

EZLogix

IloT Utility Manual



EZAutomation.net

Innovative Low Cost Automation Equipment Made in

America 

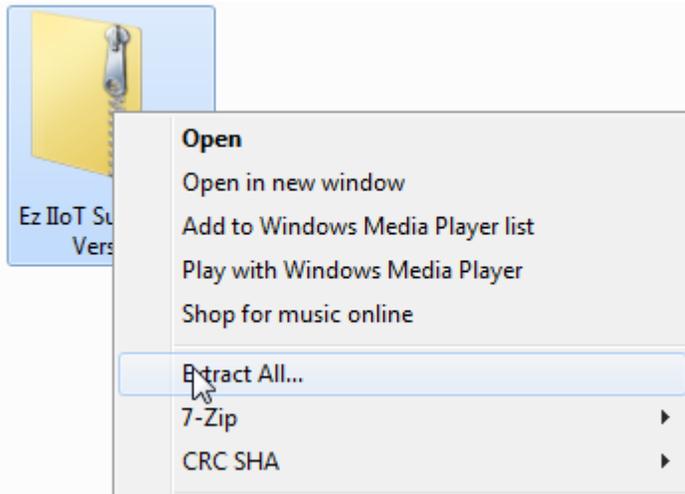
8.7 EZ-IIoT Subscriber Utility

The data EZLogix PLC publishes to the broker is accessible through any third party subscriber utility but EZ Automation has created its own take on this utility. The EZAutomation subscriber utility is developed to make it very easy to see current updated information as well as store any previously published information. This utility will data log any MQTT messages that it sees when subscribed to the broker.

8.7.1 Install EZ-IIoT Subscriber Utility

The EZ-IIoT Subscriber Utility is a separate setup which can be downloaded from www.EZAutomation.com. The EZ-IIoT Subscriber Utility can be installed on any computer that the EZLogix Designer Pro can and at least 2 MB of free space on hard drive for installation. Follow directions below to setup the utility.

1. Download the EZ-IIoT Subscriber Utility ZIP file from the website.



2. Extract the zip folder to the location where you want to place the utility.
3. The utility will now run. Please follow directions below to setup your broker connection.

Note: The EZ-IIoT Subscriber Utility requires .NET Framework 4.5 which you might need to install from the Microsoft Windows Website.

8.7.2 EZ-IIoT Subscriber Utility Setup

The EZ-IIoT Subscriber Utility is very easy to setup. The only information needed is listed in the table below. To setup the utility please follow the instructions below.

Information Type	Example Information
Domain Name (Server URI)	m12.cloudmqtt.com
Client ID	Test-ID0001
User Name	TEST
Password	AVG123
Port Number	16581

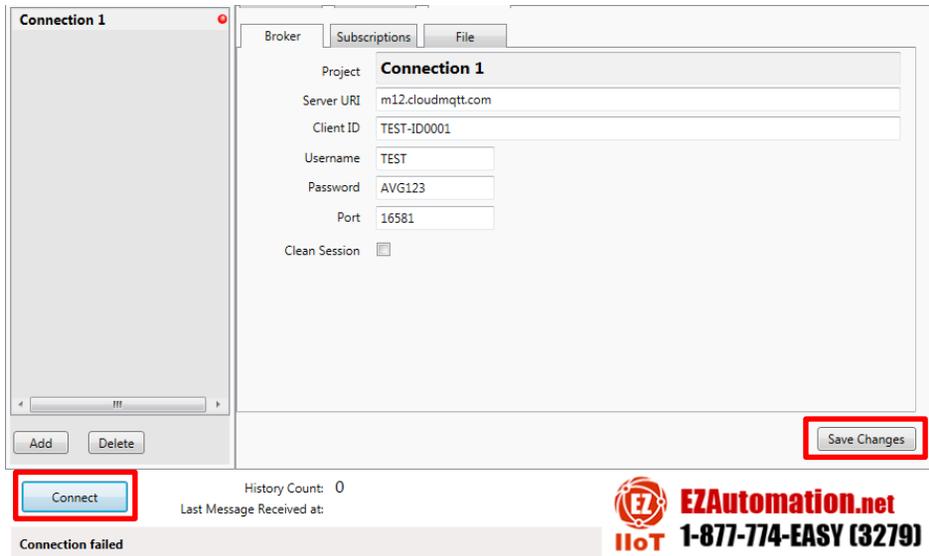
1. Open the EZ-IIoT Subscriber Utility. In the projects area click the “Add” button.



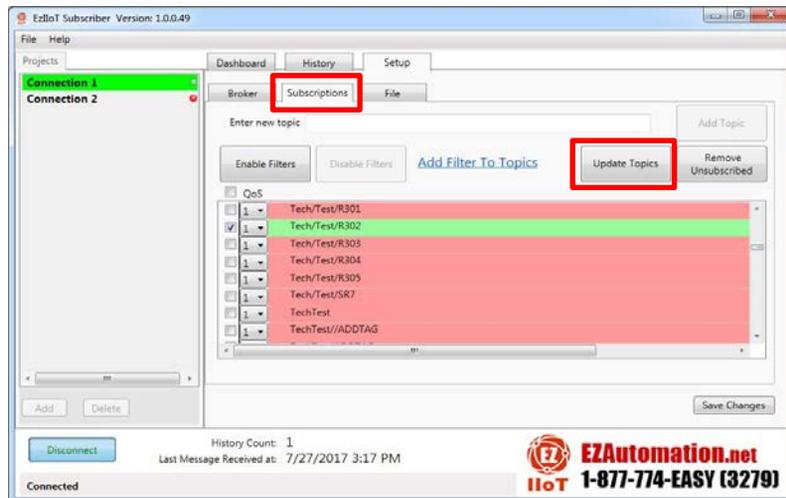
2. In the new connection enter the information from the broker. The example shown uses the example information in the table above. You can also rename the project in the Broker Setup window.

Broker	Subscriptions	File
Project	Connection 1	
Server URI	m12.cloudmqtt.com	
Client ID	TEST-ID0001	
Username	TEST	
Password	AVG123	
Port	16581	
Clean Session	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

3. Click the “Save Changes”. You will now have the Connect option in the information below. Use the “Connect” button to connect to your broker.



4. As soon as you are connected the Project will turn green. Now in the Setup tab go to the Subscriptions tab. Click the Update Topics to get the topics you have access to. This will only retrieve topics that have been published with the 'Retain Flag' set to true AND have been published at least once. If this is not true you can add any topic you would like. Then select Topics you would like to subscribe to. Once select the topic is subscribed and you will now be updated in the History tab about its value. Please see the next section for the full functionality of the Utility.

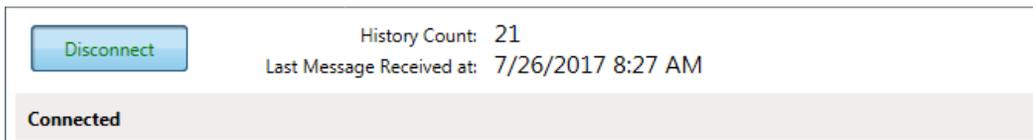


8.7.3 EZ-IIoT Subscriber Utility Functions

The EZ-IIoT Subscriber Utility has 5 tabs total for its full functionality. This section will go through the 5 tabs and list its functionality. There are 2 main tabs (Dashboard, History) and 3 setup tabs (Broker, Subscriptions, and File).

Connection Status

The connection status is visible in all tabs and allows the user to connect and disconnect from the broker. It also lists the current history count and when the last message was received. If there are any errors they will also be listed here.



Projects List

The project list allows switching between all the different connection setups. Only one connection can be connected at a time. New connection can only be added when you are disconnected from the broker. The green light indicates which project/connection is actively connected to a broker.

Use the **Add** and **Delete** buttons to add and delete connections when not connected to broker.

Dashboard Tab

The dashboard is the main view screen for any Project / Connection. It allows the user to have an overview of this broker connection and monitor any important topics.

The screenshot shows the Dashboard Tab interface with the following elements and callouts:

- Tab Navigation:** A row of three tabs: "Dashboard", "History", and "Setup".
- Project/Connections Name:** A label pointing to the "Project: Connection 1" text.
- Topic Information (See Subscription Tab):** A label pointing to the "Topics Subscribed / Available: 9 / 149" text.
- Add Topics to Dashboard:** A button labeled "Add Topics to Dashboard".
- Remove All:** A button labeled "Remove All".
- Topic Cards:** Two topic cards are shown. The first is titled "Topic" and the second "Topic 2". Each card has a close button (X) in the top right corner.
- Callout for Add Topics:** "Use this to add important topics to the dashboard to monitor its value and status."
- Callout for Remove All:** "Removes all topics from dashboard. Does not unsubscribe."
- Individual Topic Card Callout:** "Each individual topic added to dashboard will have its information box. See below for more information."

The screenshot shows a single topic card with the following information:

- Topic name: "Topic" (with a close button X)
- Value: "Value" (displayed in large, bold text)
- Published: "Date and Time published"
- Received: "Date and Time received"

Dashboard Highlighted Topics

Any topic added to the dashboard will have a box appear where the current status / value can be monitored. This box will list the topic name at the top. The last received value is the value in the middle. Finally it will list the publish time and Utility receive time at the bottom. To eliminate this topic from the dashboard use the X or the Remove All option.

Eliminating the topic from the dashboard does not unsubscribe. *Note: Each time a new message is received for this topic it will flash to indicate status change.*

History Tab

The history tab lists all the received values from all subscribed topics. Filters exist to navigate and narrow down information. Also the history can be cleared. The connection status area will list the total count of received values from all topics listed in the history tab. The history can be saved manually but it is also saved automatically (please see **Setup > File** Tab for more information).

The screenshot shows the 'History' tab interface. At the top, there are three tabs: 'Dashboard', 'History', and 'Setup'. A callout box labeled 'Tab Navigation' points to these tabs. Below the tabs, the connection name 'Connection 1' is displayed. On the right side, there are two buttons: 'Clear History' and 'Save History'. A callout box labeled 'Project/Connections Name' points to the 'Connection 1' text. Below these are two buttons: 'Enable Filters' and 'Disable Filter'. A callout box labeled 'Enable/Disable Filter' points to these buttons. In the center, there is a link 'Add Filter To Topics'. A callout box labeled 'Use Add Filter to Topics to create Filter (Please see next page for more information)' points to this link. The main area contains a table with the following data:

Unique Id	Received At	Topic	Broker Sent At	Message	QoS	Retained Flag	Dup. Flag	
1246	7/26/2017 9:51:49 AM	Tech/Test/R300	7/26/2017 9:51:46 AM	124	0	NO	NO	
1247	7/26/2017 9:51:49 AM	Tech/Test/R301	7/26/2017 9:51:46 AM	124	0	NO	NO	
1248	7/26/2017 9:51:49 AM	Tech/Test/R302	7/26/2017 9:51:46 AM	124	0	NO	NO	
1249	7/26/2017 9:51:49 AM	Tech/Test/R303	7/26/2017 9:51:46 AM	124	0	NO	NO	
1250	7/26/2017 9:51:49 AM	Tech/Test/R304	7/26/2017 9:51:46 AM	124	0	NO	NO	
1251	7/26/2017 9:51:49 AM	Tech/Test/R305	7/26/2017 9:51:46 AM	124	0	NO	NO	
1252	7/26/2017 9:51:49 AM	Tech/Test/SR7	7/26/2017 9:51:46 AM	1	0	NO	NO	

At the bottom right, a callout box labeled 'Manually Save Current History in new .csv file' points to the 'Save History' button. Another callout box labeled 'Clear History (does not clear saved .csv file)' points to the 'Clear History' button.

History Information

Unique ID – Each received message will have a unique ID number per connection which can be used to reference the received message. It can be used to search in the .csv file as well.

Received At – This is the time and date that the message was received by the Utility.

Topic – The subscribed topic name.

Broker Sent At – When the publisher sent the message to the broker. Can be incorrect if publisher (EZLogix) has wrong date and time.

Message – The actual message. The utility is formatted to expect EZLogix format of messages. The EZLogix messages are formatted to include the Time Stamp of when the message was sent and then the message value. The EZLogix publish format is “TimeStamp, Value”. Example below:

Received message: 1501073628, 291

The corresponding history result is:

Broker Sent At: 7/26/2017 12:53:48

Message: 291

QoS – Quality of Service from the publisher. Set on the publisher (EZLogix) side.

Retained Flag – This will tell you if it is a currently published message or if it is a retained message. The message will say “NO” for retained flag if you are subscribed while it is published. Otherwise if the message is set on the publisher side as retained you will receive the message as soon as you subscribe. Please see example below:

Event 1:

Utility: Subscribes

Publisher: Publish Message 1 with Retain Message set

Utility: Message 1 received and has “NO” for retained flag

Event 2:

Publisher: Publish Message 2 with Retain Message set

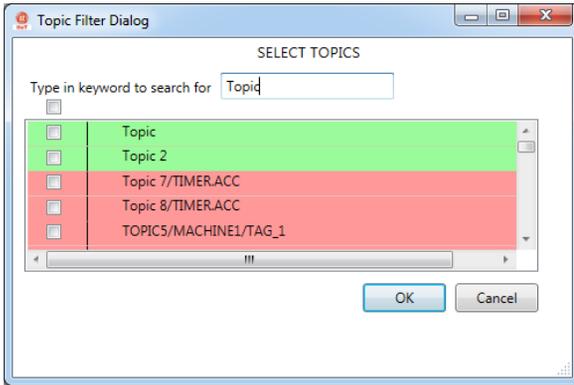
Utility: Subscribes

Utility: Message 2 received and has “YES” for retained flag

Note: Retain flag will not be “YES” unless the message was published before the user subscribed

Dup. Flag – The duplicate flag will be set to “YES” if the message has been received more than once by the Broker.

Topic Filter



The Topic Filter can be used to filter by different topics. Use the keyword selector to search for needed topics. Then select the topics you would like to see when filter is enabled. Click “OK” to finish setting up filter.

On the main screen use enable filter to see only previously selected topics.

Setup Broker

This tab is used to configure the broker information before connecting to the broker. Please see the setup instructions in the previous section for more information.

The screenshot shows a web interface for configuring a broker connection. At the top, there are three tabs: 'Dashboard', 'History', and 'Setup'. The 'Setup' tab is selected. Below the tabs, there are two sub-tabs: 'Broker' and 'File'. The 'Broker' sub-tab is selected. The main content area is titled 'Connection 1' and contains the following fields:

- Project: Connection 1
- Server URI: m12.cloudmqtt.com
- Client ID: TEST-ID0001
- Username: TEST
- Password: AVG123
- Port: 16581
- Clean Session:

At the bottom right, there is a 'Save Changes' button. Red boxes and arrows highlight key elements: 'Tab Navigation' points to the top tabs; 'Setup Navigation' points to the sub-tabs; 'Needed Broker Information (Please see setup section)' points to the input fields; 'Select this if you would like to Unsubscribe from all topics when you Disconnect from the Broker' points to the 'Clean Session' checkbox; and 'Make sure to save changes before connecting' points to the 'Save Changes' button.

Note: You cannot connect with the new settings until you save changes.

Setup Subscriptions

This tab is used to subscribe to different topics. This tab is only available when connected to the broker. You can either add a topic or subscribe to topics that already exist on the broker. Use the filter to narrow down the topics you would like to work with.

The screenshot shows the 'Setup Subscriptions' interface. At the top, there are three tabs: 'Dashboard', 'History', and 'Setup'. Below these are three sub-tabs: 'Broker', 'Subscriptions', and 'File'. A red box labeled 'Tab Navigation' points to the top tabs, and another red box labeled 'Setup Navigation' points to the sub-tabs. Below the sub-tabs, there is a search bar labeled 'Enter new topic' and an 'Add Topic' button. There are also buttons for 'Enable Filters', 'Disable Filters', and 'Add Filter To Topics'. A list of topics is shown, with the first topic 'QoS' checked and highlighted in green. A red box labeled 'Subscribe all visible topics' points to the checked checkbox. Another red box labeled 'Enable/Disable Filter' points to the 'Enable Filters' and 'Disable Filters' buttons. A third red box labeled 'Use Add Filter to Topics to create Filter (Please see next page for more information)' points to the 'Add Filter To Topics' button. A 'Delete' button is visible next to the highlighted topic. At the bottom right, there is a 'Save Changes' button.

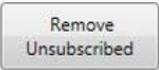
How to Subscribe to a Topic

To subscribe just check the box next to the Topic you would like to subscribe to. You can change the Quality of Service (QoS) for communication between utility and Broker for that topic at any time by using the dropdown (QoS of 1 or 0 allowed). Also you can subscribe to all visible topics by using the check box next to QoS.



Update Topics

The update topics will download all topics that exist as retained messages on the broker. Only the topics that you have permission to see will be downloaded. You can also add any topics you would like at any time. This will only retrieve topics that have been published with the 'Retain Flag' set to true AND have been published at least once.



Remove Unsubscribed

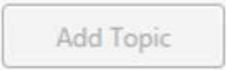
The remove unsubscribed option will delete all unsubscribed topics currently visible in the Subscription window.



Delete

You can delete individual topics by right clicking on topic and selecting the delete option.

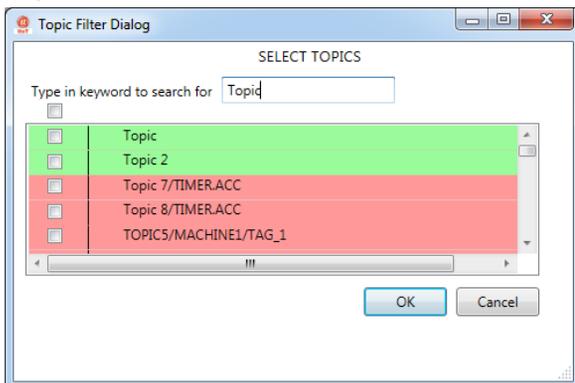
Add Topic



You can at any point add a topic to subscribe to by typing in the topic and pressing Add Topic.

Note: you will need to do this for any topic which does not have a retained flag since the update topics will not populate the list with these.

Topic Filter



The Topic Filter can be used to filter by different topics. Use the keyword selector to search for needed topics. Then select the topics you would like to see when filter is enabled. Click "OK" to finish setting up filter.

On the main screen use enable filter to see only previously selected topics.

Setup File

This tab is used to configure how the Utility will save the messages it has received. Here you can name the save file and change the save folder. You can also configure conditions of saving and when a new file is created.

The screenshot shows the 'Setup File' configuration window for 'Connection 1'. The interface includes a 'Tab Navigation' bar at the top with 'Dashboard', 'History', and 'Setup' tabs. Below it is a 'Setup Navigation' bar with 'Broker', 'Subscriptions', and 'File' tabs. The main configuration area is titled 'File' and contains the following elements:

- File Section:** A 'Base Name' text field containing 'TopicData' and a 'Folder Name' text field containing 'C:\'. A 'Browse' button is located to the right of the 'Folder Name' field.
- Saving Action Section:** Two radio buttons: 'Automatically' (selected) and 'Manually'.
- Save To File Section:** Two checked checkboxes:
 - 'Append -YYMMDD-HHMM to Base Name when a new file is created.'
 - 'Create a new file after filesize exceeds' followed by a text field containing '1000' and the unit 'Kbytes'.

Annotations with red boxes and arrows point to these elements:

- 'Tab Navigation' points to the top navigation bar.
- 'Setup Navigation' points to the 'File' tab in the second navigation bar.
- A callout box points to the 'Base Name' and 'Folder Name' fields: 'Use this to set the name of the .csv and where it will be saved'.
- A callout box points to the 'Saving Action' radio buttons: 'Select whether history is saved automatically or you need to save manually'.
- A callout box points to the 'Save To File' checkboxes: 'These settings are used when Saving Action is set to Automatic. Use these settings to set when a new file is created and how it will be named.'
- A callout box points to the 'Save Changes' button: 'Make sure to save changes since changes are not implemented till they are saved.'

Note: The newest data will always be saved in the Base Name .csv file. If new files are created then data is either saved in files with the date and time appended. Or if that format is not used the oldest files will be in "Base Name1.csv", second oldest in "Base Name2.csv". Also if the Base Name is open in excel, write is not possible so a new file with name "Base Name_.csv will be created.

8.7.4 EZ-IIoT Subscriber Utility Best Practices

This section will mention some common best practices when using the EZ-IIoT Subscriber Utility.

Utility Use

Recommended uses of this utility (can be used for multiple purposes at same time):

- Monitor tags – This utility can be used to monitor about 4-10 tags from the dashboard.
- Data Log – When this utility is subscribed it can be used to data log tag values for later analysis. *Note: it is stored as a .csv file.*
- Check Status – This utility can also be used to just check status of machine periodically by subscribing to see current status.
- Troubleshoot – This utility can also be used to see tag values for off-site troubleshooting capability.

CSV Files

When looking at saved history (data logging) in the CSV files the best way to view is to create a copy and then view in excel. If the CSV is open in excel the utility can write to it and will create a new file. Also note the oldest data will have a unique ID of 0 and the newest will have the highest value unique ID.

Client ID

Please make sure to use different Client IDs for each subscriber. If the same client ID is used for multiple subscribers only 1 will ever be able to connect to the Broker at a time. If the client IDs are different all subscribers up to your broker limit can connect to the Broker at the same time.

Username and Password

Each username and password can be limited to only certain topics thereby allowing users specific access to needed information. Therefore it is best to create a different username and password for each user. A username and password can be used in multiple locations to connect at the same time but it is not recommended.

EZ-IIoT Subscriber Utility Acceptable Data Format

The EZLogix publish format is “TimeStamp, Value”. The EZ-IIoT Subscriber Utility expects data in this format. Example below:

Received message: 1501073628, 291

The corresponding history result is:

Broker Sent At: 7/26/2017 12:53:48

Message: 291