page 6-11.
RTI_reconnectEnabled	Specifies that the LRC try to reconnect to the RTI Forwarder RTI_federateReconnectPause seconds after a TCP connection is lost. Default: 0. For more information, please see “Reconnecting to the RTI Forwarder,” on page 6-13.
RTI_federateReconnectPause	If RTI_reconnectEnabled is enabled, specifies the amount of time, in seconds, to wait before trying to reconnect to the RTI Forwarder. Default: 5. “Reconnecting to the RTI Forwarder,” on page 6-13.
RTI_rtiExecReconnectPause	If RTI_reconnectEnabled is enabled, specifies the amount of time, in seconds, to wait before trying to reconnect to the RTI Forwarder. Default: 4. For more information, please see “Reconnecting to the RTI Forwarder,” on page 6-13.
Advanced Network Configuration	
RTI_use32BitsForValueSize	Enables (1) or disables (0) support for the size of attributes and parameters to exceed 64 KB. The default message format uses 16-bit integers (max 64 KB) to represent the size of elements in handle value pair sets. Default: 0. For more information, please see “Enabling Support for Large Attributes and Parameters,” on page 9-8.
DM Class Multicast Filtering	
RTI-addDMObjectMulticastAddr	Allows you to assign object classes to separate multicast groups. Default: disabled. For more information, please see “Filtering by Multicast Groups Using Declaration Management,” on page 9-10.
RTI-addDMInteractionMulticastAddr	Allows you to assign interaction classes to separate multicast groups. Default: disabled. For more information, please see “Filtering by Multicast Groups Using Declaration Management,” on page 9-10.

Table A-1: Exercise-wide RID file parameters (Sheet 7 of 9)

Parameter	Description
RTI Forwarder Parameters	
RTI-addForwarderGroupAddrString	Specifies the IP address of a member of the federate's local Forwarder Group. A separate entry for each RTI Forwarder in the group is necessary. Required only when forwarder groups are used. For more information, please see “Configuring RTI Forwarders for Distributed Forwarding,” on page 10-16
RTI_distributedUdpForwarderMode	Determines whether or not distributed forwarders handle UDP forwarding, and if so, the mode to use. Consistency checking is enforced on this parameter. The mode can be: 0 — Distributed forwarders do not handle UDP forwarding. 1 — Distributed forwarders imitate UDP Forwarders (Legacy Mode). 2 — Distributed forwarders handle combined UDP/TCP forwarding duties. For more information, please see “Configuring Distributed UDP Forwarding,” on page 10-23.
RTI_forwarderRoutesFile	Specifies the RTI Forwarder routes file to use. Default: “routes.mtl”.
	 You cannot use this parameter with a centralized RTI Forwarder.
	For more information, please see “The RTI Forwarder Application,” on page 5-10.
RTI_distributedForwarderPort	Specifies the port for the distributed forwarder. Default: 5000.
RTI_smartForwardingLevel	Specifies the sender-side filtering mode, where: 0 — no subscription-based routing or filtering. 1 — enable subscription based routing. 2 — enable subscription based routing and disable send for updates and interactions that none of the federates have subscribed to. Default: 0. For more information, please see “Configuring Sender-Side Filtering (Smart TCP Forwarding),” on page 9-5.

Table A-1: Exercise-wide RID file parameters (Sheet 8 of 9)

Parameter	Description
RTI_maxNumFederates	Specifies the maximum number of federates allowed in a federation at any one time. This parameter only applies when sender-side filtering is enabled. Each update and interaction message has a bitmask of at least this number of bits appended, so increasing the number of federates increases the overhead. Default: 100. For more information, please see “Configuring Sender-Side Filtering (Smart TCP Forwarding),” on page 9-5.
RTI_forwardingDelay	When publication changes affect forwarding, routing filters are ignored for the specified interval to allow updates to remote subscription information. Default: 3.0.
RTI_routeToAllByDefault	When publication changes affect forwarding, route to all federates until specifically informed by remote federates that they have not discovered an object or are not subscribed to an interaction class. 0 — disable. 1 — enable. Default: 0.
RTI_discoveryMsgBundlingDelay	Delays the sending of discovery messages for the specified number of seconds. This allows discovery messages to be bundled together. Bundling can reduce traffic and processing time if a federate is creating a large number of objects at once. Default: 0.0 seconds.
RTI_enableFedexMsgRouting	This parameter makes sure that internal messages destined for the rtiexec are sent only to the rtiexec and that any messages (both internal and FOM) that the rtiexec does not process are not sent to the rtiexec. Default: 1. 0 — disable filtering. 1 — enable filtering. For more information, please see “Configuring Sender-Side Filtering for rtiexec Messages,” on page 9-7.
Save/Restore Configuration	
RTI_enableSaveRestoreWhenUsingRtiexec	Enables (1) or disables (0) save/restore when you are using the rtiexec.

Table A-1: Exercise-wide RID file parameters (Sheet 9 of 9)

Parameter	Description
RTI_saveRestoreTimeout	Specifies the number of seconds the federation execution waits for a save/restore operation to complete before indicating a failure. Default: 120 seconds. For more information, please see “Configuring Save/Restore,” on page 6-15.
RTI_saveTransientMessages	Enables (1) or disables (0) saving of transient messages during a save, to be delivered upon restore. Default: 0. For more information, please see “Configuring Save/Restore,” on page 6-15.
Update Rate Reduction	For details about update rate reduction, please see “Update Rate Reduction,” on page 15-2.
RTI_enableUpdateRateReduction	Enables (1) or disables (0) update rate reduction.
RTI-addUpdateRate	Registers an update rate with the LRC. You must specify a unique name and the update rate in hertz. For example, RTI-addUpdateRate("low", 0.1) registers an update rate called "low" with the value of 0.1 hertz.
RTI-addUpdateRateSubscription	Applies update rate reduction to a specified object class. Can be inclusive or exclusive. (This parameter is federate-specific.)
RTI_receiveTolerance	Specifies a percentage reduction to the inter-arrival time between attribute updates. It reduces the inter-arrival time for a given rate so that an update that appears to arrive early at the receiver is accepted.

A.4. LRC-Specific Parameters

Table A-2 lists and briefly describes parameters in *rid.mtl* that can be different for the members of a federation. The table is organized to match *rid.mtl* organization. If applicable, the description includes a cross reference to further information in the manual.

Table A-2: RID file parameters for LRCs (Sheet 1 of 14)

Parameter	Description
RTI_configureConnectionWithRid	Specifies that the rtiexec or federate use the connection configuration parameters in the RID file instead of those in the RTI Assistant connection configurations.
License Checking	
RTI_forceUnlicensedForTwo	Forces the MÄK RTI to use the unlicensed version without checking for a license. This setting saves time at startup. If you have a licensed version of the MÄK RTI, do not skip license checking. 0 — Check for a license. 1 — Do not check for a license. Default: 0.
RTI_disableUnlicensedForTwo	Enables (0) or disables (1) unlicensed mode in Windows (even if the forceUnlicensedForTwo parameter is set). When this parameter is enabled, federates must check out a license to run. Default: 0.
RTI_rtiExecPerformsLicensing	Enables (1) or disables (0) license checkout from the rtiexec. The rtiexec will check out a license for each joining federate. Default 0.
Multicast Discovery Configuration	
RTI_mcastDiscoveryEnabled	Enables (1) or disables (0) multicast discovery. Default: 0. For more information, please see “Automatically Locating the RTI Forwarder and rtiexec,” on page 9-4. This parameter is set to 0 unless RTI_configureConnectionWithRid is set to 1.
RTI_networkInterfaceAddr	Sets the address of the network device to be used for multicast traffic.
RTI_mcastDiscoveryPort	Specifies the port for multicast discovery. Default: 6001.
RTI_mcastDiscoveryAddrString	Specifies a multicast discovery address. Default: “229.7.7.8”. For more information, please see “Automatically Locating the RTI Forwarder and rtiexec,” on page 9-4.

Table A-2: RID file parameters for LRCs (Sheet 2 of 14)

Parameter	Description
RTI_lrcMcastDiscoveryDelay	Specifies the interval that the LRC waits for a multi-cast discovery response. Default: 3.0.
RTI_execMcastDiscoveryDelay	Specifies the interval that the rtiexec waits for a multicast discovery response. Default: 1.0.
RTI_mcastDiscoveryTries	Specifies the number of times the federate should try to find the multicast discovery address before it defaults to best effort transport. Default: 5. For more information, please see “Automatically Locating the RTI Forwarder and rtiexec,” on page 9-4.
Optional Services	
RTI_throwExceptionOnConcurrentAccess	In HLA 1.3, controls whether the ConcurrentAccessAttempted exception is thrown when an RTIambassador service call is called while concurrently processing another service call. This usually happens when a FederateAmbassador callback calls another RTIambassador service call during a tick(). 0 — Do not throw exceptions. 1 — Throw exceptions. Default: 0.
RTI_throwExceptionCallNotAllowedFromWithinCallback	If enabled, the HLA Evolved LRC will throw the CallNotAllowedFromWithinCallback when certain RTIambassador service calls are made from a FederateAmbassador callback. (HLA Evolved only)
RTI_throwExceptionForDisabledService	Specifies whether or not function calls throw an exception when they call a service that is not activated in the MÄK RTI. 0 — Do not throw exceptions. 1 — Throw exceptions. Default: 1. For more information, please see “Choosing Silent Failure Instead of Exceptions,” on page 6-14.
RTI_enableWarningsForDisabledServices	Specifies whether or not the RTI Assistant displays a message when an exception is thrown for a disabled service. Default: 1 (on).
Switch Table Management	
RTI_preferRidToFedSwitchTable	Specifies which set of switch tables to use. 1 — Use the RID parameters. 0 — Use the switch tables defined in the FED file. Force full compliance forces use of the FED file switch table.

Table A-2: RID file parameters for LRCs (Sheet 3 of 14)

Parameter	Description
RTI_autoProvideSwitch	Specifies whether the Auto Provide switch is enabled (1), or disabled (0). RTI_preferRidToFedSwitchTable must be enabled to use this parameter. Otherwise it is overridden by the FED file switch table definitions. Default: 0.
RTI_conveyRegionDesignatorSwitch	Specifies whether the Convey Region Designator switch is enabled (1), or disabled (0). RTI_preferRidToFedSwitchTable must be enabled to use this parameter. Otherwise it is overridden by the FED file switch table definitions. Default: 0.
RTI_conveyProducingFederateSwitch	Specifies whether the Convey Producing Federate switch is enabled (1), or disabled (0). RTI_preferRidToFedSwitchTable must be enabled to use this parameter. Otherwise it is overridden by the FED file switch table definitions. Default: 1.
RTI_serviceReportingSwitch	Specifies whether the Service Reporting switch is enabled (1), or disabled (0). RTI_preferRidToFedSwitchTable must be enabled to use this parameter. Otherwise it is overridden by the FED file switch table definitions. Default: 0.
RTI_exceptionReportingSwitch	Specifies whether the Exception Reporting switch is enabled (1), or disabled (0). RTI_preferRidToFedSwitchTable must be enabled to use this parameter. Otherwise it is overridden by the FED file switch table definitions. Default: 0.
RTI_delaySubscriptionEvaluationSwitch	Specifies whether the Delay Subscription Evaluation switch is enabled (1), or disabled (0). RTI_preferRidToFedSwitchTable must be enabled to use this parameter. Otherwise it is overridden by the FED file switch table definitions. Default: 0.
Advisory Configuration	For all parameters in this section, please see “Configuring Use of Advisory Messages,” on page 4-3 for more details.
RTI_interactionRelevanceAdvisorySwitch	Specifies whether the Interaction Relevance Advisory switch is enabled (1), or disabled (0). RTI_preferRidToFedSwitchTable must be enabled to use this parameter. Otherwise it is overridden by the FED file switch table definitions. Default: 1.
RTI_objectClassRelevanceAdvisorySwitch	Specifies whether the Object Class Relevance Advisory switch is enabled (1), or disabled (0). RTI_preferRidToFedSwitchTable must be enabled to use this parameter. Otherwise it is overridden by the FED file switch table definitions. Default: 1.

Table A-2: RID file parameters for LRCs (Sheet 4 of 14)

Parameter	Description
RTI_attributeRelevanceAdvisorySwitch	Specifies whether the Attribute Relevance Advisory switch is enabled (1), or disabled (0). RTI_preferRidToFedSwitchTable must be enabled to use this parameter. Otherwise it is overridden by the FED file switch table definitions. Default: 0.
RTI_attributeScopeAdvisorySwitch	Specifies whether the Attribute Scope Advisory switch is enabled (1), or disabled (0). RTI_preferRidToFedSwitchTable must be enabled to use this parameter. Otherwise it is overridden by the FED file switch table definitions. Default: 0.
Diagnostic Configuration	
RTI_notifyLevel	Specifies the category of notification messages to print. 0 — Fatal. 1 — Warn. 2 — Notify. 3 — Verbose. 4 — Debug. Default: 1.
RTI_logFileDirectory	Specifies a directory where the log file should be output. Default: "" (the working directory).
RTI_logfileName	Enables logging to a file with the specified name. If just a filename is specified, a file is written for each federate on the computer in the directory from which a federate is executed. If a pathname is specified, data for all federates on the machine is written to the same file unless RTI_reuseLogFile is 0. Default: "makRti.log". For more information, please see "Enabling LRC Diagnostic Data Logging in the RID File," on page 7-4.
RTI_rtiExecLogFileName	Enables (1) or disables (0) the rtiexec log file and specifies the file's name. Default: "rtiExec.log". For more information, please see "Logging rtiexec Output," on page 5-3.
RTI_rtiForwarderLogFileName	Enables (1) or disables (0) the RTI Forwarder log file and specifies the file's name. Default: <i>rtiForwarder.log</i> .

Table A-2: RID file parameters for LRCs (Sheet 5 of 14)

Parameter	Description
RTI_reuseLogFile	Enables (1) or disables (0) writing logs to the file specified by RTI_logfileName (default: <i>makRti.log</i>). When enabled, it is possible that multiple federates might write to the same log file. If this option is disabled, the logs are written to <i>makRti###.log</i> where ### is replaced by the system time in seconds. Each federate will have a different log file. Default: 1. For more information, please see “Logging rtiexec Output,” on page 5-3.
RTI_dumpFed	Enables (1) or disables (0) dumping of the contents of the FED file when the notification level is set to verbose (> 3). Default: 0.
RTI_dumpRid	Enables (1) or disables (0) dumping of the contents of the RID file when the notification level is set to verbose (> 3). Default: 0.
RTI_detachNotifyLevelFromStdOut	Detaches all notification messages at the given level and above from the standard output. This setting has no affect on logging notifications to a file. Default: 5 (no notification levels detached).
RTI_ridConsistencyChecking	Enables (1) or disables (0) checking of the RID file for consistency with the rtiexec’s RID file. For more information, please see “The RID File Consistency Checker,” on page 4-7.
RTI-addRidParametersToOverride	Specifies a list of parameters to add to the default list of parameters that are checked for consistency. For more information, please see “Selecting the Parameters to be Checked,” on page 4-9.
RTI-removeRidParametersToOverride	Specifies a list of parameters to remove from the default list of parameters to check for consistency. For more information, please see “Selecting the Parameters to be Checked,” on page 4-9.
RTIspy Configuration	
RTI_enableNetworkTesting	Enables (1) or disables (0) network testing.

Table A-2: RID file parameters for LRCs (Sheet 6 of 14)

Parameter	Description
RTI_enableLRCNetworkStatisticsMonitoring	When enabled (1), a federate's network statistics can be viewed in the RTI Assistant's RTIspy window. This capability is provided by a plug-in. There are limits on how many plug-ins can be active at the same time. When RTI_enableLRCNetworkStatisticsMonitoring is set to 0, all plug-ins should work as expected. When it is set to 1, the following constraints are in place (meaning plug-ins will not work or will be completely ignored). ♦ Plug-ins cannot override the DtRtiAmbassadorImplementor. ♦ Plug-ins cannot override the DtConnectionMgr. ♦ Plug-ins cannot override the DtFedAmbWrapper. Default: 1.
Service Implementation	
RTI_singleCallbackPerTick	Specifies how many packets should be read for each tick. Also applies to tick(min,max). 0 — A call to RTI::tick with no arguments reads all pending packets. 1 — A single call to RTI::tick() should result in one packet being processed from the input stream. Default: 0. For more information, please see “Configuring tick(min,max),” on page A-28.
RTI_checkFlag	Enables (1) or disables (0) checking the validity of attributes and parameters and the ownership of attributes passed to updateAttributeValues() and sendInteraction(). Default: 1. Setting this flag to 0 results in a small performance gain, but it means that the AttributeNotDefined, AttributeNotOwned, and InteractionParameterNotDefined exceptions will never be thrown by these services.

Table A-2: RID file parameters for LRCs (Sheet 7 of 14)

Parameter	Description
RTI_processUnknownUpdatesForDiscovery	Enables (1) or disables (0) processing unknown objects for discovery. Default: 1. For more information, please see “Processing Discovery of Unknown Objects,” on page 6-14.
RTI_defaultFedFile	Specifies a default FED file in the RID file to support joining without calling create when operating in lightweight mode. In lightweight mode and using the default FED file, the join federation service always associates the federation name with the default FED file. If the value is an empty string, then the FED file will either be established by a previous create federation service call or federation name “.fed”. Default: “”. For more information, please see “Specifying the FED File,” on page 6-2.
RTI_crcCheckFedFile	If RTI_distributeFedFile is disabled (0), specifies whether or not a federate whose FED file has a different CRC than the rtiexec’s FED file can join the federation. 0 — Notify federate if the CRC of its FED file is different from the rtiexec’s FED file. Allow the federate to join. 1 — If the CRC of the federate’s FED file is different from the rtiexec’s FED file, do not allow the federate to join. Default: 0.
RTI_catchFedAmbExceptions	Configures the RTI so that exceptions thrown by the federate in a federate ambassador callback are caught and handled internally by the RTI. If not enabled, the RTI rethrows the exception to be handled by the federate by catching exceptions from tick(). The internal RTI state may be corrupted if this option is disabled. 0 — Do not catch exceptions. 1 — Catch exceptions. Default: 1.
RTI_strictFomChecking	Configures the RTI to strictly check the format of the FDD file (for example, to ensure presence of transport and order or disallow unknown tags). If enabled, an error in the FDD file causes the create federation service to fail. This parameter affects the HLA 1516 or HLA Evolved FDD files. 0 — Do not perform strict checking. 1 — Perform strict checking. Default: 0.

Table A-2: RID file parameters for LRCs (Sheet 8 of 14)

Parameter	Description
RTI_defaultTimeImplementation	Configures the RTI with the name of a default time implementation if an empty string is provided in the createFederationExecution service call. This default is used to override the default in the logical time library that is returned when the logical time name is an empty string. Default: "".
RTI_flushTimeoutInterval	Specifies the amount of time, in seconds, that an LRC will try to flush messages to the network when it is resigning from a federation. Default: 3.0.
Advanced Network Configuration	
RTI_mcastTtl	Specifies an integer value that gets used as the Time-ToLive parameter in the header of multicast packets. Default: 2.
RTI_enableTcpCompression	Enables compression of RTI message payloads transmitted over TCP connections. Consistency checking is enforced on this parameter. For more information, please see “Compressing RTI Messages,” on page 9-7.
RTI_tcpCompressionLevel	Specifies the amount of compression applied to RTI message payloads over TCP connections as follows: 1 — minimal compression. 2 through 8 — increasing levels of compression. 9 — maximum “Compressing RTI Messages,” on page 9-7
RTI_enableUdpCompression	Enables compression of RTI message payloads transmitted in UDP datagrams. Consistency checking is enforced on this parameter. For more information, please see “Compressing RTI Messages,” on page 9-7.
RTI_udpCompressionLevel	Specifies the amount of compression applied to RTI message payloads in UDP datagrams, using the same options as RTI_tcpCompressionLevel. For more information, please see “Compressing RTI Messages,” on page 9-7.
RTI_tcpNoDelay	Allows you to configure the RTI to emphasize minimal latency or maximum throughput. 0 — Trade latency for throughput. 1 — Set the TCP_NODELAY socket option for TCP sockets, yielding minimum latency. Default: 1.

Table A-2: RID file parameters for LRCs (Sheet 9 of 14)

Parameter	Description
RTI_tcpBufferSize	Specifies the size of the buffer into which TCP packets get read. Default: 20000 bytes. For more information, please see “Choosing Best Effort or Reliable Transport,” on page 9-2.
RTI_socketReceiveBufferSize	Specifies the size of the TCP and UDP network receive buffers. Increasing the size can increase the RTI’s tolerance of peak network loading. Default: 50000. For more information, please see “Configuring the Network Buffer Sizes,” on page 9-8.
RTI_socketSendBufferSize	Specifies the socket send buffer size. Default: 50000.
RTI_enablePacketBundling	Bundles messages together into a single TCP packet or UDP datagram, up to the size limit specified by RTI_packetBundlingSize. For more information, please see “Packet Bundling for Reliable and Best Effort Messages,” on page 9-3.
RTI_packetBundlingSize	When packet bundling is enabled, specifies the size of the message bundles for TCP packets and UDP datagrams. The value should be $\leq$ MTU of the network. Default: 0. For more information, please see “Packet Bundling for Reliable and Best Effort Messages,” on page 9-3.
RTI_maxUdpPacketSize	Specifies the maximum size for a UDP packet. The default is 15000 for legacy purposes. However, packets this large are not recommended.
RTI_enableBestEffortSendRetry	Enables (1) or disables (0) automatic resending of failed attempts to send best effort messages. Configured with RTI_bestEffortSendRetryWaitUsec and RTI_bestEffortSendRetries. Default 0.
RTI_bestEffortSendRetries	If RTI_enableBestEffortSendRetry is enabled (1), RTI_bestEffortSendRetries configures the number of times a failed best effort send is retried. Default: 3. For more information, please see “Controlling Congestion for Best Effort Sockets,” on page 9-9.
RTI_bestEffortSendRetryWaitUsec	If RTI_enableBestEffortSendRetry is enabled, RTI_bestEffortSendRetryWaitUsec configures the time to wait between failed best effort sends, in microseconds. Default: 100.

Table A-2: RID file parameters for LRCs (Sheet 10 of 14)

Parameter	Description
RTI_useBusyWaitForTickMinMax	Specifies that the RTI will use busy wait in tick(min,max) when no messages are pending. 0 — Disabled (use select). 1 — Enabled. Default: 0. For more information, please see “Configuring tick(min,max),” on page A-28.
RTI_enableMessageThrottling	Enables (1), or disables (0) throttling of transmission and receipt of internal messages (for all versions of the RTI). This parameter also enables or disables buffering of provideAttributeValueUpdate callbacks in HLA 1516 or HLA Evolved. Default: 0 (disabled).
RTI_transmitDelay	If RTI_enableMessageThrottling is enabled this parameter configures the time to delay before processing requests. Default 0. For more information, please see “Configuring the Delay Time for Processing Internal Messages,” on page 11-3.
RTI_transmitRate	If RTI_enableMessageThrottling is set to 1, RTI_transmitRate specifies the number of messages per second that you want to send. Default 0.0 (disabled). For more information, please see “Transmitting Internal Messages Across Ticks,” on page 11-4.
RTI_autoProvideDelay	If RTI_enableMessageThrottling is set to 1, enables buffering of automatic provideAttributeValueUpdate callbacks in HLA 1516 or HLA Evolved to limit the number of provides requested if multiple federates require updates. Default: -1 (disabled). For more information, please see “Buffering Automatic Update Requests (1516 and Evolved),” on page 9-9.
RTI_dualTransmitFirstInteractionRegions	Enables (1) or disables (0) sending the DDM interaction region information both best effort and reliably the first time. A race condition between a best effort DDM interaction and its region information (sent reliably) is alleviated by transmitting the region information via best effort the first time. Default: 0.

Table A-2: RID file parameters for LRCs (Sheet 11 of 14)

Parameter	Description
RTI-addDestAddrString	Adds one or more additional destination addresses for best effort packets, which can be broadcast, unicast, or multicast addresses. All best effort data is sent to all registered addresses. Default: "0.0.0.0". For more information, please see "Configuring UDP Over a WAN without Distributed Forwarding," on page 10-6.
RTI_maxForwarderQueue	Specifies the size of the queue for messages that exceed the size of the receive buffer. When a federate does not tick fast enough and its receive buffer fills, it starts placing the messages into the queue. Once the queue has reached the maximum size, the federate is dropped. If the size is set to -1 (default), it queues messages indefinitely until the federate processes them all, or until all system memory is completely consumed.
RTI_allProvideUpdateRequestsDelayed	Specifies that RTI_autoProvideDelay should apply to all update requests, not just those generated due to the autoProvide switch.
Asynchronous Processing	
RTI_processingModel	Specifies the synchronous/asynchronous I/O operating mode, as follows: 0 — Synchronous mode. 1 — Asynchronous I/O. Perform network reads and writes in an asynchronous thread (reduces dependency on tick rate to avoid msg drops). 2 — Asynchronous Message Processing. In addition to performing network reads, the asynchronous thread processes messages. However, it will not perform any asynchronous federate ambassador callbacks. The callbacks will be cached and delivered when the federate calls tick or evokeCallbacks. 3 — Asynchronous Callbacks. Process messages and invoke callbacks in an asynchronous thread. i For Asynchronous Callbacks (not Asynchronous I/O) the Federate must be able to receive Federate Ambassador callbacks asynchronously (in a thread safe way). Default: 1.

Table A-2: RID file parameters for LRCs (Sheet 12 of 14)

Parameter	Description
RTI_tickWaitPeriod	Determines the smallest increment of time that a tick will cause a federate to wait for messages from the I/O thread when using asynchronous I/O. If set to 0.0, the minimum time specified in the tick service invocation is used instead. Default 0.0.
RTI_IOPeriod	Specifies the amount of time polling operations take, in seconds. Not used in Windows, which is event driven. Must be greater than or equal to zero. Default: 0.01.
RTI_tickFavorsNetwork	Enables (1) or disables (0) a thread yield in tick(). Default: 1.
RTI_maxIOQueue	Specifies how many messages can be queued to send before blocking. Default 20000.
RTI_maxIOCount	Specifies the number of times the thread can cycle before it must yield. Must be greater than zero. Default: 1000.
RTI_IOLockQueue	Specifies the number of messages processed per locking of the queues. Adjustment of this value allows for fine or coarse locking. Must be greater than zero. Default: 500.
DDM Configuration	
RTI_minChannelAddr	Specifies the starting network multicast address for a pool of multicast groups used by DDM. The pool defined by this parameter and the RTI_maxChannelAddr parameter is used by any federate that loads this configuration file. Default: "224.0.1.0" if using IPv4; "ff12::3:1" if using IPv6.
RTI_maxChannelAddr	Specifies the final network multicast address for a pool of multicast groups used by DDM. The pool defined by this parameter and the RTI_minChannelAddr parameter is used by any federate that loads this configuration file. Default: "239.255.255.255" if using IPv4; "ff12::3:ffff" if using IPv6. For more information, please see "Configuring a Fixed Grid DDM," on page 12-3.
RTI_addressDelay	Specifies the delay by which data associated with changed regions and associations is broadcast (default multicast) while the DDM routing information is propagated to remote federates. Default: 1.0.

Table A-2: RID file parameters for LRCs (Sheet 13 of 14)

Parameter	Description
RTI_conveyOnlyAvailableDimensions	If RTI_conveyOnlyAvailableDimensions is enabled (1), the conveyed regions only include those dimensions that are available to the received interaction class. If the regions used to send the interaction include dimensions that are not available at the received interaction class, they are removed from the conveyed regions. If RTI_conveyOnlyAvailableDimensions is disabled (0), the conveyed regions include exactly those dimensions that were in the regions used to send the interaction. As a result, there may be dimensions that are not available at the received interaction class. Default: 0.
RTI_implicitDdmParamsFile	Specifies the name of the file that has implicit DDM configuration parameters. Default: <i>implicitDdmParams.mtl</i>.
MOM Configuration	For details about all parameters in this section, please see “Configuring MOM Services,” on page 11-2.
RTI_momExceptionLogging	Enables (1) or disables (0) MOM exception logging. Default: 0.
RTI_momFederateUpdateInterval	Specifies the default interval in seconds at which the MOM Federate object will be updated. Default: 0 (no updates sent).
Save/Restore Configuration	
RTI_saveRestoreDirectory	Specifies the directory used for writing and reading save files. If the saved federation contains multiple federates of the same type, each federate of a given type must have access to all of the LRC save files of that type. The RTI determines the save files used for each federate. Default: “.”.

Table A-2: RID file parameters for LRCs (Sheet 14 of 14)

Parameter	Description
Shared Memory	For details about all parameters in this section, please see “Configuring Use of Shared Memory,” on page 13-2.
RTI_sharedMemoryMode	Enables the RTI to use shared memory for communication between co-located federates and other RTI components (for example, the rtiexec). Valid settings are: 0 — disables shared memory (default). 1 — enables shared memory only (no network I/O). 2 — enable shared memory manager with network I/O.
RTI_sharedMemoryName	Specifies the name of a shared memory file. All co-located federates must use the same shared memory file name in order to communicate through the same shared memory region. Default: “RtiSharedMemory”.
RTI_sharedMemoryQueueLength	Specifies the number of message queue segments (that is, 200 byte buckets) that can be queued in shared memory. Default: 5000.
RTI_sharedMemoryMgrMaxWait	Specifies how long (in seconds) the Shared Memory Queue Manager process waits for messages to arrive in the message queue before it polls the network interface for incoming messages. Default: 0.25.
RTI_sharedMemExecLogFileName	Enables logging shared memory executive output to a file with the specified name. Default: “shmExec.log”
Modular FOMs	For details about modular FOMs, please see “Using FOM Modules,” on page 14-2.
RTI_fomModuleMerging	Enables (1) or disables (0) merging of FOM modules. Default: 0.
RTI-addCreateFomModule	Specifies a FOM module to add when creating a federation.
RTI-addJoinFomModule	Specifies a FOM module file to add when joining a federation.
RTI_momModuleExtensionFileName	Specifies that the LRC will use the local FOM module file rather than having the rtiexec send it back.
RTI_preferLocalFomModule	Specifies a MOM module file to add when creating a federation.

A.5. Configuring *tick(min,max)*

By default, the implementation of *tick(min,max)* uses *select* (or windows events) to wait for additional input when there are no pending messages. The granularity of the *select* mechanism can make the *tick(min,max)* exceed the maximum time by too much (for example, *select* takes approximately 10 msec under Linux). To have finer control of when *tick(min,max)* returns, use the `RTI_useBusyWaitForTickMinMax` parameter to replace the *select* mechanism with a busy wait that polls the input source.



We do not recommend enabling the busy wait mechanism if you use asynchronous I/O. The busy wait will not yield to the I/O thread and the I/O thread must execute to generate input.

The `RTI_singleCallbackPerTick` parameter also applies to *tick(min,max)*. When `RTI_singleCallbackPerTick` is enabled, *tick(min,max)* returns after processing a single message or when the minimum time has been exceeded (effectively *max* is ignored).



A message may only cause internal processing and not necessarily generate a callback. The return value of *tick()* or *tick(min,max)* will be true if a message has been processed; otherwise, it will be false.



B. Example Federates

This appendix describes the example federates provided with the MÄK RTI.

Example Federates.....	B-2
The rtisimple Example.....	B-2
The simpleDDM Example.....	B-4
The simpletime Example	B-5
HLA Bounce.....	B-7
Running HLA Bounce	B-7
Demonstrating Ownership Management.....	B-9
Demonstrating DDM	B-9
The MAK Shooter Example.....	B-10
Building MAK Shooter	B-11
Running MAK Shooter	B-11
Playing MAK Shooter	B-13

B.1. Example Federates

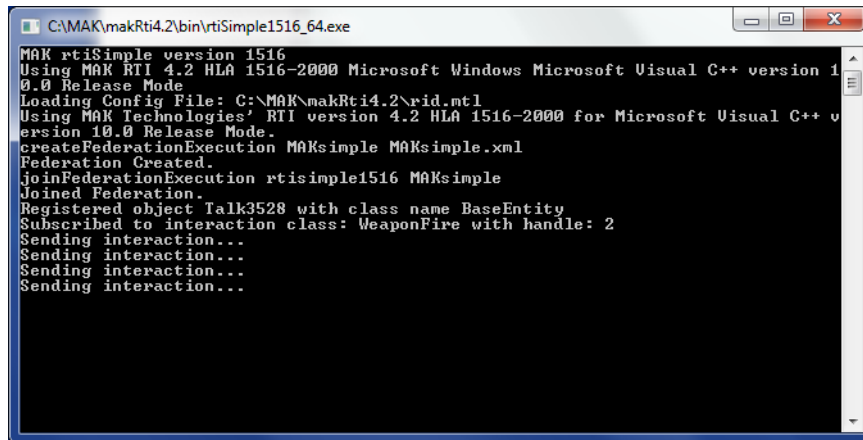
Explaining how to develop federates for use with HLA is beyond the scope of this manual. In general, when customers ask us how to develop federates, we recommend using the protocol-independent interface provided by VR-Link. For customers who just need a federate to do some basic exploration of HLA and the RTI, we recommend using the example applications provided with VR-Link. However, for those customers who want to develop directly to the HLA API, we include the simple examples described in this appendix.

The examples are in the `./examples` directory. Compiled versions of each example are in `./bin`. Java examples put the `.jar` files in their respective examples directories with the run scripts. Each example has an HLA 1.3 version, an HLA 1516 version, and an HLA Evolved version, except the Java MakShooter example, which is only available for HLA 1516 Evolved.

This appendix provides brief introductions to the examples. For complete descriptions, please see the Examples link in the online API documentation.

B.2. The *rtisimple* Example

The *rtisimple* example is a simple C++ example of how to use the RTI API. The *rtisimple* federate tries to create a federation and join it. It publishes and subscribes to the `BaseEntity` object class and registers an object of that class. Then it begins to update the object attributes and periodically sends an interaction. The attribute and parameter values contain the string names of the attributes and parameters. If two or more *rtisimple* federates are running, each federate discovers the other's objects, reflects the other's updated attributes, and receives the other's interactions as shown in [Figure B-1](#) and [Figure B-2](#).



```
C:\MAK\makRti4.2\bin\rtiSimple1516_64.exe
MAK rtiSimple version 1516
Using MAK RTI 4.2 HLA 1516-2000 Microsoft Windows Microsoft Visual C++ version 1
0.0 Release Mode
Loading Config File: C:\MAK\makRti4.2\rid.mtl
Using MAK Technologies' RTI version 4.2 HLA 1516-2000 for Microsoft Visual C++ v
ersion 10.0 Release Mode.
createFederationExecution MAKsimple MAKsimple.xml
Federation Created.
joinFederationExecution rtisimple1516 MAKsimple
Joined Federation.
Registered object Talk3528 with class name BaseEntity
Subscribed to interaction class: WeaponFire with handle: 2
Sending interaction...
Sending interaction...
Sending interaction...
Sending interaction...
```

Figure B-1. *rtisimple* console sending interaction

```

C:\MAK\makRti4.2\bin\rtiSimple1516_64.exe
MAKrtiSimple version 1516
Using MAK RTI 4.2 HLA 1516-2000 Microsoft Windows Microsoft Visual C++ version 10.0 Release Mode
Loading Config File: C:\MAK\makRti4.2\rid.mtl
Using MAK Technologies' RTI version 4.2 HLA 1516-2000 for Microsoft Visual C++ version 10.0 Release Mode.
createFederationExecution MAKsimple MAKsimple.xml
Could not create Federation Execution: FederationExecutionAlreadyExists: FederationExecutionAlreadyExists
Federation Created.
joinFederationExecution rtisimple1516 MAKsimple
Joined Federation.
Registered object Talk3992 with class name BaseEntity
discoverObjectInstance: Talk3528(100001) of class BaseEntity( 1)
reflectAttributeValues h v u o p: Talk3528(100001) 1516-53 RECEIVE BEST_EFFORT #
attributes: 5
1 AccelerationVector
2 DeadReckoningAlgorithm
3 Orientation
4 VelocityVector
5 WorldLocation
Subscribed to interaction class: WeaponFire with handle: 2
reflectAttributeValues h v u o p: Talk3528(100001) 1516-54 RECEIVE BEST_EFFORT #
attributes: 5
1 AccelerationVector

```

Figure B-2. rtisimple console receiving interaction

The rtisimple federates for HLA 1.3, 1516, and HLA Evolved can interoperate using the MÄK RTI. They all use a narrow string format for the attribute values and tags. The default federation file format matches the respective federate (that is, rtisimple13 uses *MAKsimple.fed*; rtisimple1516 and rtisimple1516e use *MAKsimple.xml*). The MÄK RTI supports both formats for the different APIs. However, the MOM specification is different in the between 1.3 and 1516. If the MOM is enabled in the RID file, then the appropriate federation file must be used.

B.3. The simpleDDM Example

The simpleDDM example is an adaptation of the rtisimple example program that incorporates DDM. (For a definition of DDM, please see Section 3.2.6, “[Data Distribution Management](#)”, in *MÄK RTI Users Guide*. For details about how the MÄK RTI implements DDM, please see Chapter 12, *Using Data Distribution Management*.) It performs the same typical federation calls as rtisimple (join, create, and so on) with the exception that when an object is registered, it is done so “with Region.”

The example has an object attribute and an interaction that is published and subscribed with region. To see the effects and features of the example, you must create two federates. One federate must be a publisher (`-isPublisher 1`) and the other a subscriber (`-isPublisher 0`). The regions in the example are conceptualized in one dimension as seconds along a 12 hour axis (ranging from 0 seconds to 43200) and in another dimension as a global time zone.

The published object represents the current time of the publisher and the published interaction represents an hourly chime. One chime (quarterlyChime) occurs at 12, 3, 6 and 9 o'clock; another chime occurs at the other hours. The timeZone dimension ranges from 0 to 23. It represents the different time zones around the world. It can only be changed in the publisher on the command line (`-timeZone time_zone`). The subscriber GUI lets you change it dynamically.

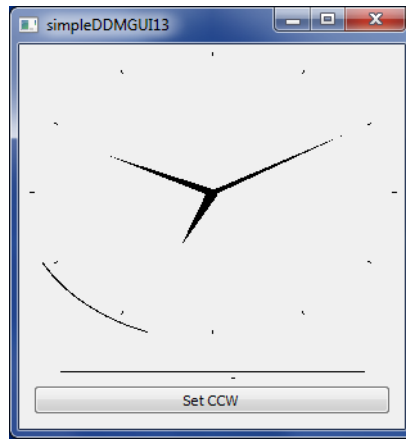


Figure B-3. simpleDDM publishing federate

The GUI displays clock hands, which for the publishing federate show the current time (Figure B-3), and for the subscribing federate show the last reflected position of the publisher (Figure B-4). (The subscriber's hands are not displayed prior to object discovery.) The GUI displays (as an arced segment around the dial) the region in the seconds dimension. It also displays a horizontal timeline at the bottom of the dial representing the 12 hour extent, a horizontal line representing the subscribed region, and the current position or last reflected position.

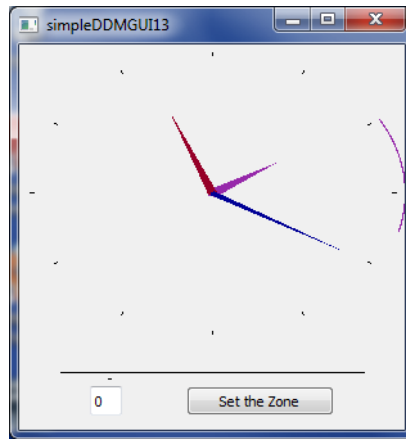


Figure B-4. simpleDDM subscribing federate

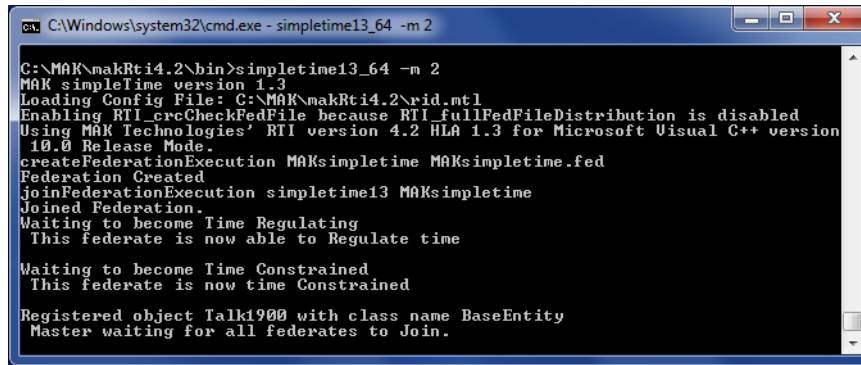
To specify the subscribed region in the subscribing federate, use the command line options `-minSubscribeH hour` and `-maxSubscribeH hour`. You can specify the region in seconds using `-minSubscribe seconds` and `-maxSubscribe seconds`.

B.4. The simpletime Example

The simpletime example is a simple C++ example of how to use the time management features of the RTI API. The simpletime federate tries to create a federation and join it. It enables time management in the RTI by becoming both time managed and time constrained. It publishes and subscribes to the BaseEntity object class and registers an object of that class. Using a federation synchronization point, it synchronizes the federation. Then it publishes and subscribes to the WeaponFire and MunitionDetonation interaction classes.

After this initialization process, the federate begins to increase a stored time and position value, updates its attribute values accordingly, and if appropriate, sends a fire or detonate interaction. The federate sends the fire interaction when its stored position exceeds a preset value (the phase-line), or you issue a keyboard command instructing the federate to fire. Then a detonation is sent. If no detonations are sent, the federate continues to update its attribute values and increase its time, while regularly printing out its time state information and its stored position.

If you run two or more simpletime federates, each federate discovers the other's object, reflects the other's updated attributes, and receives the other's interactions, as shown in [Figure B-5](#) and [Figure B-6](#).



```

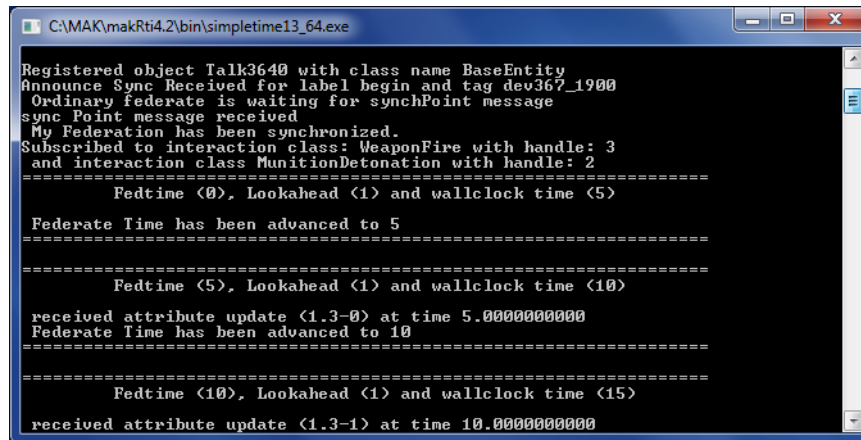
C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe - simptime13_64 -m 2

C:\MAK\makRti4.2\bin>simptime13_64 -m 2
MAK simptime version 1.3
Loading Config File: C:\MAK\makRti4.2\rid.mtl
Enabling RII_crcCheckFedFile because RII_fullFedFileDistribution is disabled
Using MAK Technologies' RII version 4.2 HLA 1.3 for Microsoft Visual C++ version
10.0 Release Mode.
createFederationExecution MAKsimptime MAKsimptime.fed
Federation Created
joinFederationExecution simptime13 MAKsimptime
Joined Federation.
Waiting to become Time Regulating
This federate is now able to Regulate time

Waiting to become Time Constrained
This federate is now time Constrained

Registered object Talk1900 with class name BaseEntity
Master waiting for all federates to Join.
  
```

Figure B-5. simptime federate started with -m 2



```

C:\MAK\makRti4.2\bin\simptime13_64.exe

Registered object Talk3640 with class name BaseEntity
Announce Sync Received for label begin and tag dev367_1900
Ordinary federate is waiting for synchPoint message
sync Point message received
My Federation has been synchronized.
Subscribed to interaction class: WeaponFire with handle: 3
and interaction class MunitionDetonation with handle: 2
=====
Fedtime <0>, Lookahead <1> and wallclock time <5>
=====
Federate Time has been advanced to 5
=====
Fedtime <5>, Lookahead <1> and wallclock time <10>
=====
received attribute update <1.3-0> at time 5.0000000000
Federate Time has been advanced to 10
=====
Fedtime <10>, Lookahead <1> and wallclock time <15>
=====
received attribute update <1.3-1> at time 10.0000000000
  
```

Figure B-6. simptime federate after second federate starts

Start the first simptime federate with the command line option `-m totalNumberOfFederates`. This tells the federate to wait until the specified number of federates (including itself) have joined the federation before synchronizing the federation and allowing the other federates to run. You can start subsequent federates without any command line options.

B.5. HLA Bounce

The HLA Bounce example is an HLA federate that demonstrates subscription/unsubscription, ownership management, and DDM in the context of a whimsical graphical user interface. Each instance of HLA Bounce displays one or more bouncing balls. You can change their color, view balls controlled by other instances of HLA Bounce, change the ownership of the bouncing balls, and view only those balls that are in a specified region.

B.5.1. Running HLA Bounce

To run HLA Bounce

1. On the Start menu, choose **MAK Technologies** → **MAK RTI 4.3** → **Examples** → **HLA Bounce version**, where *version* is 1.3, 1516, or 1516e. The Choose RTI Connection dialog box opens.
2. Select the connection you want to use. To use ownership management or DDM, run the rtiexec.
3. Click Connect. HLA Bounce opens ([Figure B-7](#)).

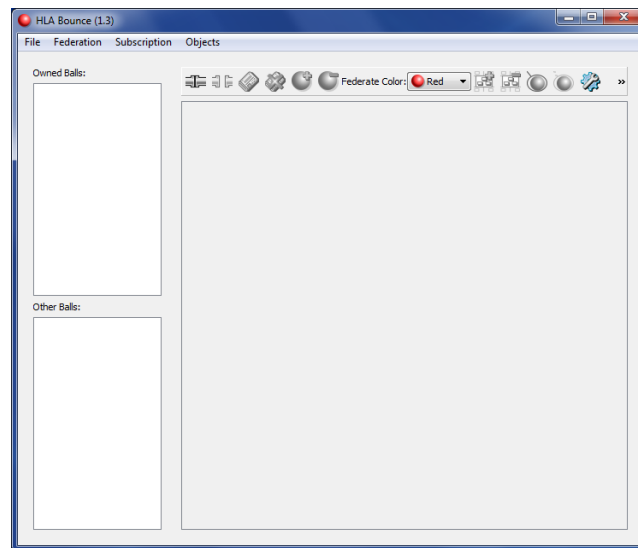


Figure B-7. HLA Bounce

4. Start a second instance of the HLA Bounce example.
5. Select one of the two HLA Bounce windows.
6. Choose **Federation Create/Join**.
7. Choose **Objects** → **Add Ball**. A red ball (the default color) is added to the window and starts bouncing around ([Figure B-8](#)).

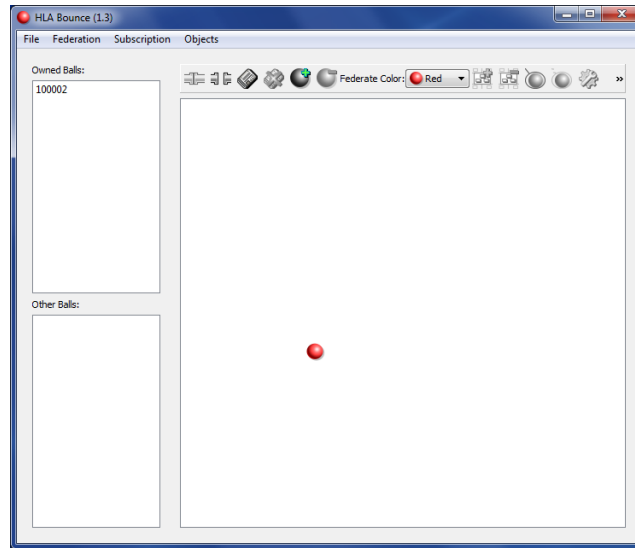


Figure B-8. Bouncing ball

8. Select the other HLA Bounce window.
9. Choose **Federation Create/Join**.
10. In the Federate Color drop-down list, choose a color other than red.
11. Add a ball.

Both windows now have balls bouncing in them, but they only show their own balls.

► In one of the two HLA Bounce windows, choose **Subscription → Subscribe**.

The window now shows the local ball and the ball being simulated by the other federate (Figure B-9). The locally simulated ball is listed in Owned Balls. The remotely simulated ball is listed in Other Balls.

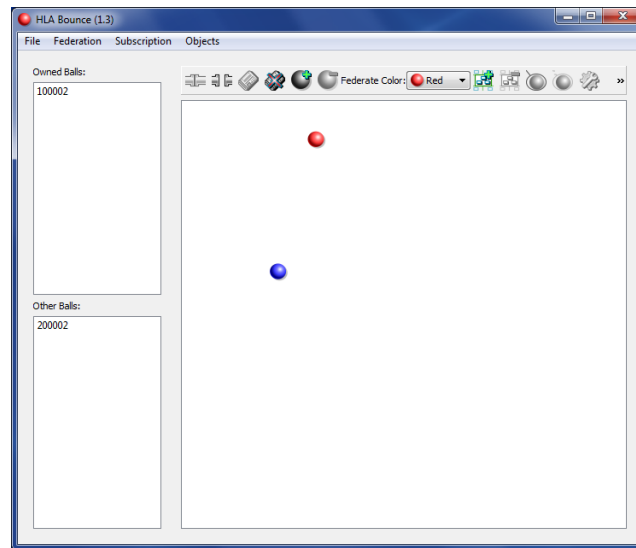


Figure B-9. HLA Bounce subscription enabled

B.5.2. Demonstrating Ownership Management

1. Start two HLA Bounce windows. Use an rtiexec connection and force full compliance.
2. Start one or more balls in each window.
3. In one of the windows, select an entry in Other Balls.
4. Choose **Objects** → **Acquire Ball**. The entry for the remote ball is now in the Owned Balls list and the ball changes color to match the color in this instance of HLA Bounce.

B.5.3. Demonstrating DDM

1. Start two HLA Bounce windows. Use an rtiexec connection and force full compliance.
2. Start one or more balls in each window.
3. In each window choose **Subscription** → **Subscribe**.
4. In one of the windows, Choose **Subscription** → **Add Region**. The cursor changes to a cross-hair.
5. In the window, draw a rectangular area.

6. Watch the two windows and see where the balls are bouncing. In the window in which you drew a region, you see the remote balls only when they are within the region. (You see them all the time in their home window.) In [Figure B-10](#), although the remote federate is simulating two blue balls (as shown in the Other Balls list), only the one within the subscription region is visible. (The federate is not designed to undiscover balls when they leave the region, so they remain listed in the Other Balls list.)

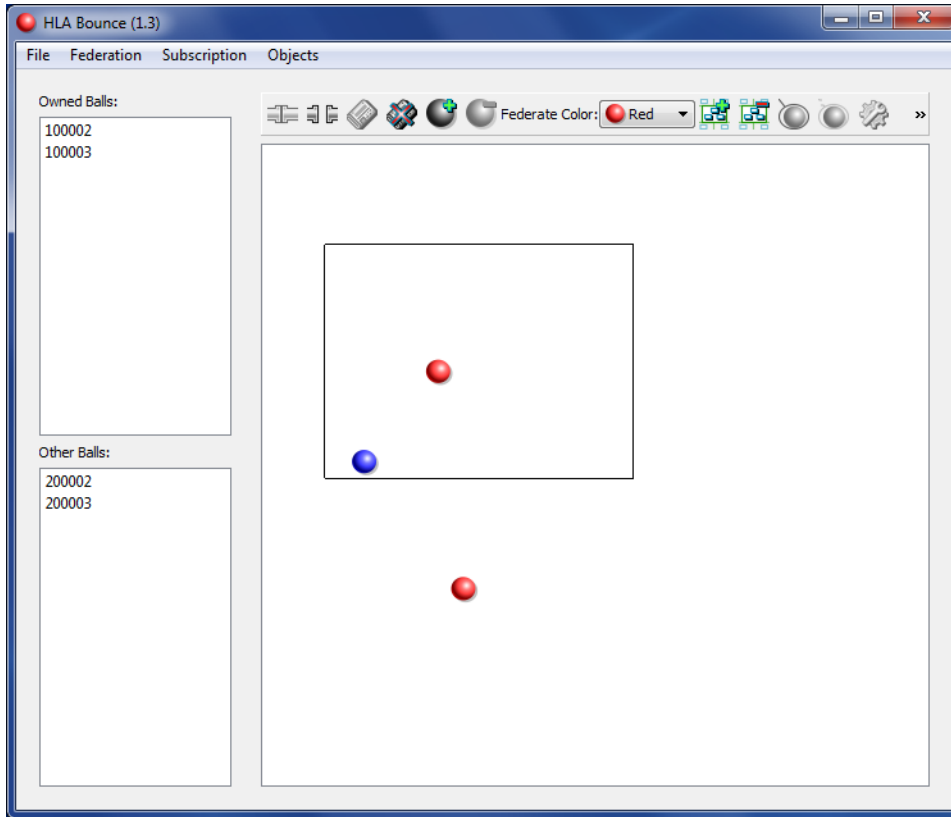


Figure B-10. Subscription with region

B.6. The MAK Shooter Example

The MAK Shooter example is an HLA federate that demonstrates object publishing, subscribing, updating of attributes, and sending of interactions in the form of a simple arcade style shooter game. Each instance of MAK Shooter creates a player's screen, on which you can navigate a ship to fire and dodge shots. In addition, you can join a game as an observer (a federate which only subscribes to Ship and Shot objects, not publish) and observe games in action.

MAK Shooter is a Java application and to build it you must install the JDK. For complete details, see `./makRti4.3/examples/java/MakShooterreadme.txt`.

B.6.1. Building MAK Shooter

To build MAK Shooter, navigate to `./makRti4.3/examples/java/MakShooter` and run the appropriate build script (*buildInWindows.bat* for Windows and *buildInLinux.sh* for Linux). This will generate *MakShooter.jar*.

B.6.2. Running MAK Shooter

To run MAK Shooter:

1. Navigate to `./makRti4.3/examples/java/MakShooter` and run the appropriate run script (*makShooter1516e.bat* in Windows and *makShooter1516e.sh* in Linux). The game opens (Figure B-11).

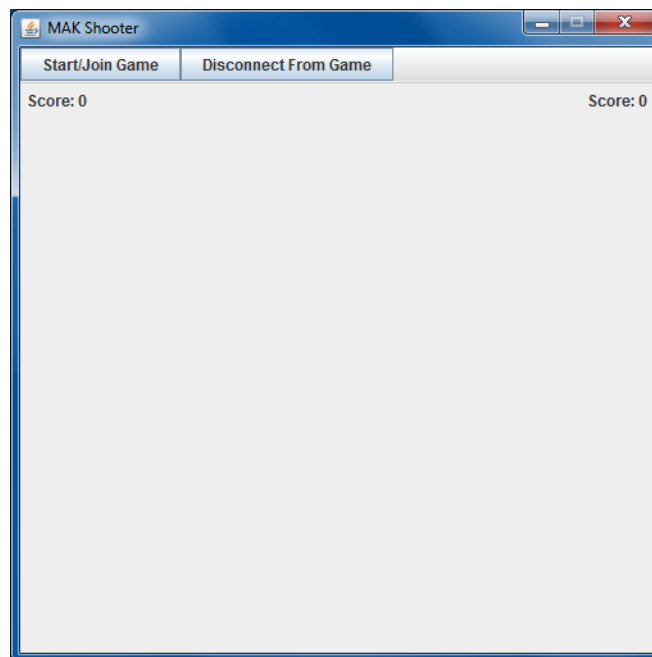


Figure B-11. MAK Shooter

2. Click the Start/Join Game button.
3. Select the Connection you want to use.
4. Click Connect. The Configure Game dialog box opens (Figure B-12).

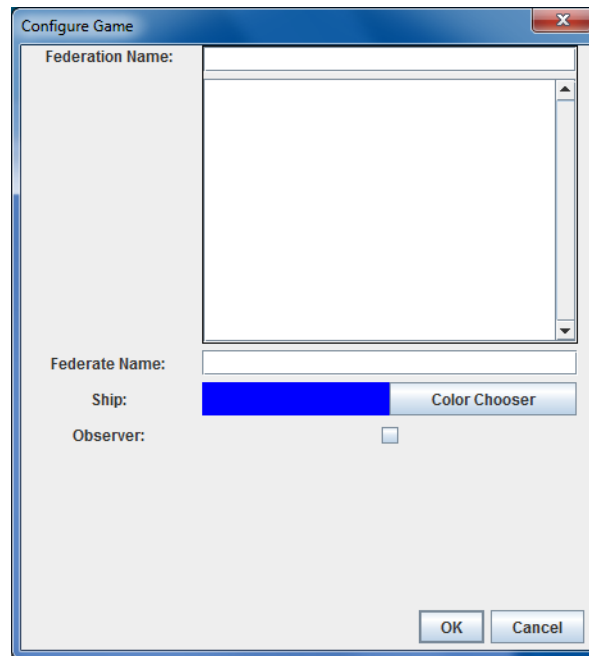


Figure B-12. Configure Game dialog box

5. Fill in the fields as necessary:
 - a. Federation Name: The name of the federation. If you are joining a game, select a federation from the list. If starting a new game you must enter a unique federation name.
 - b. Federate Name: Type the name of your ship.
 - c. Ship: The color of your ship. By default the ship is blue. To change the color, click the Color Chooser button and select the desired color.
 - d. Observer: If there is a game already in progress, and you want to observe, select this option and join a game as an observer. Observers only watch the game and cannot control a ship. The game will only become active when two people have started MAK Shooter.
6. Click OK.
7. Start a second instance of MAK Shooter by following steps 1 through 5. Be sure to use the same Federation name and a different Federate Name.
8. Both windows will become active with the ships at each end ([Figure B-13](#)).

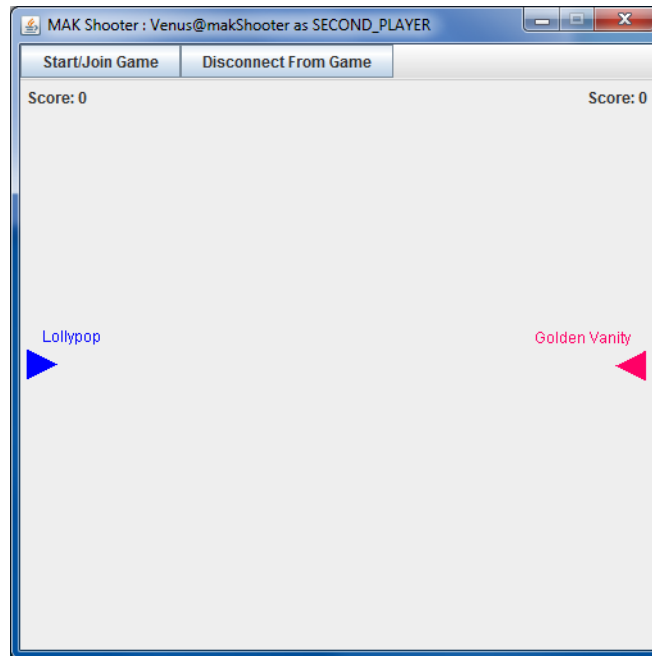


Figure B-13. Game started

B.6.3. Playing MAK Shooter

To play the game:

- ♦ Use the Up and Down Arrow keys to move the ship.
- ♦ Use the Space Bar key to fire. If a shot hits the opposing ship, a detonation interaction occurs, the Score increments, and the ship flashes from the interaction.

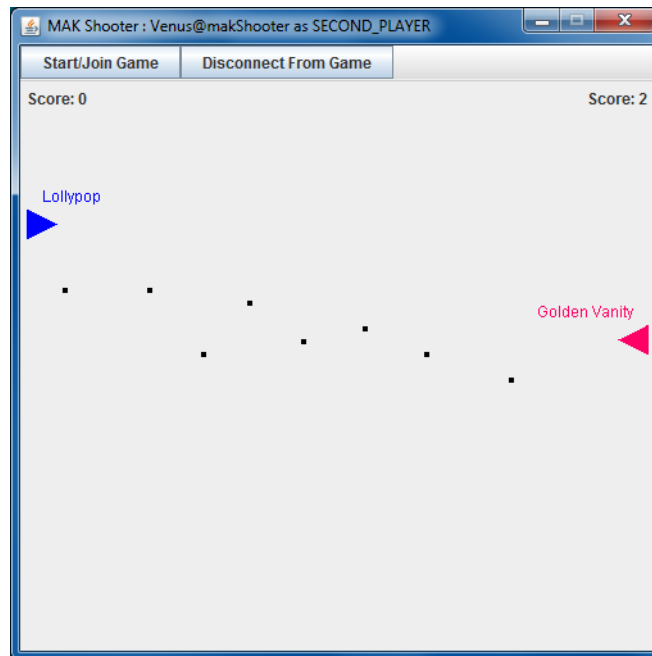


Figure B-14. Shots fired

- To quit the game, click the Disconnect From Game button. The other player will be notified and disconnected.



Index

- command-line option 13-7
- AutoExit command-line option 13-6
- Daemon command-line option 13-6
- destAddrString command-line option 5-11, 13-6
- distributedForwarderPort command-line option 5-11
- doNotUseRoutesFile command-line option 5-11
- forwarderToConnectTo command-line option 5-11
- graceful command-line option 13-7
- help command-line option 5-11, 13-6
- ignore_rest command-line option 5-11, 13-7
- manual command-line option 5-11
- networkInterfaceAddr command-line option 5-11
- notifyLevel command-line option 5-11, 13-7
- routesFileName command-line option 5-11
- ruthLess command-line option 13-6
- setLogFileName command-line option 5-11, 13-6
- setNotifyQuiet command-line option 13-7
- setRidFileName command-line option 5-11, 13-7
- setTcpPort command-line option 5-11, 13-7
- setUdpPort command-line option 5-11, 13-7
- version command-line option 5-11, 13-7
- command-line option 5-11

A

- A command-line option 5-11, 13-6
- address
 - IP 10-3
 - RTI Assistant 5-9
 - sending to multiple 10-6

- advisory message, sending 4-3
- ancillary forwarder 10-7
- API, RTIsPy 1-5
- application, multi-threaded 2-2
- asynchronous
 - callbacks 2-2, 2-4, 2-6
 - message processing 2-6
 - processing 2-4, 9-9
- asynchronous I/O 2-5
 - concepts 2-3
- attribute
 - passelization 12-9
 - sending 9-2
 - large 9-8

B

- bandwidth
 - minimizing use of 9-5
 - reducing 9-3
- best effort 2-7, 10-3
 - See also* UDP
 - choosing 9-2
 - configuring for LAN 10-3
 - over WAN 10-6
 - topologies 2-7
 - unicast distributed forwarding 10-23
 - WAN 2-7
- binding, Java 3-8
- broadcast 2-7
 - address 10-3
 - RTI Assistant 5-9
- broken connection 6-13
- buffer
 - receive 9-8

- buffer (continued)
 - send 9-8
 - TCP 9-8
- buffering, update requests 9-9
- building
 - with 1.3 3-2
 - with 1516 3-4
- bundle, size 10-19
- bundling
 - enabling 10-19
 - message A-12
 - packets 9-3

C

- callback, asynchronous 2-2, 2-4, 2-6
- centralized TCP forwarding 2-8
 - configuring 10-4
 - on WAN 10-5
- certification, HLA 1-2
- checking, RID file consistency 4-7
- choosing, transport type 9-2
- class
 - HLAfloat64Interval* 3-8
 - HLAfloat64Time* 3-8
 - HLAfloat64TimeFactory* 3-8
 - HLAinteger64Interval* 3-8
 - HLAinteger64Time* 3-8
 - HLAinteger64TimeFactory* 3-8
 - LogicalTimeFactoryFactory* 3-7
 - LogicalTimeFactoryImpl* 3-7
 - LogicalTimeFactoryImplFloat* 3-7
 - LogicalTimeFactoryImplInteger* 3-7
 - LogicalTimeImpl* 3-7
 - LogicalTimeImplFloat* 3-7
 - LogicalTimeImplInteger* 3-7
 - LogicalTimeInterval* 3-6
 - LogicalTimeIntervalImpl* 3-7
 - LogicalTimeIntervalImplFloat* 3-7
 - LogicalTimeIntervalImplInteger* 3-7
 - RTIfedTime* 3-6
- clearing, console or log window 5-9
- closing, RTI Assistant 5-6
- command, delete 5-14
- command-line option
 - 5-11, 13-7
 - A 5-11, 13-6
 - AutoExit 13-6
 - D 5-11, 13-6
 - d 5-11

- command-line option (continued)
 - Daemon 13-6
 - destAddrString 5-11, 13-6
 - distributedForwarderPort 5-11
 - doNotUseRoutesFile 5-11
 - F 5-11
 - forwarderToConnectTo 5-11
 - graceful 13-7
 - h 5-11, 13-6
 - help 5-11, 13-6
 - ignore_rest 5-11, 13-7
 - K 13-6
 - k 13-6
 - l 5-11, 13-6
 - M 5-11
 - manual 5-11
 - N 5-11
 - n 5-11, 13-7
 - networkInterfaceAddr 5-11
 - notifyLevel 5-11, 13-7
 - P 5-11, 13-7
 - q 13-7
 - R 5-11, 13-7
 - r 5-11
 - routesFileName 5-11
 - RTI Forwarder 5-11
 - ruthLess 13-6
 - setLogFileName 5-11, 13-6
 - setNotifyQuiet 13-7
 - setRidFileName 5-11, 13-7
 - setTcpPort 5-11, 13-7
 - setUdpPort 5-11, 13-7
 - T 5-11, 13-7
 - t 13-7
 - v 5-11, 13-7
 - version 5-11, 13-7
- comment, MTL parameter A-2
- communicating, over WAN 10-6
- compatibility
 - link 1-6
 - network 1-5
 - with other RTIs 1-3
- compiling
 - against MÄK RTI 3-2
 - for 1.3 3-2
 - for 1516 3-4
 - on Windows 3-3, 3-4
- compliance, HLA 1-2, 11-2
- compressing RTI messages 9-7

- compression
 - enabling 10-19
 - level 10-19
- configuration, displaying 4-5
- configuration file, RID 1-4
- configuring
 - asynchronous I/O 2-5
 - best effort on LAN 10-3
 - centralized TCP forwarding 10-4
 - on WAN 10-5
 - create FOM module 14-7
 - DDM 12-2
 - fixed grid 12-3
 - declaration management 9-10
 - delay time for internal messages 11-3
 - diagnostics 5-3
 - discovery processing 6-14
 - distributed forwarding 10-16
 - hierarchical network 10-26
 - UDP 10-23
 - distributed region DDM 12-2
 - distributed UDP forwarding 10-20
 - federate for distributed forwarding 10-15
 - FOM module 14-6
 - full HLA compliance 11-2
 - heartbeat interval 6-11
 - HLA 1516 update requests 9-9
 - implicit DDM 12-5
 - join FOM module 14-7
 - latency tests 8-9
 - load-balanced forwarder group 10-22
 - LRC response interval 6-13
 - message compression 9-7
 - MOM module 14-6
 - MOM services 11-2
 - multicast discovery 9-4
 - multicast group 9-11
 - network
 - buffer size 9-8
 - congestion 9-9
 - receive buffer 9-8
 - packet bundling 9-3
 - RID files 4-7
 - routers and firewalls for distributed forwarding 10-5
 - RTI Assistant 5-4
 - messages 5-6
 - RTI for FOM modules 14-4
 - RTI Forwarders 10-16
 - RTI Forwdrer 10-18
 - configuring (continued)
 - rtiexec 5-3
 - save and restore 6-15
 - sender-side filtering 9-5
 - shared memory 13-2
 - performance 13-9
 - silent failure 6-14
 - single-port forwarder group 10-20
 - smart TCP forwarding 9-5
 - time management 11-2
 - timeout, interval 6-12
 - update rate reduction 15-5
 - connecting
 - to RTI Forwarder 6-13
 - to rtiexec 6-13
 - consistency
 - RID file, checking 4-7, 4-9
 - console
 - clearing messages from 5-9
 - pausing message updates 5-8
 - saving to file 5-8
 - constrained federate 6-7
 - controlling, network congestion 9-9
 - conventions, manual xvi
 - CPU, use 8-2
 - create federation, FOM module 14-4
 - create FOM module
 - configuring 14-7
 - merging 14-4
 - create module 14-3
 - createFederationExecution 3-7, 3-8, 14-4
 - service 6-5
 - createRTIambassador function 4-4
 - creating, routes file 10-18
 - current
 - FOM 14-3
 - time 6-7
- D**
 - D command-line option 5-11, 13-6
 - d command-line option 5-11
 - data, filtering update rate 15-2
 - data distribution management 8-2
 - DDM 5-2, 6-5, 8-2, 8-19, 9-5, 11-2, 12-9, 15-2, B-7
 - configuring 12-2
 - fixed grid 12-3
 - distributed region, configuring 12-2
 - distributed region approach 12-7

- DDM (continued)
 - example of B-4
 - fixed grid DDM 12-9
 - implicit 12-17
 - interoperability 1-7
 - region, implicit DDM 12-20
 - declaration management 8-2, 9-10
 - multicast group 9-11
 - declaration management. *See also* DM
 - Defense Modeling and Simulation Office 1-2
 - delay time, internal message 11-3
 - delete command 5-14
 - deleting, federates and federation executions 5-14
 - demilitarized zone 10-5
 - destroyFederationExecution service 6-5
 - diagnostic
 - configuring 5-3
 - data, logging 7-4
 - level 5-11
 - message, limiting number of 5-3
 - dialog box, RTI Preferences 5-5, 8-9
 - dimensions, implicit DDM 12-19
 - disabling
 - latency testing 8-3
 - RID file consistency checking 4-8
 - RTI Assistant 5-10
 - save and restore A-12
 - shared memory 13-3
 - time management, display 6-7
 - discovery processing, unknown objects 6-14
 - displaying
 - federate, information 7-2
 - federation-wide messages 6-10
 - FOM
 - interactions 7-2
 - objects 7-2
 - time management information 6-7
 - distributed forwarding 2-8, 5-10
 - configuring
 - federate 10-15
 - routers and firewalls 10-25
 - forwarder group 10-7
 - hierarchical network 10-25
 - load-balanced 10-14
 - optimizing on WAN 10-12
 - routes file 10-16
 - single-portal interconnection 10-12
 - singleton network 10-9
 - distributed forwarding (continued)
 - topologies
 - comparison 10-10
 - LAN 10-7
 - UDP 10-23
 - configuring 10-20
 - WAN topology 10-11
 - distributed region DDM 12-7
 - configuring 12-2
 - distributed region matching 12-8
 - modifying for implicit DDM 12-20
 - distributed singleton forwarder network 10-9
 - distributed UDP forwarding 2-7
 - using unicast 10-23
 - distributing
 - FED file 6-3
 - HLA 1516 DTD 6-3
 - DM 8-2, 9-10, 15-2
 - multicast group 9-11
 - DM. *See also* declaration management
 - DMZ 10-5
 - DTD, HLA 1516 6-3
 - dynamic library 1-3
 - dynamic link compatibility 1-6
 - Dynamic Link Compatible 1516 API 1-6
 - dynamic linking 1-3
- ## E
- enabling
 - bundling 10-19
 - compression 10-19
 - latency testing 8-3
 - RID file consistency checking 4-8
 - save and restore A-12
 - shared memory 13-3
 - time management, display 6-7
 - environment variable
 - RTI_ASSISTANT_DISABLE 5-10
 - RTI_ASSISTANT_IPV4_ADDRESS 5-9
 - RTI_ASSISTANT_IPV6_ADDRESS 5-9
 - RTI_ASSISTANT_PORT 5-9
 - RTI_ASSISTANT_TTL 5-9
 - RTI_CONFIG 4-2
 - RTI_RID_FILE 4-2
 - evokeCallback 2-6
 - example
 - federates B-2
 - HLA Bounce B-7
 - rtisimple B-2

example (continued)
 simpleDDM B-4
 simpletime B-5
 exception
 broken connection 6-13
 throwing 6-14
 executive, RTI 5-2
 exiting, RTI Assistant 5-6
 extending FOM, FOM module, using 14-5
 extension, FOM 14-2

F

-F command-line option 5-11
 factory
 logical time, HLA Evolved 3-8
 failure, FOM module merge 14-4
 fault tolerance 6-5, 6-11
 orphaned objects 6-12
 FDD file 1-4, 6-2
 DTD 6-3
 implicit DDM 12-18
 FDD file. *See also* FED file
 FED file 1-4, 6-2, 6-5, 9-2
 compatibility 1-4
 distributing 6-3
 FOM module in 14-4
 implicit DDM 12-18
 search order 6-2
 FED file. *See also* FDD file
 federate
 abnormally terminated 6-11
 configuring
 distributed forwarding 10-15
 shared memory use 13-2
 deleting 5-14
 displaying, information about 7-2
 examples B-2
 filtering data 15-2
 HLA certification 1-2
 ID 6-5
 interactions 8-12
 latency test 8-2
 listing 5-13
 log 7-4, 7-5
 network map 6-7
 objects 8-11
 regulating and constrained 6-7
 RID file consistency 4-3, 4-7
 statistic, graphing 8-16

federation
 data file 1-4
 deleting 5-14
 listing 5-13
 messages 6-10
 name 6-5
 save and restore 5-2
 time 3-5
 viewing details 6-6
 federation execution. *See* federation
 Federations View 6-6
 file
 FED 9-2
 MTL 1-4, A-2
 RID 4-2, 9-2
 routes 5-11
 filtering
 implicit DDM, using 12-17
 messages 9-5
 updates 15-2
 firewall, configuring for distributed forwarding 10-25
 fixed grid DDM 12-9
 affect on RTI services 12-15
 calculating axes 12-12
 configuring 12-3
 modifying for implicit DDM 12-21, 12-22
 range bounds 12-14
 FOM
 current 14-3
 data 10-4
 displaying
 interactions 7-2
 objects 7-2
 document data file 1-4
 extending using FOM module 14-5
 extension 14-2
 table 14-5
 FOM module
 class extension limits 14-5
 configuring 14-6
 example configuration 14-8
 failure mode 14-4
 limitations on merging 14-5
 local, configuring 14-8
 merge order 14-4
 merging 14-2
 module FOM 14-2
 MOM, create, and join 14-3
 RTI configuration for 14-4

FOM module (continued)
 specifying
 create FOM module 14-7
 join FOM module 14-7
 table requirements 14-5
 validating 14-5
forceUnlicensedForTwo parameter A-14
forwarder group 10-7
 compared to singleton forwarder 10-10
 configuring single-portal 10-20
forwarder. *See* RTI Forwarder
full compliance 1-2, 11-2
function
 createRTIambassador 4-4
 tick() 2-4, 2-5

G

graphing, federate statistics 8-16

H

-h command-line option 5-11, 13-6
handle, federate 5-14
heartbeat 6-11
 interval, configuring 6-11
hierarchical network 10-25
 configuring 10-26
 distributed forwarder 10-25
HLA
 API, optimizing performance 8-2
 certification 1-2
 compliance 1-2
 configuring full 11-2
 example applications B-2
 specification 1-2
HLA 1.3
 interoperability with 1516 1-7
HLA 1516
 configuring 9-9
 DTD 6-3
 interoperability with 1.3 1-7
 logical time 3-7
 specifying RID file 4-4
HLA Bounce, example B-7
HLA Evolved, time implementation 3-8
HLAfloat64Interval class 3-8
HLAfloat64Time class 3-8
HLAfloat64TimeFactory class 3-8
HLAinteger64Interval class 3-8

HLAinteger64Time class 3-8
HLAinteger64TimeFactory class 3-8
HLAlogicalTimeFactoryFactory, HLA Evolved 3-8

I

IEEE 1516 1-2, 1-6
 API 1-3
implementing, logical time 3-6
implicit DDM 12-17
 adding to FED or FDD file 12-18
 associating DDM regions 12-20
 configuring 12-5
 dimension 12-19
 initial bounds 12-19
 modifying distributed region extents 12-20
 modifying fixed grid DDM 12-21, 12-22
 normalization 12-19
interaction
 displaying FOM 7-2
 federate 8-12
 sending 9-2
internal message 10-4
 configuring delay time 11-3
 reliable, enabling for FOM modules 14-6
 smart forwarding 9-7
 transmission rate 11-4
interoperability, 1.3 and 1516 1-7
interval, response 6-13
IP address 5-11, 10-3

J

Java, binding 3-8
join FOM module
 configuring 14-7
 merging 14-4
join module 14-3
joinFederationExecution service 6-5

K

-K command-line option 13-6
-k command-line option 13-6

L

-l command-line option 5-11, 13-6

- LAN
 - configuring
 - best effort 10-3
 - TCP forwarding 10-4
 - distributed forwarding
 - topologies 10-7
 - topology comparisons 10-10
 - sending messages on 2-7
 - latency 2-5
 - latency test 8-2
 - configuring 8-9
 - continuous 8-8
 - details 8-7
 - enabling or disabling 8-3
 - manual 8-8
 - results 8-5
 - running 8-4
 - Latency Testing page 8-9
 - LBTs 5-2, 6-7
 - length, shared memory queue 13-4
 - libfedtime* library 3-2, 3-6
 - libfedtime1516* library 3-2, 3-7
 - libfedtime1516e*, library 3-8
 - library
 - for compiling 3-2
 - libfedtime* 3-6
 - libfedtime1516* 3-7
 - libfedtime1516e* 3-8
 - librti1516* 3-2
 - libRTI-NG* 3-2
 - lightweight mode 6-4
 - limitations 6-5
 - MOM DDM and time management 5-2
 - RTI Assistant 6-4
 - link-compatibility 1-3
 - linking
 - dynamic 1-3
 - on Windows 3-3, 3-4
 - to 1.3 3-2
 - to 1516 3-4
 - listing, federations and federates 5-13
 - load-balanced forwarder group, configuring 10-22
 - load-balanced forwarder network 10-14
 - Local Component Notification History window 6-10
 - local FOM module, configuring 14-8
 - Local RTI Component 4-2
 - log
 - clearing 5-9
 - federate 7-5
 - log (continued)
 - file 7-4
 - LRC 7-4
 - pausing 5-8
 - rtiexec output 5-3
 - saving to file 5-8
 - window 5-8
 - log update interval, RTI Assistant 5-5
 - logical time
 - 1516 3-7
 - implementing 3-6
 - LogicalTime 3-7, 3-8
 - LogicalTimeFactory, RTI 1516 3-7
 - LogicalTimeFactoryFactory* class 3-8
 - LogicalTimeFactoryImpl* class 3-7
 - LogicalTimeFactoryImplFloat* class 3-7
 - LogicalTimeFactoryImplInteger* class 3-7
 - LogicalTimeImpl* class 3-7
 - LogicalTimeImplFloat* class 3-7
 - LogicalTimeImplInteger* class 3-7
 - LogicalTimeInterval 3-7, 3-8
 - LogicalTimeInterval* class 3-6
 - LogicalTimeIntervalImpl* class 3-7
 - LogicalTimeIntervalImplFloat* class 3-7
 - LogicalTimeIntervalImplInteger* class 3-7
 - lookahead 6-7
 - lower bound time stamp 5-2, 6-7
 - LRC
 - delay in response to 6-13
 - I/O thread 2-5
 - log 7-4
 - logging diagnostics 7-4
 - message, federate 7-5
 - reconnecting to RTI Forwarder 6-13
- ## M
- M command-line option 5-11
 - MÄK Technologies Lisp 1-4, A-2
 - manual
 - conventions xvi
 - latency test 8-8
 - merge order, FOM module 14-4
 - merging
 - create FOM module 14-4
 - FOM modules 14-2, 14-4
 - join FOM module 14-4
 - MOM module 14-4
 - message
 - asynchronous processing 2-6

- message (continued)
 - best effort 10-3
 - bundling 9-3, A-12
 - compressing 9-7
 - delay time for internal 11-3
 - diagnostic 5-3
 - federate, log 7-5
 - federation-wide 6-10
 - forwarding internal 9-7
 - latency 2-5
 - log
 - pausing updates 5-8
 - RTI Assistant 7-4
 - logging LRC 7-4
 - queue A-24
 - RTI Assistant, configuring 5-6
 - sending, large 9-8
 - transmit rate for internal 11-4
- message queue, size of 13-5
- Messages page 8-13
- Modeling and Simulation Coordination Office 1-2
- modular FOM. See FOM module
- modules, merging 14-4
- MOM 5-2, 6-5, 8-19, 11-2
 - in FOM modules 14-3
 - interoperability 1-7
 - module 14-3
 - service reports 11-2
- MOM module
 - configuring 14-6
 - merging 14-4
 - specifying 14-6
- MOM services, configuring 11-2
- MTL 1-4
 - file A-2
 - parameters A-4
- multicast 2-7, 10-6
 - address 10-3
 - RTI Assistant 5-9
 - discovery, configuring 9-4
 - group 9-10
 - address 5-11
 - configuring 9-11
- multicast TTL, RTI Assistant 5-9
- multi-homed host 9-11
- multiple, address 10-6
- multithreaded application 2-2
- multithreading 2-5

N

- N command-line option 5-11
- n command-line option 5-11, 13-7
- name, shared memory region 13-4
- name reservation, in lightweight mode 6-5
- NAT 10-25
- network
 - compatibility 1-5
 - congestion 9-9
 - overhead 8-2
 - topologies, LAN 2-7
- network address translation 10-25
- network monitoring tool. See RTISpy Network Monitoring window
- network receive buffer, configuring 9-8
- normalization, implicit DDM 12-19
- notification
 - configuring 5-6
 - level 5-11

O

- object
 - attributes sent 9-2
 - federate 8-11
 - orphan 6-11, 6-12
 - unknown 6-14
- objects, displaying FOM 7-2
- optimizing
 - distributed forwarding on WAN 10-12
 - performance 8-2
- orphaned object 6-11, 6-12
- ownership management 6-5, B-7

P

- P command-line option 5-11, 13-7
- packet
 - bundling 9-3
 - forwarding, TCP 2-7
- parameter
 - commenting out A-2
 - consistency of 4-7
 - forceUnlicensedForTwo A-14
 - RID A-4, A-5, A-14
 - RTI_addForwarder 10-18, 10-19, 10-20, 10-21, 10-26
 - RTI_addForwarderConnection 10-26
 - RTI_addForwarderRoute 10-26

parameter (continued)

RTI_addressDelay 12-2, A-25
 RTI_allowMulticastForwarding 10-23
 RTI_allProvideUpdateRequestsDelayed 9-9, A-24
 RTI_attributeRelevanceAdvisorySwitch 4-3, A-17
 RTI_attributeScopeAdvisorySwitch 4-3, A-17
 RTI_autoProvideDelay 9-9, A-23
 RTI_autoProvideSwitch A-16
 RTI_bestEffortSendRetries 9-9, A-22
 RTI_bestEffortSendRetryWaitUsec 9-9, A-22
 RTI_catchFedAmbExceptions A-20
 RTI_checkFlag A-19
 RTI_configureConnectionWithRid 5-11
 RTI_configureConnectionWithRid 7-6, A-7
 RTI_conveyOnlyAvailableDimensions A-26
 RTI_conveyProducingFederateSwitch A-16
 RTI_conveyRegionDesignatorSwitch A-16
 RTI_crcCheckFedFile A-20
 RTI_dataDistMgmt 12-2, A-7
 RTI_ddmFixedGrid 12-3, A-7
 RTI_ddmFixedGridFilename 12-3, 12-4, A-7
 RTI_defaultFedFile 6-2, A-20
 RTI_defaultTimeImplementation A-21
 RTI_delaySubscriptionEvaluationSwitch A-16
 RTI_deleteOrphans 6-12, A-9
 RTI_destAddrString 5-11
 RTI_destAddrString 7-6
 RTI_destAddrString 10-3, 10-6, 10-23, A-6
 RTI_detachNotifyLevelFromStdOut A-18
 RTI_discoveryMsgBundlingDelay A-12
 RTI_distributedForwarderPort 10-18
 RTI_distributedForwarderPort 10-18
 RTI_distributedForwarderPort 10-25, A-11
 RTI_distributedUdpForwarderMode 10-6, 10-7, 10-15, 10-23, A-11
 RTI_distributeFedFile 6-3, 14-4, A-9, A-20
 RTI_dualTransmitFirstInteractionRegions A-23
 RTI_dumpFed A-18
 RTI_dumpRid A-18
 RTI_enableBestEffortSendRetry 9-9, A-22
 RTI_enableFederateHeartbeat 6-11, 6-12, A-9, A-10
 RTI_enableFedexMsgRouting 9-7, A-12
 RTI_enableFomBackwardsCompatibility A-8
 RTI_enableHlaObjectNamePrefix A-8
 RTI_enableLRCNetworkStatisticsMonitoring 7-2, 8-10, A-19
 RTI_enableMessageThrottling 11-3, 11-4, A-23
 RTI_enableNameReservation A-9
 RTI_enableNetworkTesting A-18

parameter (continued)

RTI_enablePacketBundling 9-3
 RTI_enablePacketBundling A-22
 RTI_enableSaveRestoreWhenUsingRtiexec A-12
 RTI_enableTcpCompression 9-7, A-21
 RTI_enableUdpCompression 9-7, A-21
 RTI_enableUpdateRateReduction 15-5, A-13
 RTI_enableWarningsForDisabledServices A-15
 RTI_exceptionReportingSwitch 11-2, A-16
 RTI_execMcastDiscoveryDelay A-15
 RTI_extend13and1516interop 1-7, A-7
 RTI_federateHeartbeatInterval 6-11, A-9
 RTI_federateReconnectPause 6-13, A-10
 RTI_federateTimeoutInterval 6-12, A-10
 RTI_flushTimeoutInterval A-21
 RTI_fomDataTransportTypeControl 7-6, 9-2, 10-3, 10-4, A-7
 RTI_fomModuleMerging 14-6
 RTI_fomModuleMerging A-27
 RTI_forceFullCompliance 1-2
 RTI_forceFullCompliance 7-6
 RTI_forceFullCompliance 11-2, A-5
 RTI_forceUnlicensedForTwo A-14
 RTI_forwarderGroupInterconnectMethod 10-19, 10-20, 10-26
 RTI_forwarderInterfaceAddr 10-19
 RTI_forwarderRoutesFile 5-11, 10-20, A-11
 RTI_forwardingDelay A-12
 RTI_fullFedFileDistribution A-9
 RTI_implicitDdmDefaultSensorRange 12-5
 RTI_implicitDdmDefaultUpdateRange 12-5
 RTI_implicitDdmMaxExtentLimit 12-6
 RTI_implicitDdmMinExtentLimit 12-6
 RTI_implicitDdmOriginLat 12-6
 RTI_implicitDdmOriginLong 12-6
 RTI_implicitDdmParamsFile A-26
 RTI_implicitDdmRegionMargin 12-5
 RTI_interactionRelevanceAdvisorySwitch 4-3, A-16
 RTI_internalMsgReliable 14-4
 RTI_internalMsgReliableWhenUsingRtiexec 4-7, 6-3
 RTI_internalMsgReliableWhenUsingRtiexec 7-6
 RTI_internalMsgReliableWhenUsingRtiexec 9-2
 RTI_internalMsgReliableWhenUsingRtiexec 10-3
 RTI_internalMsgReliableWhenUsingRtiexec 10-4, A-6, A-9
 RTI_InternalMsgSmartForwardingWhenUsingRtiexec A-6
 RTI_IOLockQueue A-25
 RTI_IOPeriod A-25
 RTI_logFileDirectory A-17

parameter (continued)

RTI_logfileName 7-4, A-17, A-18
RTI_lrcMcastDiscoveryDelay A-15
RTI_maxChannelAddr 12-2, A-25
RTI_maxForwarderQueue A-24
RTI_maxIOCount A-25
RTI_maxIOQueue A-25
RTI_maxNumFederates 9-5, A-12
RTI_maxUdpPacketSize A-22
RTI_mcastDiscoveryAddrString 9-4, A-14
RTI_mcastDiscoveryEnabled 7-6
RTI_mcastDiscoveryEnabled 9-4, A-14
RTI_mcastDiscoveryPort A-14
RTI_mcastDiscoveryTries 9-4, A-15
RTI_mcastTtl A-21
RTI_messageThrottling 9-9
RTI_minChannelAddr 12-2, 12-3, A-25
RTI_momExceptionLogging 11-2, A-26
RTI_momFederateUpdateInterval 11-2, A-26
RTI_momModuleExtensionFileName 14-6
RTI_momModuleExtensionFileName 14-6, A-27
RTI_momServiceAvailable 11-2, A-7
RTI_networkInterfaceAddr A-14
RTI_notifyLevel A-17
RTI_objectClassRelevanceAdvisorySwitch 4-3, A-16
RTI_packetBundlingSize 9-3
RTI_packetBundlingSize A-22
RTI_preferLocalFomModule 14-8, A-27
RTI_preferRidToFedSwitchTable 4-3, A-15
RTI_processingModel 9-9, A-24
RTI_processUnknownUpdatesForDiscovery 6-14, A-20
RTI_receiveTolerance 15-6
RTI_receiveTolerance A-13
RTI_reconnectEnabled 6-13, A-10
RTI_responseInterval 6-13, A-8
RTI_reuseLogFile 5-3, 7-4, A-17, A-18
RTI_reuseReleasedObjectHandles A-9
RTI_ridConsistencyChecking 4-8, A-18
RTI_routeToAllByDefault A-12
RTI_RTI_disableUnlicensedForTwo A-14
RTI_rtiExecLogFileName 5-3, A-17
RTI_rtiExecPerformsLicensing A-14
RTI_rtiExecReconnectPause 6-13, A-10
RTI_rtiForwarderLogFileName A-17
RTI_saveRestoreDirectory A-26
RTI_saveRestoreTimeout 6-15, A-13
RTI_saveTransientMessages A-13
RTI_sendDiscoveredClass A-8
RTI_serviceReportingSwitch 11-2, A-16

parameter (continued)

RTI_sharedMemExecLogFileName A-27
RTI_sharedMemoryMgrMaxWait 13-2, 13-5, 13-12, A-27
RTI_sharedMemoryMode 13-2, 13-3, A-27
RTI_sharedMemoryName 13-2, 13-4, A-27
RTI_sharedMemoryQueueLength 13-2, 13-4, 13-9, A-27
RTI_singleCallbackPerTick 13-10, 13-11, A-19
RTI_smartForwardingLevel 9-5, A-11
RTI_socketReceiveBufferSize 9-8, A-22
RTI_socketSendBufferSize 9-8, A-22
RTI_strictFomChecking A-20
RTI_strictNameReservation A-9
RTI_tcpBufferSize 9-8, A-22
RTI_tcpCompressionLevel 9-7, A-21
RTI_tcpForwarderAddr 6-11
RTI_tcpForwarderAddr 7-6
RTI_tcpForwarderAddr 9-4, 10-4, 10-5, 10-15, A-6
RTI_tcpNoDelay A-21
RTI_tcpPort 4-3, 5-11, 7-6, 10-4, 13-7, A-5
RTI_throwExceptionCallNotAllowedFromWithinCallback A-15
RTI_throwExceptionForDisabledService A-15
RTI_throwExceptionOnConcurrentAccess A-15
RTI_tickFavorsNetwork A-25
RTI_tickWaitPeriod A-25
RTI_timeMgmt 11-2, A-7
RTI_transmitDelay 11-3, A-23
RTI_transmitRate 11-4, A-23
RTI_udpCompressionLevel 9-7, A-21
RTI_udpPort 4-3, 5-11
RTI_udpPort 7-6
RTI_udpPort 10-3, A-5
RTI_use32BitsForValueSize 9-8, A-10
RTI_useBusyWaitForTickMinMax A-23, A-28
RTI_useExceptForUnimplServ 6-14
RTI_useRandomNumberForFedHandle 6-5, A-8
RTI_useRtiExec 4-3, 6-3
RTI_useRtiExec 7-6
RTI_useRtiExec 10-4, 14-4, A-5, A-6, A-9
RTI_variableLengthDataUsesNull A-8
RTI-addCreateFomModule 14-6
RTI-addCreateFomModule 14-7, A-27
RTI-addDestAddrString 10-6, 10-23, A-24
RTI-addDMInteractionMulticastAddr 9-10, 9-11, A-10
RTI-addDMObjectMulticastAddr 9-10, 9-11, A-10
RTI-addForwarderGroup 10-19, 10-21

parameter (continued)

- RTI-addForwarderGroupAddrString 10-15, A-11
- RTI-addForwarderToGroup 10-19, 10-21, 10-22
- RTI-addJoinFomModule 14-7, A-27
- RTI-addRidParametersToOverride 4-9, A-18
- RTI-addUpdateRate 15-5, 15-6, A-13
- RTI-addUpdateRateSubscription 15-6, A-13
- RTI-allowMulticastForwarding 10-19, 10-20
- RTI-enableBundling 10-19
- RTI-enableCompression 10-19
- RTI-removeRidParametersToOverride 4-9, A-18
- RTI-setObjectSensorRange 12-5, 12-6
- RTI-setObjectUpdateRange 12-5, 12-6
- RTI-setObjectWeaponRange 12-6
- sending large 9-8
- TimeToLive A-21
- passelization 12-9
- pausing, message updates 5-8
- performance 2-2
 - affect of rtiexec use 5-2
 - asynchronous I/O 2-3
 - buffering update requests 9-9
 - effect of tick() function 2-4
 - improving with asynchronous options 9-9
 - latency test 8-2
 - message compression 9-7
 - network congestion 9-9
 - optimizing 8-2
 - shared memory 13-9
 - update rate reduction 15-2
- plug-in, API 1-5
- pop-up message, configuring 5-6
- port
 - forwarder 10-18
 - RTI Assistant 5-9
 - setting for TCP 5-11
 - specifying 5-11
 - TCP A-5
 - UDP 10-3
- portal forwarder 10-12, 10-14
- primary forwarder 10-7
- process model, RTI 2-3
- processing
 - callbacks 8-18
 - createFederation, destroyFederation, joinFederation 6-13
- product
 - technical support xv
 - upgrades xv

Q

- q command-line option 5-3, 13-7
- queue
 - message A-24
 - shared memory 13-4

R

- R command-line option 5-11, 13-7
- r command-line option 5-11
- range, update, sensor, and weapon for implicit DDM 12-17
- range bounds 12-14
- receive buffer 9-8
- reconnecting, to RTI Forwarder 6-13
- region
 - associating with implicit DDM 12-20
 - shared memory 13-4
- region matching 12-8
- regulating federate 6-7
- reliable transport 2-7, 5-2, 5-3, 6-5
 - See also* TCP
 - choosing 9-2
 - topologies 2-7
 - WAN 2-7
- report, MOM service 11-2
- response interval 6-13
- restore
 - configuring 6-15
 - enabling and disabling A-12
- RID file 1-4, 4-2, 7-6, 9-2, A-4
 - compatibility 1-4
 - consistency 4-7
 - among federates 4-3
 - displaying settings 4-5
 - FOM module parameters 14-6
 - HLA 1516
 - specifying programmatically 4-4
 - parameters A-5, A-14
 - search order 4-2
- rid.mtl* 1-4, 4-2, A-4
 - checking consistency 4-9
- router, configuring for distributed forwarding 10-25
- routes file 5-11, 10-16
 - See also routes.mtl*
 - creating 10-18
 - search order 10-20

- routes.mtl* 10-16
 - See also* routes file
 - for firewalls and routers 10-25
 - search order 10-20
- RTI
 - compatibility 1-3
 - configuring for FOM modules 14-4
 - definition 1-2, 1-5
 - executive 5-2
 - Initialization Data file 4-2
 - message types 8-13
 - process model 2-3
 - specification 1-2
- RTI 1516
 - LogicalTimeFactoryFactory 3-7
 - name reservation 6-5
 - supported services 1-6
- RTI Ambassador 8-14
- RTI Assistant
 - address 5-9
 - configuring 5-4
 - disabling 5-10
 - displaying messages 6-10
 - lightweight mode 6-4
 - log update interval 5-5
 - logging messages 7-4
 - multicast TTL 5-9
 - pop-ups and notifications 5-6
 - port 5-9
 - shutting down 5-6
- RTI Chooser 4-2
- RTI Forwarder 2-7, 5-10, 6-11, 9-4, 10-4
 - command-line options 5-11
 - configuring 10-16, 10-18
 - hierarchical network 10-26
 - load-balanced group 10-22
 - configuring for routers and firewalls 10-5
 - configuring single-portal 10-20
 - group 10-7
 - hierarchical network, topology 10-25
 - load-balanced forwarder network 10-14
 - multiple on LAN 10-7
 - portal 10-12, 10-14
 - primary and ancillary 10-7
 - reconnecting to 6-13
 - routes file 5-11
 - singleton 10-9
 - UDP 10-23
 - using unicast for UDP 10-23
- RTI initialization data file 1-4
- RTI Preferences dialog box 5-5, 8-9
- RTI services, affect of fixed grid DDM 12-15
- RTI_addForwarder parameter 10-18, 10-19, 10-20, 10-21, 10-26
- RTI_addForwarderConnection parameter 10-26
- RTI_addForwarderRoute parameter 10-26
- RTI_addressDelay parameter 12-2, A-25
- RTI_allProvideUpdateRequestsDelayed parameter 9-9, A-24
- RTI_ASSISTANT_DISABLE, environment variable 5-10
- RTI_ASSISTANT_IPV4_ADDRESS, environment variable 5-9
- RTI_ASSISTANT_IPV6_ADDRESS, environment variable 5-9
- RTI_ASSISTANT_PORT environment variable 5-9
- RTI_ASSISTANT_TTL, environment variable 5-9
- RTI_attributeRelevanceAdvisorySwitch parameter 4-3, A-17
- RTI_attributeScopeAdvisorySwitch parameter 4-3, A-17
- RTI_autoProvideDelay parameter 9-9, A-23
- RTI_autoProvideSwitch parameter A-16
- RTI_bestEffortSendRetries parameter 9-9, A-22
- RTI_bestEffortSendRetryWaitUsec parameter 9-9, A-22
- RTI_catchFedAmbExceptions parameter A-20
- RTI_checkFlag parameter A-19
- RTI_CONFIG environment variable 4-2, 6-2
- RTI_configureConnectionWithRid parameter 5-11
- RTI_configureConnectionWithRid parameter 7-6, A-7
- RTI_conveyOnlyAvailableDimensions parameter A-26
- RTI_conveyProducingFederateSwitch parameter A-16
- RTI_conveyRegionDesignatorSwitch parameter A-16
- RTI_crcCheckFedFile parameter A-20
- RTI_dataDistMgmt parameter 12-2, A-7
- RTI_ddmFixedGrid parameter 12-3, A-7
- RTI_ddmFixedGridFilename parameter 12-3, 12-4, A-7
- RTI_defaultFedFile parameter 6-2, A-20
- RTI_defaultTimelImplementation parameter A-21
- RTI_delaySubscriptionEvaluationSwitch parameter A-16
- RTI_deleteOrphans parameter 6-12, A-9
- RTI_destAddrString parameter 5-11, 10-3, 10-6, 10-23, A-6
- RTI_destAddrString parameter 7-6
- RTI_detachNotifyLevelFromStdOut parameter A-18

-
- RTI_discoveryMsgBundlingDelay parameter A-12
 - RTI_distributedForwarderPort parameter 10-18, 10-25, A-11
 - RTI_distributedForwarderPort parameter 10-18
 - RTI_distributedUdpForwarderMode parameter 10-6, 10-7, 10-15, 10-23, A-11
 - RTI_distributeFedFile parameter 6-3, 14-4, A-9, A-20
 - RTI_dualTransmitFirstInteractionRegions parameter A-23
 - RTI_dumpFed parameter A-18
 - RTI_dumpRid parameter A-18
 - RTI_enableBestEffortSendRetry parameter 9-9, A-22
 - RTI_enableFederateHeartbeat parameter 6-11, A-9, A-10
 - RTI_enableFederateHeartbeat parameter 6-12
 - RTI_enableFedexMsgRouting parameter 9-7, A-12
 - RTI_enableFomBackwardsCompatibility parameter A-8
 - RTI_enableHlaObjectNamePrefix parameter A-8
 - RTI_enableLRCNetworkStatisticsMonitoring parameter 7-2, 8-10, A-19
 - RTI_enableMessageThrottling parameter 11-3, 11-4, A-23
 - RTI_enableNameReservation parameter A-9
 - RTI_enableNetworkTesting parameter A-18
 - RTI_enablePacketBundling parameter A-22
 - RTI_enablePacketBundling parameter 9-3
 - RTI_enableSaveRestoreWhenUsingRtiexec parameter A-12
 - RTI_enableTcpCompression parameter 9-7, A-21
 - RTI_enableUdpCompression parameter 9-7, A-21
 - RTI_enableUpdateRateReduction parameter 15-5, A-13
 - RTI_enableWarningsForDisabledServices parameter A-15
 - RTI_exceptionReportingSwitch parameter 11-2, A-16
 - RTI_execMcastDiscoveryDelay parameter A-15
 - RTI_extend13and1516interop parameter 1-7, A-7
 - RTI_federateHeartbeatInterval parameter 6-11, A-9
 - RTI_federateReconnectPause parameter 6-13, A-10
 - RTI_federateTimeoutInterval parameter 6-12, A-10
 - RTI_flushTimeoutInterval parameter A-21
 - RTI_fomDataTransportTypeControl parameter 7-6, 9-2, 10-3, 10-4, A-7
 - RTI_fomModuleMerging parameter A-27
 - RTI_fomModuleMerging parameter 14-6
 - RTI_forceFullCompliance parameter 11-2, A-5
 - RTI_forceFullCompliance parameter 7-6
 - RTI_forceFullCompliance parameter 1-2
 - RTI_forceUnlicensedForTwo parameter A-14
 - RTI_forwarderGroupInterconnectMethod parameter 10-19, 10-20, 10-26
 - RTI_forwarderInterfaceAddr parameter 10-19
 - RTI_forwarderRoutesFile parameter 5-11, 10-20, A-11
 - RTI_forwardingDelay parameter A-12
 - RTI_fullFedFileDistribution parameter A-9
 - RTI_implicitDdmDefaultSensorRange parameter 12-5
 - RTI_implicitDdmDefaultUpdateRange parameter 12-5
 - RTI_implicitDdmMaxExtentLimit parameter 12-6
 - RTI_implicitDdmMinExtentLimit parameter 12-6
 - RTI_implicitDdmOriginLat parameter 12-6
 - RTI_implicitDdmOriginLong parameter 12-6
 - RTI_implicitDdmParamsFile parameter A-26
 - RTI_implicitDdmRegionMargin parameter 12-5
 - RTI_interactionRelevanceAdvisorySwitch parameter 4-3, A-16
 - RTI_internalMsgReliable parameter 14-4
 - RTI_internalMsgReliableWhenUsingRtiexec parameter 4-7, 6-3, 9-2, 10-4, A-6, A-9
 - RTI_internalMsgReliableWhenUsingRtiexec parameter 7-6, 10-3
 - RTI_InternalMsgSmartForwardingWhenUsingRtiexec parameter A-6
 - RTI_IOLockQueue parameter A-25
 - RTI_IOPeriod parameter A-25
 - RTI_logFileDirectory parameter A-17
 - RTI_logfileName parameter 7-4, A-17, A-18
 - RTI_lrcMcastDiscoveryDelay parameter A-15
 - RTI_maxChannelAddr parameter 12-2, A-25
 - RTI_maxForwarderQueue parameter A-24
 - RTI_maxIOCount parameter A-25
 - RTI_maxIOQueue parameter A-25
 - RTI_maxNumFederates parameter 9-5, A-12
 - RTI_maxUdpPacketSize parameter A-22
 - RTI_mcastDiscoveryAddrString parameter 9-4, A-14
 - RTI_mcastDiscoveryEnabled parameter 9-4, A-14
 - RTI_mcastDiscoveryEnabled parameter 7-6
 - RTI_mcastDiscoveryPort parameter A-14
 - RTI_mcastDiscoveryTries parameter 9-4, A-15
 - RTI_mcastTtl parameter A-21
 - RTI_messageThrottling parameter 9-9
 - RTI_minChannelAddr parameter 12-2, 12-3, A-25
 - RTI_momExceptionLogging parameter 11-2, A-26
 - RTI_momFederateUpdateInterval parameter 11-2, A-26
 - RTI_momModuleExtensionFileName parameter 14-6, A-27
 - RTI_momModuleExtensionFileName parameter 14-6
 - RTI_momServiceAvailable parameter 11-2, A-7

- RTI_networkInterfaceAddr parameter A-14
- RTI_notifyLevel parameter A-17
- RTI_objectClassRelevanceAdvisorySwitch parameter 4-3, A-16
- RTI_packetBundlingSize parameter 9-3
- RTI_packetBundlingSize parameter A-22
- RTI_preferLocalFomModule parameter 14-8, A-27
- RTI_preferRidToFedSwitchTable parameter 4-3, A-15
- RTI_processingModel parameter 9-9, A-24
- RTI_processUnknownUpdatesForDiscovery parameter 6-14, A-20
- RTI_receiveTolerance parameter 15-6
- RTI_receiveTolerance parameter A-13
- RTI_reconnectEnabled parameter 6-13, A-10
- RTI_responseInterval parameter 6-13, A-8
- RTI_reuseLogFile parameter 5-3, 7-4, A-17, A-18
- RTI_reuseReleasedObjectHandles parameter A-9
- RTI_RID_FILE environment variable 4-2
 - setting programmatically 4-4
- RTI_ridConsistencyChecking parameter 4-8, A-18
- RTI_routeToAllByDefault parameter A-12
- RTI_RTI_disableUnlicensedForTwo parameter A-14
- RTI_rtiExecLogFileName parameter 5-3, A-17
- RTI_rtiExecPerformsLicensing parameter A-14
- RTI_rtiExecReconnectPause parameter 6-13, A-10
- RTI_rtiForwarderLogFileName parameter A-17
- RTI_saveRestoreDirectory parameter A-26
- RTI_saveRestoreTimeout parameter 6-15, A-13
- RTI_saveTransientMessages parameter A-13
- RTI_sendDiscoveredClass parameter A-8
- RTI_serviceReportingSwitch parameter 11-2, A-16
- RTI_sharedMemExecLogFileName parameter A-27
- RTI_sharedMemoryMgrMaxWait parameter 13-2, 13-5, 13-12, A-27
- RTI_sharedMemoryMode parameter 13-2, 13-3, A-27
- RTI_sharedMemoryName parameter 13-2, 13-4, A-27
- RTI_sharedMemoryQueueLength parameter 13-2, 13-4, 13-9, A-27
- RTI_singleCallbackPerTick parameter 13-10, 13-11, A-19
- RTI_smartForwardingLevel parameter 9-5, A-11
- RTI_socketReceiveBufferSize parameter 9-8, A-22
- RTI_socketSendBufferSize parameter 9-8, A-22
- RTI_strictFomChecking parameter A-20
- RTI_strictNameReservation parameter A-9
- RTI_tcpBufferSize parameter 9-8, A-22
- RTI_tcpCompressionLevel parameter 9-7, A-21
- RTI_tcpForwarderAddr parameter 6-11, 9-4, 10-4, 10-5, 10-15, A-6
- RTI_tcpForwarderAddr parameter 7-6
- RTI_tcpNoDelay parameter A-21
- RTI_tcpPort parameter 4-3, 5-11, 7-6, 10-4, 13-7, A-5
- RTI_throwExceptionCallNotAllowedFromWithinCallback parameter A-15
- RTI_throwExceptionForDisabledService parameter A-15
- RTI_throwExceptionOnConcurrentAccess parameter A-15
- RTI_tickFavorsNetwork parameter A-25
- RTI_tickWaitPeriod parameter A-25
- RTI_timeMgmt parameter 11-2, A-7
- RTI_transmitDelay parameter 11-3, A-23
- RTI_transmitRate parameter 11-4, A-23
- RTI_udpCompressionLevel parameter 9-7, A-21
- RTI_udpPort parameter 4-3, 5-11, 10-3, A-5
- RTI_udpPort parameter 7-6
- RTI_use32BitsForValueSize parameter 9-8, A-10
- RTI_useBusyWaitForTickMinMax parameter A-23, A-28
- RTI_useExceptForUnimplServ parameter 6-14
- RTI_useRandomNumberForFedHandle parameter 6-5, A-8
- RTI_useRtiExec parameter 4-3, 6-3, 10-4, 14-4, A-5, A-6, A-9
- RTI_useRtiExec parameter 7-6
- RTI_variableLengthDataUsesNull parameter A-8
- RTI-addCreateFomModule parameter 14-7, A-27
- RTI-addCreateFomModule parameter 14-6
- RTI-addDestAddrString parameter 10-6, 10-23, A-24
- RTI-addDMInteractionMulticastAddr parameter 9-10, 9-11, A-10
- RTI-addDMObjectMulticastAddr parameter 9-10, 9-11, A-10
- RTI-addForwarderGroup parameter 10-19, 10-21
- RTI-addForwarderGroupAddrString parameter 10-15, A-11
- RTI-addForwarderToGroup parameter 10-19, 10-21, 10-22
- RTI-addJoinFomModule parameter 14-7, A-27
- RTI-addRidParametersToOverride parameter 4-9, A-18
- RTI-addUpdateRate parameter 15-5, 15-6, A-13
- RTI-addUpdateRateSubscription parameter 15-6, A-13
- RTI-allowMulticastForwarding parameter 10-19, 10-20, 10-23
- RTI-enableBundling parameter 10-19
- RTI-enableCompression parameter 10-19
- rtiexec 5-2
 - configuring 5-3
 - shared memory use 13-2

- rtiexec (continued)
 - consistency of RID parameters 4-7
 - enabling, for FOM modules 14-6
 - latency testing 8-4
 - logging
 - diagnostics 7-4
 - output 5-3
 - required use 5-2
 - response time 6-13
 - running RTI without 6-4
 - save and restore A-12
 - specifying FED file 6-2
 - synchronization points 6-9
 - time management display 6-7
 - viewing federation details 6-6
 - RTIfedTime* class 3-6
 - RTIinternalError 6-13
 - RTI-removeRidParametersToOverride parameter 4-9, A-18
 - RTI-setObjectSensorRange parameter 12-5, 12-6
 - RTI-setObjectUpdateRange parameter 12-5, 12-6
 - RTI-setObjectWeaponRange parameter 12-6
 - rtiShmQMgr 13-5
 - rtiShmQMGr1516 13-5
 - rtisimple example B-2
 - RTIspy
 - API 1-5, 12-18
 - displaying
 - FOM interactions 7-2
 - FOM objects 7-2
 - RTIspy Network Monitoring window, Messages
 - page 8-13
 - running, latency test 8-4
 - Run-Time Infrastructure, definition of 1-5
- S**
- save
 - configuring 6-15
 - enabling and disabling A-12
 - Save and Restore 6-5
 - saving, messages to file 5-8
 - scaffolding definition 14-5
 - search order
 - FED file 6-2
 - fixed grid configuration file 12-4
 - RID file 4-2
 - routes file 10-20
 - send buffer 9-8
 - sender-side filtering 9-5
 - internal messages 9-7
 - sending
 - advisory messages 4-3
 - large attributes and parameters 9-8
 - messages
 - LAN 2-7
 - WAN 2-7
 - object attributes and interactions 9-2
 - sensor range 12-17
 - server, RTI central 5-2
 - service
 - createFederation 6-13
 - createFederationExecution 6-5
 - destroyFederation 6-13
 - joinFederation 6-13
 - joinFederationExecution 6-5
 - supported for 1516 1-6
 - service reports, enabling MOM 11-2
 - setting, switch values 4-3
 - shared memory
 - configuring 13-2
 - memory manager 13-12
 - enabling and disabling 13-3
 - manager, configuring performance 13-12
 - message queue size 13-5
 - queue length 13-4, 13-9
 - region name 13-4
 - stopping manager 13-8
 - tick() function 13-11
 - tuning performance 13-9
 - wait interval 13-5
 - shared memory manager, stopping 13-8
 - Shared Memory Queue Manager 13-3, 13-5
 - stopping 13-8
 - shutting down, RTI Assistant 5-6
 - silent failure 6-14
 - simpleDDM example B-4
 - simpletime example B-5
 - simulation time 6-7
 - single-portal forwarder group, configuring 10-20
 - single-portal interconnection 10-12
 - singleton forwarder 10-9
 - compared to forwarder group 10-10
 - SISO DLC HLA API 1516 1-3
 - SISO Dynamic Link Compatibility HLA API
 - Product Development Group 1-6
 - SISO-STD-004.1-2004 1-3, 1-6
 - size, bundle 10-19

- smart TCP forwarding 9-5
 - See also* sender-side filtering
- specification, obtaining HLA and RTI 1-2
- specifying
 - port 5-11
 - shared memory queue length 13-4
 - shared memory region name 13-4
 - Warning Tick Interval 5-7
- static routing 10-5
- statistic, graphing 8-16
- stopping, shared memory manager 13-8
- subscription B-7
- support, technical xv
- switch value, setting 4-3
- synchronization point 5-2, 6-5
 - viewing 6-9
- synchronous processing 2-4

T

- T command-line option 5-11, 13-7
- t command-line option 13-7
- table
 - FOM 14-5
 - FOM in FOM modules 14-5
- TCP 5-2, 9-2, 9-3
 - See also* reliable transport
 - buffer 9-8
 - compressing messages 9-7
 - packet 9-3
 - port A-5
 - setting port 5-11
 - topologies 2-7
- TCP forwarding 2-7, 2-8
 - configuring centralized 10-4
 - configuring smart 9-5
 - internal messages 9-7
 - on WAN 10-5
 - smart 9-5
- technical support xv
- terminated federate 6-11
- test, latency 8-2
- thread
 - asynchronous I/O 2-5
 - federate and asynchronous 2-5
- thread-safety 2-2, 9-9
- tick() function 2-3, 2-4, 2-5
 - not calling 2-6
 - shared memory 13-11
- tick(min,max) A-28

- time
 - advance grant 6-7
 - federation 3-5
 - HLA Evolved
 - logical time, HLA Evolved 3-8
 - simulation 6-7
- time implementation, *libfedtime* 3-6
- time management 3-8, 5-2, 6-5, 11-2
 - configuring 11-2
 - display 6-7
 - example B-5
 - time implementation 3-5
- timeout
 - interval, configuring 6-12
- TimeToLive parameter A-21
- topology
 - distributed forwarding
 - LAN 10-7
 - WAN 10-11
 - network 2-7
- transmit rate 11-4

U

- UDP 9-2, 9-3
 - See also* best effort
 - compressing messages 9-7
 - datagram 9-3
 - distributed forwarding 10-23
 - forwarding 2-7
 - using unicast 10-23
 - over WAN 10-6
 - port, setting for best effort 10-3
 - topologies 2-7
- unicast, distributed UDP forwarding 10-23
- unimplemented service, responding to 6-14
- UNIX, linking on 3-3, 3-4
- unknown objects, discovery processing for 6-14
- unsubscription B-7
- update
 - filtering 15-2
 - range 12-17
 - reducing rate of 15-2
 - request, buffering 9-9
- update rate reduction 15-2, A-13
 - configuring 15-5
- upgrades xv

V

- v command-line option 5-11, 13-7
- validating, FOM module 14-5
- viewing
 - federation details 6-6
 - synchronization points 6-9
 - time management information 6-7
- virtual LAN 10-5
- virtual private network 10-5
- VPN 10-5

W

- wait interval, shared memory 13-5
- WAN
 - centralized TCP forwarding 10-5
 - communicating over 10-6
 - configuring transport type 10-4
 - distributed forwarding
 - optimizing 10-12
 - single-portal interconnection 10-12
 - topology 10-11
 - load-balanced forwarder network 10-14
 - sending messages on 2-7
- Warning Tick Interval, specifying 5-7
- weapon range 12-17
- window, log 5-8
- Windows, compiling and linking on 3-3, 3-4

X-Y-Z

- XML file 1-4



Link - Simulate - Visualize

RTI-4.3-1-140219