

# **Galil RIO Pocket PLC And Mach3 ModBus Installation and Programming**

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## Introduction

The Galil RIO controller allows a user to add Analog and Digital I/O points to a machine controller. There is an embedded programming language that enables the user to configure the controller to handle almost any automation task.

The Mach3 controller software allows a user to control multiple axis machines with an industry standard g-code input method.

This manual identifies the settings and methods of communicating between them.

## RIO configuration

The RIO needs to have an I/P address saved to its onboard memory to allow Ethernet communications. Use the free Galil-tools program.

Downloaded from: [www.galilmc.com](http://www.galilmc.com)

I found it convenient to set the I/P address of my controller to  
192.168.1.4

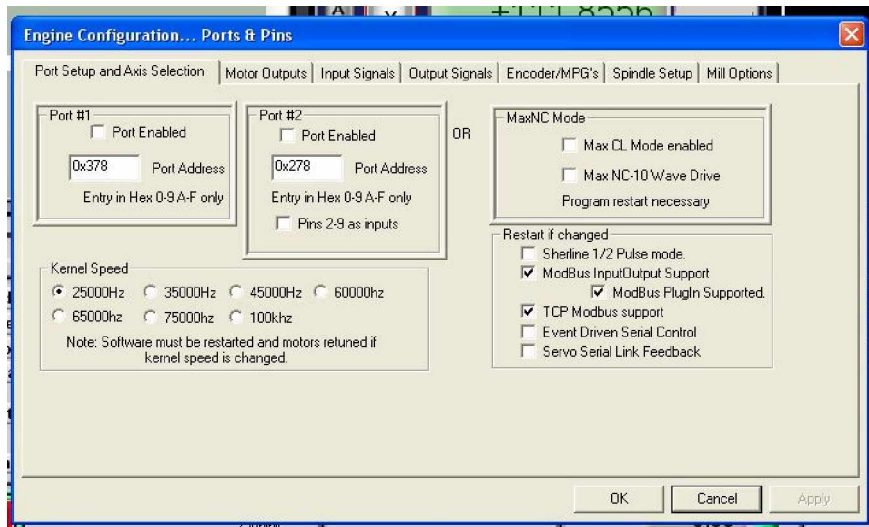
You may choose other settings that may better fit your network. The I/P configuration is explained in the RIO manual.

It is also necessary to set MV to 0 and MI to 1 for the purposes of this setup. Save these settings using the BN (burn) command.

## Mach3 configuration Step #1

Mach3 needs to know that we are going to use ethernet ModBus protocol to communicate with the RIO.

The first settings are made in the Config -> Ports and Pins dialog box.



Settings that need to be checked here are:  
ModBus InputOutput support:  
ModBus PlugIn Supported:  
TCP ModBus support:

You need to exit and restart Mach3 after checking these configuration boxes!

## Mach3 configuration Step #2

**TCP Modbus Setup**

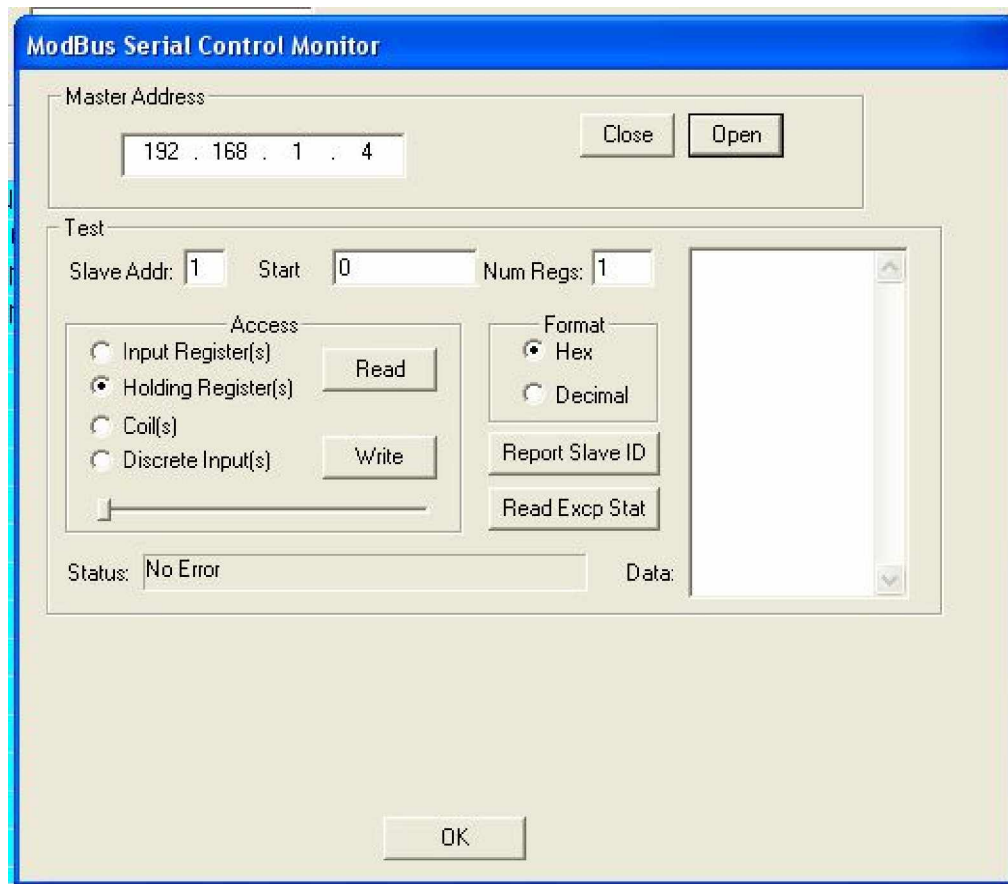
192 . 168 . 1 . 4 Master Address Test

☒ TCP Modbus Run Connection Timeout

	Enabled	Comment or Device	Refresh 25ms Incr.	Slave # 0-10	# of Registers	Address		Direction	
	On/Off					Local(Var)	ModBus(Var)	Input	Output
Cfg #0	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	RIO INPUT BANK #1	25	1	16	0	0		Input-Discrete
Cfg #1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	RIO OUTPUT BANK #1	25	1	16	0	0		Output-Coils
Cfg #2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	RIO ANALOG INPUT	50	1	8	0	0		Input-Holding
Cfg #3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	RIO ANALOG OUTPUT	50	1	8	0	0		Output-Holding
Cfg #4	<input type="checkbox"/>		50	1	1	0	0		Input Reg
Cfg #5	<input type="checkbox"/>		50	1	1	0	0		Input Reg
Cfg #6	<input type="checkbox"/>		50	1	0	0	0		Input Reg
Cfg #7	<input type="checkbox"/>		50	1	0	0	0		Input Reg
Cfg #8	<input type="checkbox"/>		50	1	0	0	0		Input Reg
Cfg #9	<input type="checkbox"/>		50	1	0	0	0		Input Reg
Cfg #10	<input type="checkbox"/>		50	1	0	0	0		Input Reg
Cfg #11	<input type="checkbox"/>		50	1	0	0	0		Input Reg
Cfg #12	<input type="checkbox"/>		50	1	0	0	0		Input Reg
Cfg #13	<input type="checkbox"/>		50	1	0	0	0		Input Reg
Cfg #14	<input type="checkbox"/>		50	1	0	0	0		Input Reg
Cfg #15	<input type="checkbox"/>		50	1	0	0	0		Input Reg
Cfg #16	<input type="checkbox"/>		50	1	0	0	0		Input Reg
Cfg #17	<input type="checkbox"/>		50	1	0	0	0		Input Reg

Apply OK

After restarting Mach3, you'll need to setup the communications configurations for the 4 RIO functions that we will use for data transfer. You need to go to the Function Cfg's -> Setup TCP Modbus dropdown menu to get to the above screen. Please be sure to enter all data as shown above. Be especially careful to set the direction choices exactly as shown here.



Click the “Test” button and the above screen appears. You can then enter the I/P address of the RIO controller. Set the slave address to 1 and click on the “Open” button. If the Rio is powered on and connected by an ethernet crossover cable or by two straight ethernet through cables and a switch, you should see the “No Error” response in the status box. If you get an error, please recheck power and Ethernet connections as well as making sure that the RIO I/P address is correct. “OK” returns you to the prior screen.

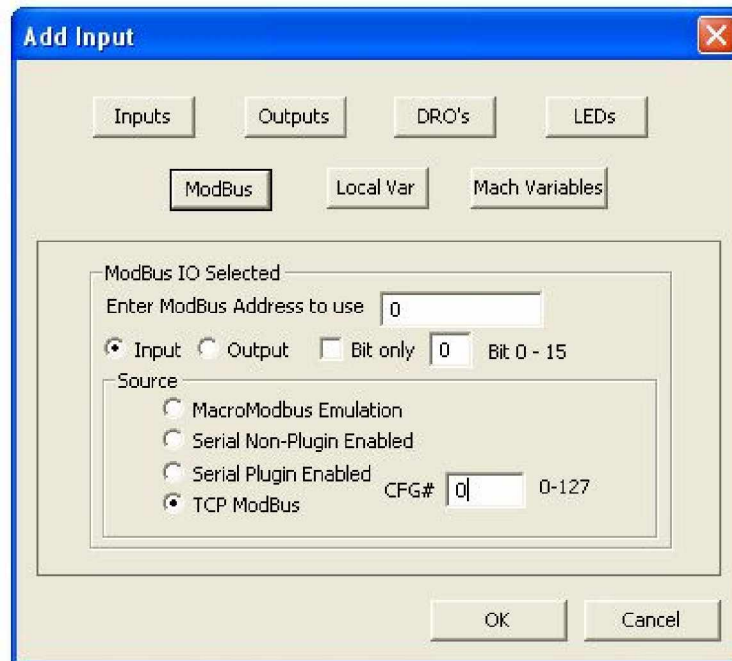
Check again that the I/P address is correct and check the TCP ModBus Run checkbox. Mach and the RIO are now able to communicate with each other.

## Mach3 configuration

### Step #3

Mach3 uses “brain” files to assign the Modbus I/O to Mach friendly variables. There are several good documents that describe “brains” programming in detail. Please see <http://www.machsupport.com/videos/> for an example of brains programming.

### Digital Input programming

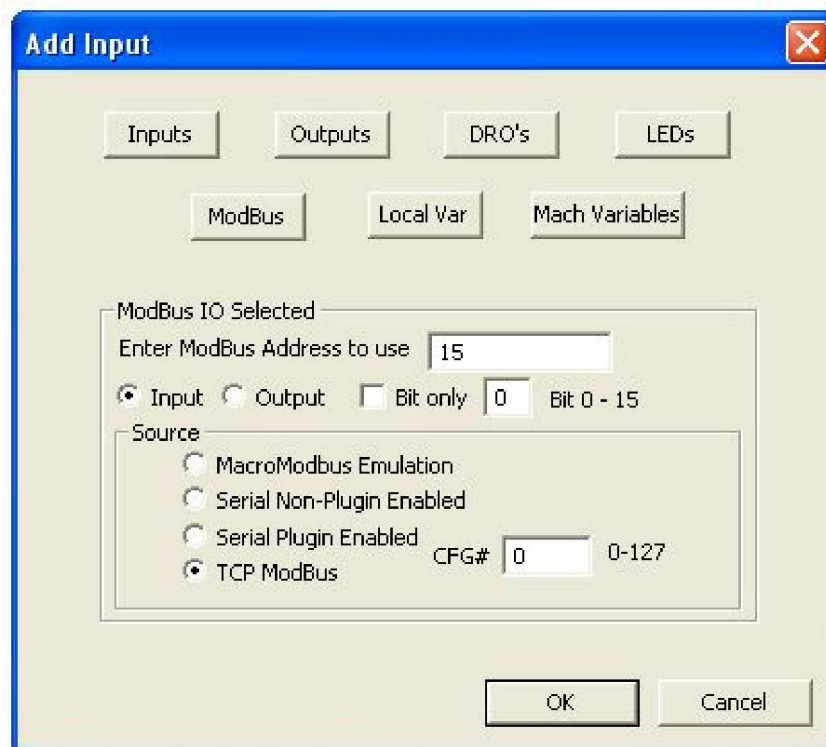


When in the “Brain” editor selecting the + brings up the above dialog box. Here we are configuring a digital input as input 0 on the RIO. Notice that the ModBus address of 0 is used and the Input checkbox is checked. Do NOT check the Bit only and Bit 0-15 boxes as they do not work properly in Mach3. The above configuration is the only one that has been found to work correctly. Check the TCP ModBus box and CFG# 0 which is the input configuration from the first screen in step #2. Clicking “OK” enters an input into the Brain files as the first entry of a ladder rung.

The screenshot shows a software window titled "Add Input" with a standard Windows-style title bar (blue background, close button). Inside the window, there are several tabs: "Inputs", "Outputs", "DRO's", "LEDs", "ModBus", "Local Var", and "Mach Variables". The "ModBus" tab is currently selected and highlighted. Below the tabs, there is a section titled "ModBus IO Selected". Inside this section, the text "Enter ModBus Address to use" is followed by a text box containing the number "1". Below this, there are three radio buttons: "Input" (which is selected), "Output", and "Bit only". To the right of these radio buttons is a small text box containing "0" and the label "Bit 0 - 15". Below the radio buttons is a section titled "Source" which contains four radio buttons: "MacroModbus Emulation", "Serial Non-Plugin Enabled", "Serial Plugin Enabled", and "TCP ModBus" (which is selected). To the right of these radio buttons is a label "CFG#" followed by a text box containing "0" and the label "0-127". At the bottom right of the window are two buttons: "OK" and "Cancel".

The above screen shows the configuration for RIO input# 1.

It is the same as the previous screen except for the ModBus address, which has now been set to 1. All other settings are the same as for input#0.



The above screen shows the configuration for RIO input# 15.

It is the also the same as the previous screen except for the ModBus address, which has now been set to 15. All other settings are the same as for input#0.

For all other Digital inputs, follow the above scheme except enter the RIO input number for the ModBus address.



Mach3 configuration  
Step #4

Digital Output programming

The screenshot shows the 'Add Input' dialog box with the 'ModBus' tab selected. The 'ModBus IO Selected' section has 'Enter ModBus Address to use' set to 0. The 'Input' and 'Output' radio buttons are present, with 'Output' selected. The 'Bit only' and 'Bit 0 - 15' checkboxes are unchecked. The 'Source' section has four radio buttons: 'MacroModbus Emulation', 'Serial Non-Plugin Enabled', 'Serial Plugin Enabled', and 'TCP ModBus' (selected). The 'CFG#' field is set to 1, and the range is 0-127. The 'OK' and 'Cancel' buttons are at the bottom.

When in the “Brain” editor selecting the \_|\_ brings up the above dialog box. Here we are configuring a digital output as output 0 on the RIO. Notice that the ModBus address of 0 is used and the Output checkbox is checked. Do NOT check the Bit only and Bit 0-15 boxes as they do not work properly in Mach3. The above configuration is the only one that has been found to work correctly. Check the TCP ModBus box and CFG# 1 which is the output configuration from the first screen in step #2. Clicking “OK” enters an output into the Brain files as the last entry of a ladder rung.

The image shows a Windows-style dialog box titled "Add Input". At the top, there are four buttons: "Inputs", "Outputs", "DRO's", and "LEDs". Below these are three more buttons: "ModBus", "Local Var", and "Mach Variables". The "ModBus" button is selected. Inside the dialog, there is a section titled "ModBus IO Selected". Below this title, it says "Enter ModBus Address to use" followed by a text box containing the number "1". Below the text box are three radio buttons: "Input", "Output", and "Bit only". The "Output" radio button is selected. To the right of the "Bit only" radio button is a small text box containing "0" and the label "Bit 0 - 15". Below the radio buttons is a section titled "Source". Inside this section are four radio buttons: "MacroModbus Emulation", "Serial Non-Plugin Enabled", "Serial Plugin Enabled", and "TCP ModBus". The "TCP ModBus" radio button is selected. To the right of the "TCP ModBus" radio button is a label "CFG#" followed by a text box containing "1" and the label "0-127". At the bottom right of the dialog are two buttons: "OK" and "Cancel".

The above screen shows the configuration for RIOOutput# 1.

It is the same as the previous screen except for the ModBus address which has now been set to 1. All other settings are the same as for output#0.

The screenshot shows the 'Add Input' dialog box with the 'ModBus' tab selected. The 'ModBus IO Selected' section has 'Enter ModBus Address to use' set to 15. The 'Output' radio button is selected, and the 'Bit only' checkbox is unchecked. The 'Source' section has 'TCP ModBus' selected, and the 'CFG#' is set to 1. The 'OK' and 'Cancel' buttons are at the bottom right.

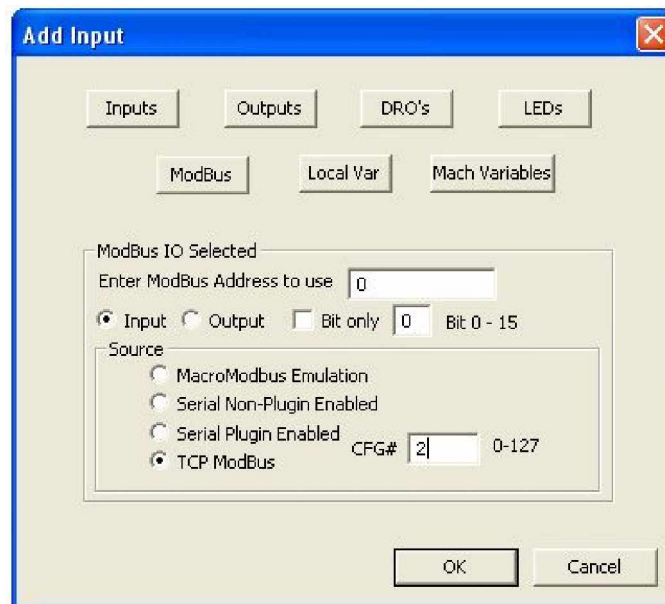
The above screen shows the configuration for RIO output# 15.

It is the also the same as the previous screen except for the ModBus address which has now been set to 15. All other settings are the same as for output#0.

For all other Digital outputs, follow the above scheme except enter the RIO input number for the ModBus address.

## Mach3 configuration Step #5

### Analog Input programming

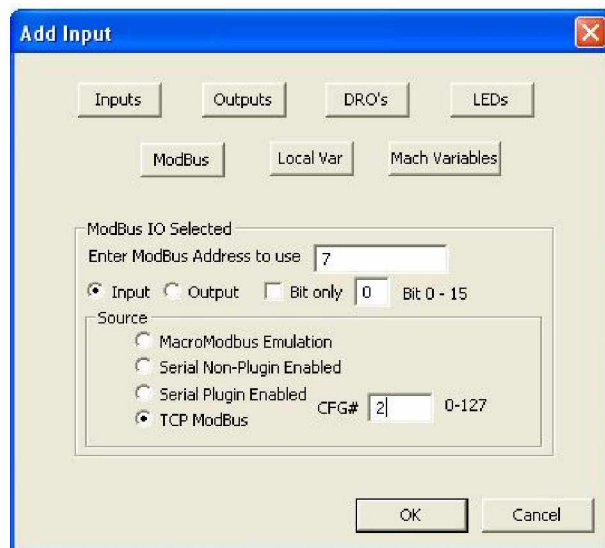


When in the “Brain” editor selecting the + brings up the above dialog box. Here we are configuring an analog input as input 0 on the RIO. Notice that the ModBus address of 0 is used and the Input checkbox is checked. Do NOT check the Bit only and Bit 0-15 boxes as they do not work properly in Mach3. The above configuration is the only one that has been found to work correctly. Check the TCP ModBus box and CFG# 2 which is the analog input configuration from the first screen in step #2. Clicking “OK” enters an input into the Brain files as the first entry of a ladder rung.

The image shows a software dialog box titled "Add Input". It has a blue title bar with a close button (X) in the top right corner. Inside the dialog, there are several tabs: "Inputs", "Outputs", "DRO's", "LEDs", "ModBus", "Local Var", and "Mach Variables". The "ModBus" tab is currently selected. Below the tabs, there is a section titled "ModBus IO Selected". Inside this section, there is a text field labeled "Enter ModBus Address to use" with the value "1" entered. Below this, there are three radio buttons: "Input" (which is selected), "Output", and "Bit only". To the right of these radio buttons is a small numeric field with the value "0" and the text "Bit 0 - 15". Below the radio buttons, there is a section titled "Source" with four radio buttons: "MacroModbus Emulation", "Serial Non-Plugin Enabled", "Serial Plugin Enabled", and "TCP ModBus" (which is selected). To the right of these radio buttons is a small numeric field labeled "CFG#" with the value "2" entered and the text "0-127". At the bottom right of the dialog, there are two buttons: "OK" and "Cancel".

The above screen shows the configuration for RIO analog input# 1.

It is the same as the previous screen except for the ModBus address which has now been set to 1. All other settings are the same as for analog input#0.



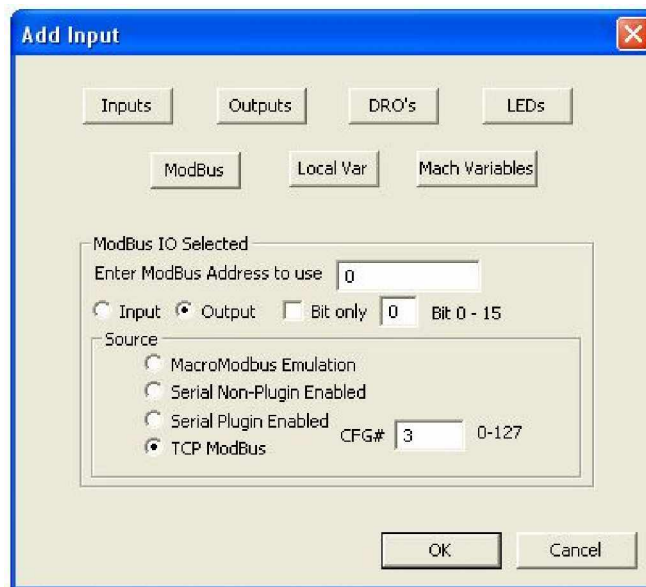
The above screen shows the configuration for RIO analog input# 7.

It is the also the same as the previous screen except for the ModBus address which has now been set to 7. All other settings are the same as for analog input#0.

For all other analog inputs, follow the above scheme except enter the RIO analog input number for the ModBus address.

## Mach3 configuration Step #6

### Analog Output programming



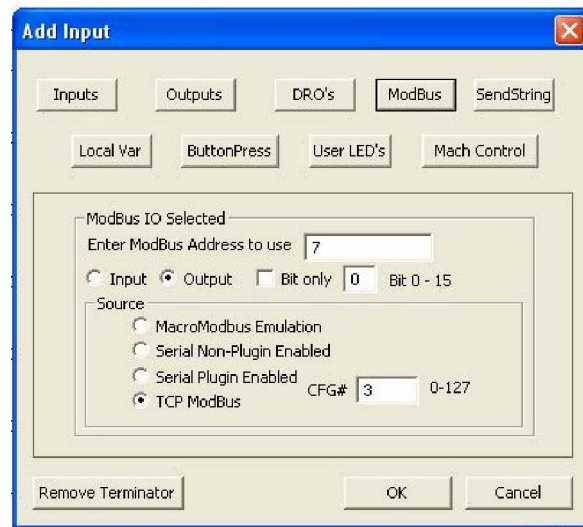
When in the “Brain” editor selecting the |\_|\_ brings up the above dialog box. Here we are configuring an analog output as output 0 on the RIO. Notice that the ModBus address of 0 is used and the Output checkbox is checked. Do NOT check the Bit only and Bit 0-15 boxes as they do not work properly in Mach3. The above configuration is the only one that has been found to work correctly. Check the TCP ModBus box and CFG# 3 which is the output configuration from the first screen in step #2. Clicking “OK” enters an output into the Brain files as the last entry of a ladder rung.

The screenshot shows a Windows-style dialog box titled "Add Input" with a blue title bar and a red close button. Inside the dialog, there are several tabs: "Inputs", "Outputs", "DRO's", "LEDs", "ModBus", "Local Var", and "Mach Variables". The "ModBus" tab is currently selected. Below the tabs, there is a section titled "ModBus IO Selected". Inside this section, there is a text field labeled "Enter ModBus Address to use" containing the value "1". Below this, there are three radio buttons: "Input", "Output" (which is selected), and "Bit only". To the right of the "Bit only" radio button is a small text field containing "0" and the label "Bit 0 - 15". Below these options is a "Source" section with four radio buttons: "MacroModbus Emulation", "Serial Non-Plugin Enabled", "Serial Plugin Enabled", and "TCP ModBus" (which is selected). To the right of the "TCP ModBus" radio button is a text field labeled "CFG#" containing the value "3" and the label "0-127". At the bottom right of the dialog are "OK" and "Cancel" buttons.

The above screen shows the configuration for RIO analog output# 1.

It is the same as the previous screen except for the ModBus address which has now been set to 1. All other settings are the same as for analog output#0.





The above screen shows the configuration for RIO analog output# 7.

It is the also the same as the previous screen except for the ModBus address which has now been set to 7. All other settings are the same as for analog output#0.

For all other analog outputs, follow the above scheme except enter the RIO analog output number for the ModBus address.

## Mach3 configuration Step #7

### Brain File Programming



The above screen shows the sample brain file RIO-1.brn. It is showing the use of RIO digital inputs directly driving RIO digital outputs using the above configuration schemes. Of course, any Mach3 brain object may be substituted in place of either input or output to accomplish whatever task the user desires.

Also shown are RIO analog inputs driving local variables through a no-op block and a formula block. The no-op blocks are necessary in the second spot to convert real number results from prior calculations into integers for later processing. A function block will not operate on

a real number when it is in the first spot. Placing the no-op second converts the real number to an integer which can then be processed by the function block. In this instance, we are converting the RIO integer count input for the analog value to its DC voltage representation. IE to 4.9800 volts when the input is a count of 32572 or full scale. V90 thus has a value equal to the analog voltage input to the RIO. We then use V90 as an input and convert back to a count which drives the RIO analog output at 65520 counts or full scale, giving an analog output from the RIO of 4.9800 volts. This is also shown for RIO analog inputs 2 & 7 respectively. We have thus taken an input of 4.98 volts, input it to Mach3, saved the value as 4.98 volts, reconverted it to an integer value and written it back to the RIO which outputs 4.98 volts.

Needless to say, the RIO can also execute programs which are saved in the RIO memory. Examples of these types of programs are routines for automatic tool-changers and the use of analog output laser probes for part measurement.

The RIO is an extremely adaptable controller, which when mated with the machine control abilities of Mach3 CNC controller software, makes the construction of intelligent, affordable machine systems possible.

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