TechTip: PLC hardware / firmware version

EPLAN supports you in managing PLC devices with different hardware and firmware versions.

The **Version** (ID 20418) property is available to you at devices to this purpose. This property is located in the property dialog of a device in the properties list.

The **Version** property is also available at the part (on the **PLC data** tab of the parts management) and is applied to the project when a device is inserted or a device or part is selected.

In order to simplify editing of several devices these properties are available in "editing in table" mode and for external editing .

- **Edit > In table**

- **Utilities > Edit properties externally > Export data**

This method allows you to obtain an overview of the versions of the devices used.

Special aspects at PLC configuration data exchange

The **Version** property is exported by EPLAN during a PLC configuration data exchange, if it is not empty.

At most PLC manufacturers it corresponds to a firmware or software version. The hardware version is often encoded in the order number. Whether and how the **Version** property is used in the PLC configuration programs during a PLC configuration data exchange depends on the PLC manufacturer.

The following applies for the PLC configuration data exchange with SIEMENS SIMATIC STEP 7:
If the text "Latest" is entered in the **Version** property at the device, the latest version available is used during an import into SIEMENS SIMATIC STEP 7. During an export from SIMATIC STEP 7 the version actually used is written into the exchange file.

During the import into EPLAN the "Latest" text is replaced by the concrete value entered in the exchange file.