

# Take Off!



## **Ada** for Automation

Freedom and Power for Control Engineers

### Ada for Automation Demo Application

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# Chapter 1. Description

## 1.1. Ada for Automation

[Ada for Automation](#) (A4A in short) is a framework for designing industrial automation applications using the Ada language.

It makes use of the [libmodbus](#) library to allow building a ModbusTCP client or server, or a Modbus RTU master or slave.

It can also use [Hilscher](#) communication boards allowing to communicate on field buses like AS-Interface, CANopen, CC-Link, DeviceNet, PROFIBUS, EtherCAT, Ethernet/IP, Modbus TCP, PROFINET, Sercos III, POWERLINK, or VARAN.

With the help of [GtkAda](#), the binding to the [Graphic Tool Kit](#), one can design Graphical User Interfaces.

Thanks to [Gnoga](#), built on top of [Simple Components](#), it is also possible to provide a Web User Interface.

Nice addition is the binding to the [Snap7](#) library which allows to communicate with SIEMENS S7 PLCs using S7 Communication protocol ISO on TCP (RFC1006).

Of course, all the Ada ecosystem is available.

Using Ada bindings, C, C++, Fortran libraries can also be used.

And, since it is Ada, it can be compiled using the same code base to target all major platforms.

## 1.2. This demo application

This is a demo application featuring:

- a basic command line interface,
- a basic web user interface making use of Gnoga,
- a kernel with a Modbus TCP Server and one Hilscher cifX channel (K3),
- a trivial application that plays with 16 push buttons and 16 LEDs.

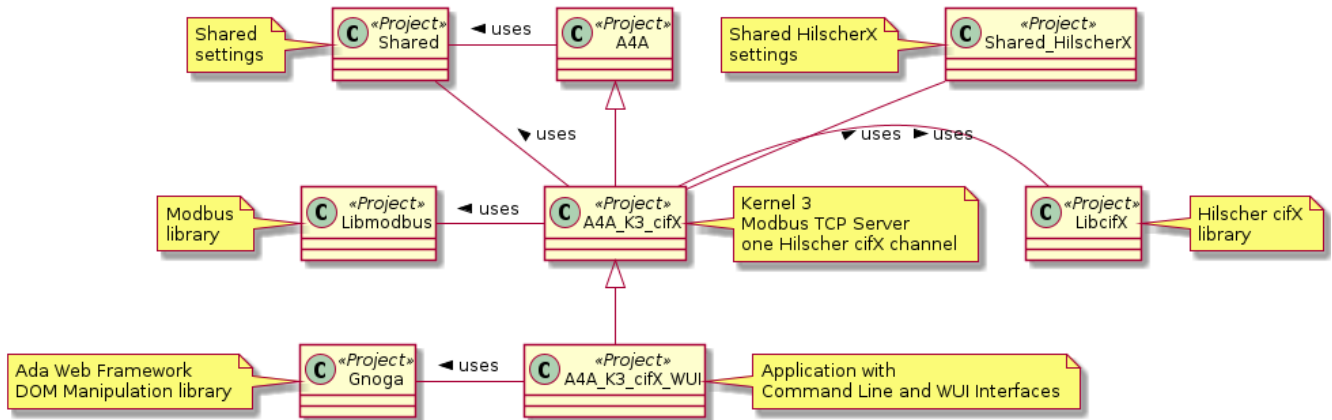
This application is meant to play with **052 a4a\_hilscherx\_piano**.

There are two variants :

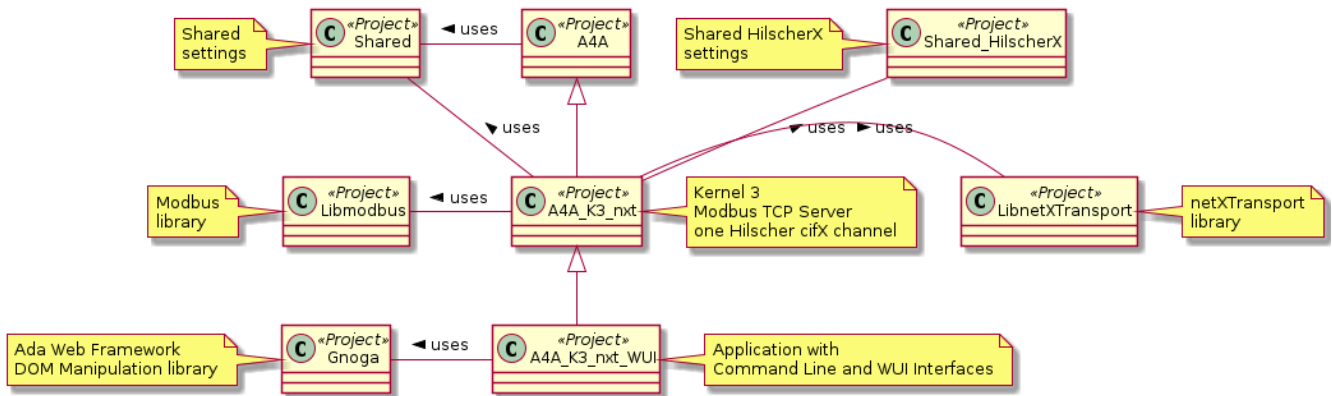
- one using the standard Hilscher cifX API for use with most Hilscher products with ISA, PCI, PCI Express, DPM, SPI interfaces,
- one using the standard Hilscher netXTransport API which has the same cifX API but via a TCP/IP connection for use with Hilscher netHOST.

# Chapter 2. Projects diagram

The following picture shows the diagram of the project using cifX API :



The following picture shows the diagram of the project using netXTransport API :



# Chapter 3. License

Those files are included in the **Ada for Automation** root folder :

## **COPYING3**

The GPL License you should read carefully. GNU GENERAL PUBLIC LICENSE Version 3, 29 June 2007

## **COPYING.RUNTIME**

GCC RUNTIME LIBRARY EXCEPTION Version 3.1, 31 March 2009

Hence, each source file contains the following header :

```
-----  
--                               Ada for Automation                               --  
--                               --                                               --  
--                               Copyright (C) 2012-2023, Stephane LOS           --  
--                               --                                               --  
-- This library is free software; you can redistribute it and/or modify it --  
-- under terms of the GNU General Public License as published by the Free --  
-- Software Foundation; either version 3, or (at your option) any later --  
-- version. This library is distributed in the hope that it will be useful, --  
-- but WITHOUT ANY WARRANTY; without even the implied warranty of MERCHAN- --  
-- TABILITY or FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE.                               --  
--                               --                                               --  
-- As a special exception under Section 7 of GPL version 3, you are granted --  
-- additional permissions described in the GCC Runtime Library Exception, --  
-- version 3.1, as published by the Free Software Foundation.                 --  
--                               --                                               --  
-- You should have received a copy of the GNU General Public License and --  
-- a copy of the GCC Runtime Library Exception along with this program; --  
-- see the files COPYING3 and COPYING.RUNTIME respectively. If not, see --  
-- <http://www.gnu.org/licenses/>. --  
--                               --                                               --  
-----
```

# Chapter 4. Building

The provided makefiles uses [GPRbuild](#) and provides six targets:

- all : builds the executable,
- app\_doc : creates the documentation of the source code,
- clean : cleans the space.

Additionally one can generate some documentation using [Asciidoctor](#) with :

- read\_me\_html : generates the README in HTML format,
- read\_me\_pdf : generates the README in PDF format,
- read\_me : generates the README in both formats.

# Chapter 5. Running

This application is meant to play with **052 a4a\_hilscherx\_piano**.

Of course, it can also play with a physical device of your own.

Use option `-f makefile_nxt` to use netXTransport instead of cifX.

In a console:

Build the application:

```
make
```

Optionally create the documentation:

```
make app_doc
```

Run the application:

```
make run
```

Use Ctrl+C to exit.

Optionally clean all:

```
make clean
```

# Chapter 6. Directories

## **bin**

Where you will find the executable.

## **doc**

The place where [GNATdoc](#) would create the documentation.

## **obj**

Build artifacts go here.

## **src**

Application source files.



# Chapter 7. Application

This is a basic **Ada for Automation** application which uses one Hilscher cifX channel configured as a fieldbus master and plays with 16 push buttons and 16 LEDs.

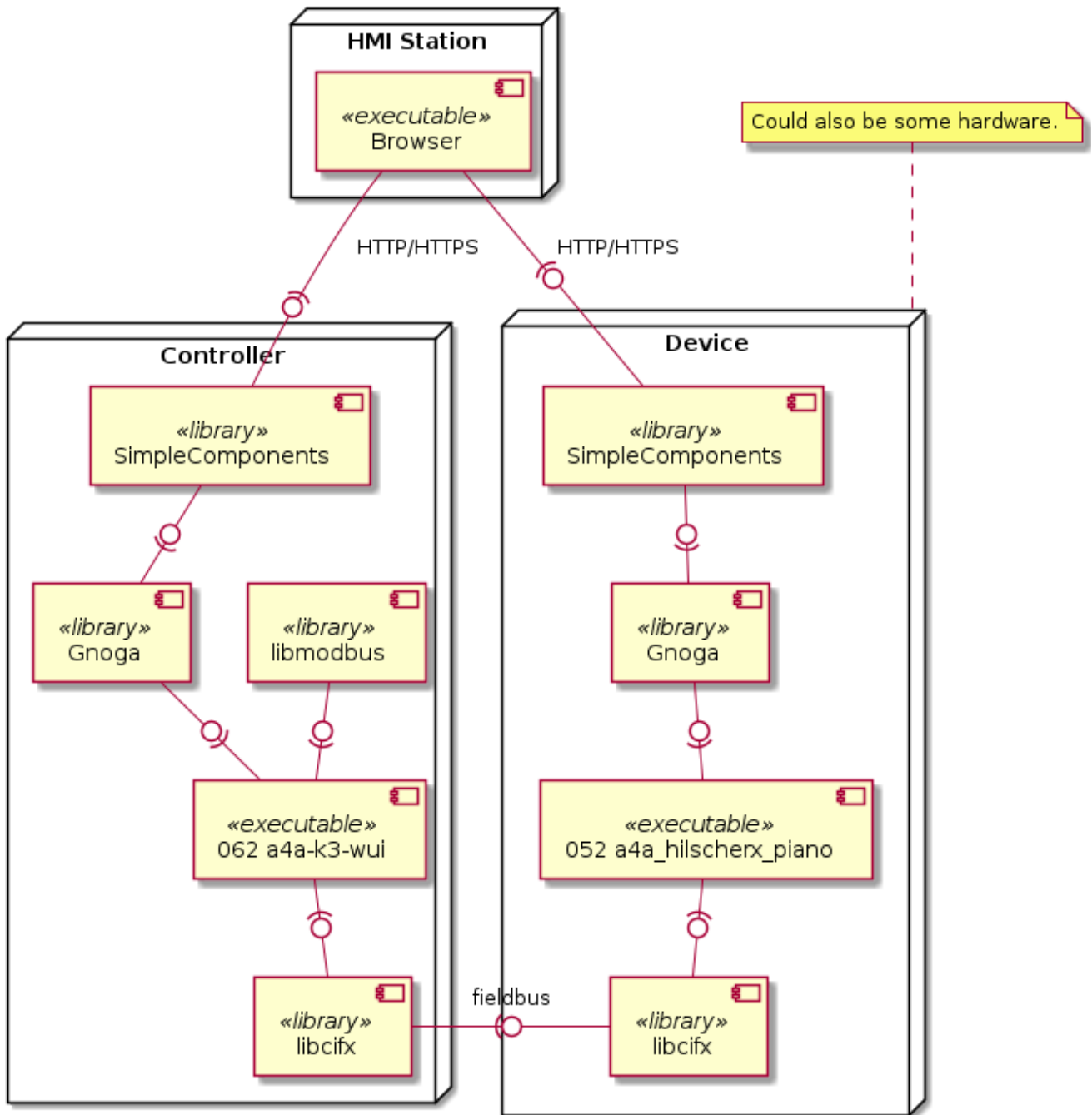
It has a Command Line and Web User Interfaces and communicates with the slave device reading Inputs and writing Outputs using major standard industrial protocols.

The Hilscher cifX channel can be any of a cifX board, comX communication module, a netHOST, or a netX SoC.

The application expects the fieldbus channel to be already configured using SYCON.net.

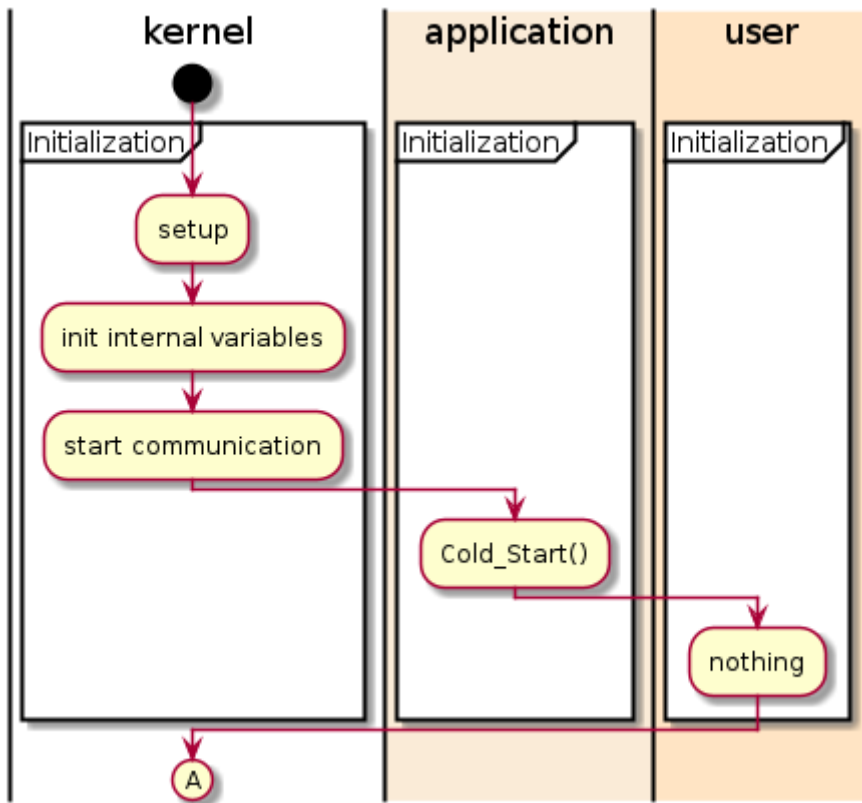
Modbus TCP Server is not used at the moment.

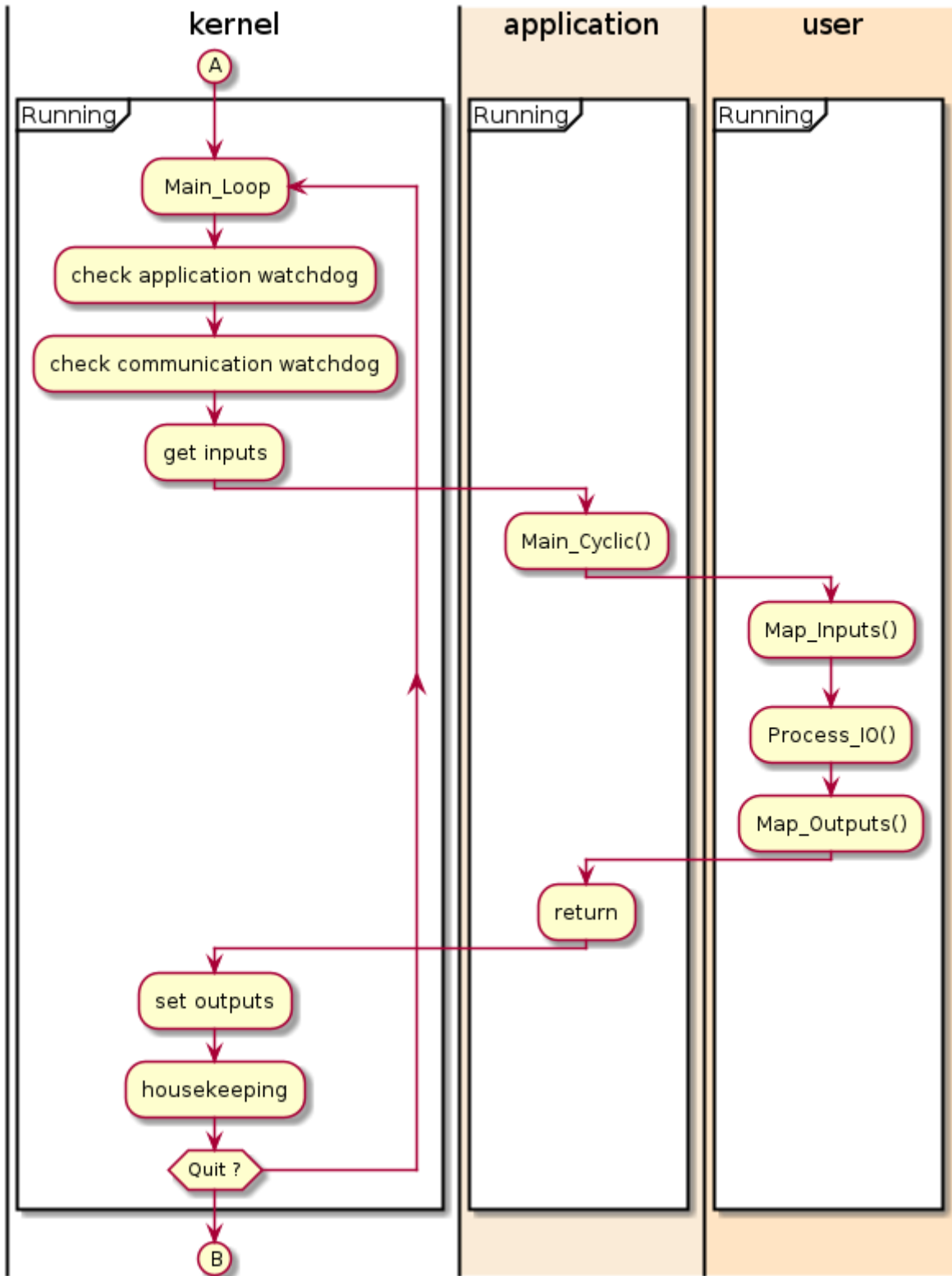
## 7.1. Deployment diagram

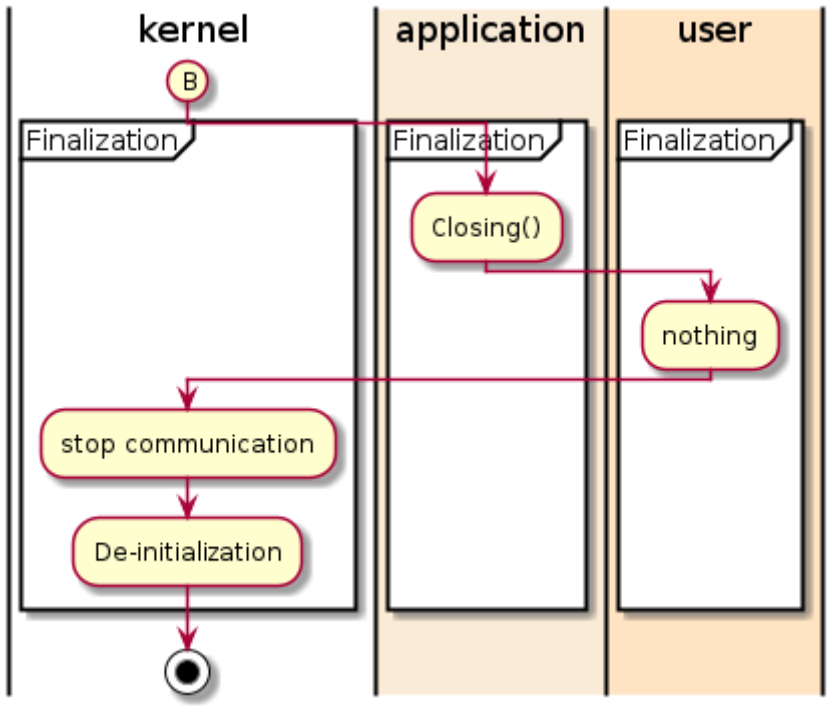


## 7.2. Activity diagram

The Kernel manages the communication channels and provides an interface to those, namely the packages "A4A.Memory.Hilscher\_Fieldbus1" and "A4A.Memory.MBTCP\_IOSlave".







## 7.3. Modbus TCP Server Configuration

"../src/a4a-application-mbtcp\_server\_config.ads"

```
package A4A.Application.MBTCP_Server_Config is

-----
-- Modbus TCP Server configuration
-----

package Server is new A4A.MBTCP_Server
(
  Coils_Number           => 65536,
  Input_Bits_Number     => 65536,
  Input_Registers_Number => 65536,
  Registers_Number      => 65536
);

Config1 : aliased Server.Server_Configuration :=
  (Server_Enabled      => True,
   Debug_On           => False,
   Retries             => 3,
   Server_IP_Address   => To_Bounded_String ("127.0.0.1"),
   Server_TCP_Port     => 1503); -- ①

end A4A.Application.MBTCP_Server_Config;
```

① Modbus TCP Server port : 1503 (default)

## 7.4. Fieldbus Configuration

"/src/cifx/a4a-application-configuration.ads"

```
package A4A.Application.Configuration is

-----
-- Main Task Configuration
-----

Application_Main_Task_Priority : System.Priority :=
  System.Priority'Last - 10;
-- System.Default_Priority;

-- can be cyclic
-- Application_Main_Task_Type      : constant Main_Task_Type := Cyclic;
Application_Main_Task_Delay_MS : constant := 50;

-- or periodic
Application_Main_Task_Type : constant Main_Task_Type := Periodic;
Application_Main_Task_Period_MS : constant := 50;

-----
-- Periodic Task 1 Configuration
-----

Application_Periodic_Task_1_Priority : System.Priority :=
  System.Default_Priority;
Application_Periodic_Task_1_Period_MS : constant := 500;

-----
-- Fieldbus 1 Configuration
-----
-- Alias like "DPM"
-- or board name like "cifX0" or "TCP0_cifX0"

Config1 : aliased Fieldbus_Configuration :=
  (Fieldbus_Name      =>
    Fieldbus_Name_Strings.To_Bounded_String ("cifX0"), -- ①
    Fieldbus_Channel  => 0, -- ②
    Board_Name       => (others => Character'First),
    Board_Alias      => (others => Character'First),
    Channel_Handle   => Channel_Handle_Null,
    My_Channel       => null
  );

-----
-- Fieldbuses Configuration
-----

-- Declare all Fieldbuses configurations in the array
```

```
Fieldbuses_Configuration : Fieldbus_Configuration_Access_Array :=  
  (1 => Config1'Access);
```

```
end A4A.Application.Configuration;
```

- ① Channel configuration : board name
- ② Channel configuration : channel number



## 7.5. User objects Definition

"../src/hilscherx/a4a-user\_objects.ads"

```
package A4A.User_Objects is
-----
-- User Objects creation
-----

First_Cycle : Boolean := True;
Output_Byte : Byte := 0; -- ③

Tempo_TON_1 : TON.Instance;
-- My Tempo TON 1

TON_1_Q      : Boolean := False;

Cmd_Byte     : Byte := 0; -- ①
Pattern_Byte : Byte := 0; -- ②

end A4A.User_Objects;
```

- ① 8 Input bits are read that form the Command byte, which is also output in 8 Coils.
- ② 8 Input bits are read that form the Pattern byte.
- ③ 8 Coils are written that reflect the Output byte.

## 7.6. User Functions

"../src/hilscherx/a4a-user\_functions.adb"

```
package body A4A.User_Functions is

-----
-- User functions
-----

procedure Map_Inputs is -- ①
begin

    Cmd_Byte      := Hilscher_Fieldbus1.Inputs (1);
    Pattern_Byte := Hilscher_Fieldbus1.Inputs (0);

end Map_Inputs;

procedure Map_Outputs is -- ②
begin

    Hilscher_Fieldbus1.Outputs (1) := Cmd_Byte;
    Hilscher_Fieldbus1.Outputs (0) := Output_Byte;

end Map_Outputs;

procedure Map_HMI_Inputs is
begin

    null;

end Map_HMI_Inputs;

procedure Map_HMI_Outputs is
begin

    Bytes_To_Word (LSB_Byte => Hilscher_Fieldbus1.Inputs (1),
                   MSB_Byte => Hilscher_Fieldbus1.Inputs (0),
                   Word_out => MBTCP_IOServer.Input_Registers (0));

    Bytes_To_Word (LSB_Byte => Hilscher_Fieldbus1.Outputs (1),
                   MSB_Byte => Hilscher_Fieldbus1.Outputs (0),
                   Word_out => MBTCP_IOServer.Input_Registers (1));

end Map_HMI_Outputs;

procedure Process_IO is -- ③

    Elapsed_TON_1 : Ada.Real_Time.Time_Span;

begin
```

```

if First_Cycle then

    Output_Byte := Pattern_Byte;

    First_Cycle := False;

end if;

Tempo_TON_1.Cyclic (Start => not TON_1_Q,
                    Preset => Ada.Real_Time.Milliseconds (1000),
                    Elapsed => Elapsed_TON_1,
                    Q      => TON_1_Q);

if TON_1_Q then

    case Cmd_Byte is

        when 0 =>
            Output_Byte := ROR (Value => Output_Byte, Amount => 1);

        when 1 =>
            Output_Byte := ROL (Value => Output_Byte, Amount => 1);

        when others => Output_Byte := Pattern_Byte;

    end case;

end if;

end Process_IO;

end A4A.User_Functions;

```

User functions are defined to :

- ① get the inputs from the channel,
- ② set channel outputs.
- ③ process the data.

## 7.7. User Application

"../src/hilscherx/a4a-application.adb"

```
package body A4A.Application is

  procedure Cold_Start is
  begin

    null;

  end Cold_Start;

  procedure Closing is
  begin

    null;

  end Closing;

  procedure Main_Cyclic is
    My_Ident : constant String := "A4A.Application.Main_Cyclic";
  begin

    Map_Inputs; -- ①

    Map_HMI_Inputs;

    -- Playing with tasks interface
    Main_Outputs.X := Main_Inputs.A;
    Main_Outputs.Y := Main_Inputs.B;
    Main_Outputs.Z := Main_Inputs.C;

    Process_IO; -- ②

    Map_Outputs; -- ③

    Map_HMI_Outputs;

  exception

    when Error : others =>
      A4A.Log.Logger.Put (Who => My_Ident,
                          What => Exception_Information (Error));

      Program_Fault_Flag := True;

  end Main_Cyclic;

  procedure Periodic1_Cyclic is
    My_Ident : constant String := "A4A.Application.Periodic1_Cyclic";
```

```
begin
```

```
-- Playing with tasks interface  
Periodic1_Outputs.A := not Periodic1_Inputs.X;  
Periodic1_Outputs.B := Periodic1_Inputs.Y + 2;  
Periodic1_Outputs.C := Periodic1_Inputs.Z + 1;
```

```
exception
```

```
when Error : others =>  
    A4A.Log.Logger.Put (Who => My_Ident,  
                       What => Exception_Information (Error));
```

```
    Program_Fault_Flag := True;
```

```
end Periodic1_Cyclic;
```

```
function Program_Fault return Boolean is
```

```
begin
```

```
    return Program_Fault_Flag;
```

```
end Program_Fault;
```

```
end A4A.Application;
```

The application cyclically :

- ① gets the inputs from the channel,
- ② processes the data,
- ③ sets channel outputs.