

Itris Import/Export Tool Manual - STEP 7

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Chapter 1

Itris Import/Export Tool - STEP 7

1.1 Introduction of Itris Import/Export Tool

Itris Automation's **Itris Import/Export Tool** is a simple way to proceed with code importation and exportation from and to several Software Development Environments, in a unified user experience. It is suitable for use with PLC Checker, PLC DocGen, ICS Monitoring, PLC Converter, ...

For more information about how to setup the process and how to use it, please check the tool's manual. This documentation is only applicable to the STEP 7 plugin.

1.2 STEP 7 Plugin Pre-requisite

Itris Import/Export Tool is able to export the PLC code from STEP 7, as long as the **main unit**, the **STEP 7 plugin**, and the STEP 7 development environment are installed on the same computer.

1.3 Specific warnings about STEP 7

1.3.1 Programming languages

The codes that you create with STEP 7 are not all able to be exported in the same way due to limits in the interconnection interface.

Your codes in Ladder (Contact), LIST and LOG, and the mnemonics tables are able to be exported without any intervention of any kind from the user. If you are using only these languages/elements, then you are not concerned by this paragraph.

Codes written in **SCL, CFC and SFC** are not able to be exported automatically. If you are using one of these languages, please read this paragraph carefully. The plugin for STEP 7 is able to include these codes in the exports if you have generated the sources for these languages before running the exportation process.

To do so, for the codes in **SFC**, you will have to proceed with a generation operation every time you run an exportation process. This will create a copy of your code in a location that **Itris Import/Export Tool** can access:

- Select each block that you want to export and then open it using the editor
- Click on "File" and then "Generate a source..."
- Give a name to the source, and validate. You will have to repeat this operation for each block that you want to generate

For the codes written in **CFC**, you will have to export them in the SCL format, using the following procedure:

- Compile the sources and select the following options:
  - Entire program
  - Generate SCL source

For the SCL blocks, if they are linked to a valid SCL source, then you don't have anything to do. Otherwise, if the source has been deleted, you will have to open the block using the STL editor, and generate a new source.

These procedures are explained in more detail in the PLC Checker manual (have a look in the section "ASC, AWL, GR7 and SCL Export files generation from Step7").

1.3.2 Command line interfaces

Due to some limitations in the interconnection interface, STEP 7 may ask the user to interact during a code exportation process. This is a problem when you want to completely automate the process. You should consider checking that the process works without interaction before running it automatically.

1.3.3 Compatibility with the old versions of PLC Checker, PLC DocGen and PLC Converter

Considering that the import/export system is more recent than some versions of the Itris Automation products, the export format is not compatible with all of them.

In order to get compatible files, you will have to use the software **STEP 7 Retro-Compatibility Tool**, included with the export plugin. This software will repack the export in a format that you will be able to use with Itris Automation products.

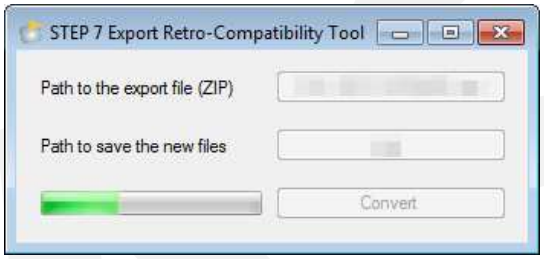


Figure 1.1:

To proceed, you just have to give the location of the ZIP export file and a file in which to save the repacked application. Then just click on "Convert".

At the end of the operation, you will get several files that you can use directly with Itris Automation products:

- A file whose extension is AWL, containing code written in CONT (Ladder), LIST and LOG (Logigramme),
- A file whose extension is SCL, containing code written in SCL and CFC (if any),
- A file whose extension is GR7, containing code written in SFC (if any),
- A file whose extension is DIF, containing a description of your application's hierarchy
- A file whose extension is ASC, containing the mnemonics table