

Control Objects

Introduction

A **Control** object manages a motion controller device. The device is typically a single board residing in a PC or an embedded system. A control object can read and write device memory through one of a variety of methods: I/O port, memory mapped or device driver.

For the case where the application and the motion controller device exist on two physically separate platforms connected by a LAN or serial line, the application creates a client control object which communicates via remote procedure calls with a server.

Unlike the methods of all other objects in the MPI, Control object methods are not thread-safe.

Are you using TCP/IP and Sockets? If yes, [click here](#).

Methods

Create, Delete, Validate Methods

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| mpiControlCreate | Create Control object |
| mpiControlDelete | Delete Control object |
| mpiControlValidate | Validate Control object |

Configuration and Information Methods

| | |
|--|--|
| mpiControlAddress | Get original address of Control object (when it was created) |
| mpiControlConfigGet | Get Control config |
| mpiControlConfigSet | Set Control config |
| meiControlFPGADefaultGet | |
| meiControlFPGAFileOverride | |
| meiControlExtMemAvail | |
| mpiControlFlashConfigGet | Get Control flash config |
| mpiControlFlashConfigSet | Set Control flash config |
| meiControlGateGet | Get the closed state (TRUE or FALSE) |
| meiControlGateSet | Set the closed state (TRUE or FALSE) |
| meiControlInfo | |
| mpiControlIoGet | |

| | |
|---|--|
| <u>mpiControlIoSet</u> | |
| <u>meiControlIoBitGet</u> | |
| <u>meiControlIoBitSet</u> | |
| <u>meiControlSampleCounter</u> | |
| <u>meiControlSamplestoSeconds</u> | Converts samples to seconds |
| <u>meiControlSampleWait</u> | |
| <u>meiControlSecondstoSamples</u> | Converts seconds to samples |
| <u>mpiControlType</u> | Get type of Control object (used to create Command object) |

Memory Methods

| | |
|--|--|
| <u>mpiControlMemory</u> | Get address of Control memory |
| <u>mpiControlMemoryAlloc</u> | Allocate bytes of firmware memory |
| <u>mpiControlMemoryCount</u> | Get number of bytes available in firmware |
| <u>mpiControlMemoryFree</u> | Free bytes of firmware memory |
| <u>mpiControlMemoryGet</u> | Copy count bytes of Control memory to application memory |
| <u>mpiControlMemorySet</u> | Copy count bytes of application memory to Control memory |

Relational Methods

[meiControlPlatform](#)

Action Methods

| | |
|--|---|
| <u>mpiControlCycleWait</u> | Wait for Control to execute count cycles |
| <u>mpiControlInit</u> | Initialize Control object |
| <u>mpiControlInterruptEnable</u> | Enable interrupts to Control object |
| <u>mpiControlInterruptWait</u> | Wait for controller interrupt |
| <u>mpiControlInterruptWake</u> | Wake all threads waiting for controller interrupt |
| <u>mpiControlReset</u> | Reset controller hardware |
| <u>meiControlSampleWait</u> | Specify how many samples the host waits for, while the XMP executes |
| <u>meiControlVersionMismatchOverride</u> | |

Data Types

[MPIControlAddress](#)
[MPIControlConfig](#) / [MEIControlConfig](#)
[MEIControlFPGA](#)
[MEIControlInfo](#)
[MEIControlInfoDriver](#)
[MEIControlInfoFirmware](#)

[MEIControlInfoHardware](#)

[MEIControlInfoMpi](#)

[MEIControlInfoPld](#)

[MEIControlInfoRincon](#)

[MEIControlInput](#)

[MPIControlIo](#)

[MEIControlIoBit](#)

[MPIControlIoWords](#)

[MPIControlMessage](#) / [MEIControlMessage](#)

[MPIControlMemoryType](#)

[MEIControlOutput](#)

[MEIControlTrace](#)

[MPIControlType](#)

Constants

[MPIControlMAX_AXES](#)

[MPIControlMAX_COMPENSATORS](#)

[MPIControlMAX_RECORDERS](#)

[MPIControlMIN_AXIS_FRAME_COUNT](#)

[MEIControlSTRING_MAX](#)

Sample Code

In general, if the caller specifies an explicit type (i.e., not DEFAULT), then the caller must completely fill out the `address.type` structure.

A simple case that will work for almost anyone who wants to use board #0:

```
mpiControlCreate(MPIControlTypeDEFAULT, NULL);
```

A simple case where board #1 is desired is:

```
{
    MPIControlAddress address;
    address.number = 1;
    mpiControlCreate(MPIControlTypeDEFAULT, &address);
}
```

Since the default `MPIControlType = MPIControlTypeDEVICE`, the *address* may be on the stack with garbage for the device driver name. This isn't a problem, however, because the board number is the only field in *address* that will be used when the caller specifies the DEFAULT `MPIControlType`.

Return Values

| | |
|----------------------|------------------------------------|
| handle | to a Control object |
| MPIHandleVOID | if the object could not be created |

See Also [MPIControl](#) | [MPIControlAddress](#) | [MPIControlType](#) | [mpiControlValidate](#)
[mpiControlInit](#) | [mpiControlDelete](#)

mpiControlDelete

Declaration long `mpiControlDelete`([MPIControl](#) `control`);

Required Header `stdmpi.h`

Description **ControlDelete** deletes a control object and invalidates its handle. *ControlDelete* is the equivalent of a C++ destructor.

Return Values

MPIMessageOK if *ControlDelete* successfully deletes a Control object and invalidates its handle

See Also [mpiControlCreate](#) | [mpiControlValidate](#)

mpiControlValidate

Declaration long `mpiControlValidate`([MPIControl](#) control);

Required Header stdmpi.h

Description `ControlValidate` validates the control object and its handle.

Return Values

`MPIMessageOK` if Control is a handle to a valid object.

See Also [mpiControlCreate](#) | [mpiControlDelete](#)

Return Values

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| MPIMessageOK | if <i>ControlConfigGet</i> successfully gets the <i>control</i> configuration and writes it in the structure(s) |
|---------------------|---|

See Also [mpiControlConfigSet](#) | [MEIControlConfig](#) |
[Special Note](#) on Dynamic Allocation of External Memory Buffers.

Return Values

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| MPIMessageOK | if <i>ControlConfigSet</i> successfully writes the Control object's configuration using data from the structure(s) |
|---------------------|--|

See Also [mpiControlConfigGet](#) | [MEIControlConfig](#) |
[Special Note](#) on Dynamic Allocation of External Memory Buffers.

mpiControlFlashConfigGet

Declaration

```
long mpiControlFlashConfigGet (MPIControl control,
                               void *flash,
                               MPIControlConfig *config,
                               void *external)
```

Required Header stdmpi.h

Description **ControlFlashConfigGet** gets the flash configuration of a Control object (*control*) and writes it into the structure pointed to by *config*, and also writes it into the implementation-specific structure pointed to by *external* (if *external* is not NULL).

The Control's flash configuration information in *external* is in addition to the Control's flash configuration information in *config*, i.e., the flash configuration information in *config* and in *external* is not the same information. Note that *config* or *external* can be NULL (but not both NULL).

XMP Only

external either points to a structure of type **MEIControlConfig** or is NULL. *flash* is either an MEIFlash handle or MPIHandleVOID. If *flash* is MPIHandleVOID, an MEIFlash object will be created and deleted internally.

Sample Code

```
/*
 * Write a value to element index of the user buffer.
 * Make sure to save topology to flash before doing this.
 */
void write2UserBufferFlash(MPIControl control, long value, long index)
{
    MPIControlConfig config;
    MEIControlConfig external;
    long returnValue;

    if((index < MEIXmpUserDataSize) && (index >= 0))
    {
        /* Make sure to save topology to flash before doing this */
        returnValue = mpiControlFlashConfigGet(control,
            MPIHandleVOID,
            &config,
            &external);
        msgCHECK(returnValue);

        external.UserBuffer.Data[index] = value;

        returnValue = mpiControlFlashConfigSet(control,
            MPIHandleVOID,
            &config,
```

```
        &external);  
    msgCHECK(returnValue);  
    }  
}
```

Return Values

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| MPIMessageOK | if <i>ControlFlashConfigGet</i> successfully gets the Control's flash configuration and writes it into the structure(s) |
|---------------------|---|

See Also [MEIFlash](#) | [mpiControlFlashConfigSet](#) | | [MEIControlConfig](#)


```
        &config,  
        &external);  
    msgCHECK(returnValue);  
}  
}
```

Return Values

MPIMessageOK

if *ControlFlashConfigSet* successfully sets (writes) the Control's flash configuration using data from the structure(s)

See Also [MEIFlash](#) | [mpiControlFlashConfigGet](#) | | [MEIControlConfig](#)

meiControlFPGADefaultGet

Declaration

```
long meiFPGADefaultGet(MPIControl          control,
                        MEIPlatformSocketInfo *socketInfo,
                        MEIControlFPGA       *fpga)
```

Required Header `stdmei.h`

Description `FPGADefaultGet` creates a default FPGA filename based on the *socketInfo*.

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| control | a handle to the Control object |
| *socketInfo | tells the function which type of FPGA is physically on the board. |
| *fpga | a pointer to a MEIControlFPGA object that contains a string that is the filename. To get the proper <i>fpga</i> , pass in <i>control</i> and valid <i>socketInfo</i> . |

Return Values

MPIMessageOK if *ControlFPGADefaultGet* successfully gets creates a default FPGA filename.

See Also [MEIControlFPGA](#)

meiControlFPGADefaultOverride

Declaration

```
long meiFPGADefaultOverride(MPIControl          control ,
                           MEIControlFPGA       *fpga ,
                           const char          *overrideFile ,
                           MEIPlatformSocketInfo *socketInfo)
```

Required Header `stdmei.h`

Description

FPGADefaultOverride checks to see if the *socketInfo* fits the board's physical configuration. If so, the FPGA filename is replaced with the *overrideFile*. This allows the user to specify FPGA files instead of using the MPI's default FPGA file.

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| control | a handle to the Control object. |
| *fpga | a pointer to MEIControlFPGA struct that contains the current file name string. |
| *overrideFile | is a character string that contains a desired filename. |
| *socketInfo | is a pointer to valid socket information. |

Return Values

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| MPIMessageOK | if <i>ControlFPGAOverride</i> successfully replaces the default FPGA file with the desired <i>overrideFile</i> . |
|---------------------|--|

See Also [MEIControlFPGA](#)

mpiControlMemory

Declaration

```
long mpiControlMemory(MPIControl control,
                      void **memory,
                      void **external)
```

Required Header stdmpi.h

Description **ControlMemory** sets (writes) an address (used to access a Control object's memory) to the contents of *memory*.

If *external* is not NULL, the contents of *external* are set to an implementation-specific address that typically points to a different section or type of Control memory other than *memory* (e.g., to external or off-chip memory). These addresses (or addresses calculated from them) are passed as the src argument to mpiControlMemoryGet(...) and the dst argument to mpiControlMemorySet(...).

Sample Code

```
/* Simple code to increment userbuffer[0] */
MEIXmpData      *firmware;
MEIXmpBufferData *buffer;

long returnValue, tempBuffer;

/* Get memory pointers */
returnValue =
    mpiControlMemory(control,
                    &firmware,
                    &buffer);
msgCHECK(returnValue);

returnValue = mpiControlMemoryGet(control,
    &tempBuffer,
    &buffer->UserBuffer.Data[0],
    sizeof(buffer->UserBuffer.Data[0]));
msgCHECK(returnValue);

tempBuffer++;

returnValue = mpiControlMemorySet(control,
    &buffer->UserBuffer.Data[0],
    &tempBuffer,
    sizeof(buffer->UserBuffer.Data[0]));
msgCHECK(returnValue);
```

Return Values

MPIMessageOK if *ControlMemory* successfully writes the address(es) (used to access Control memory, and optionally to access another section of Control memory) to the contents of *memory* (and to *external*, if *external* is not Null)

See Also [mpiControlMemoryGet](#) | [mpiControlMemorySet](#) | [mpiControlMemoryAlloc](#) | [mpiControlMemoryCount](#) | [mpiControlMemoryFree](#)

mpiControlMemoryGet

Declaration

```
long mpiControlMemoryGet(MPIControl control,
                          void *dst,
                          void *src,
                          long count)
```

Required Header stdmpi.h

Description **ControlMemoryGet** gets *count* bytes of *control* memory (starting at address *src*) and puts (writes) them in application memory (starting at address *dst*).

Sample Code

```
/* Simple code to increment userbuffer[0] */
MEIXmpData      *firmware;
MEIXmpBufferData *buffer;

long returnValue, tempBuffer;

/* Get memory pointers */
returnValue =
    mpiControlMemory(control,
                     &firmware,
                     &buffer);
msgCHECK(returnValue);

returnValue = mpiControlMemoryGet(control,
                                   &tempBuffer,
                                   &buffer->UserBuffer.Data[0],
                                   sizeof(buffer->UserBuffer.Data[0]));
msgCHECK(returnValue);

tempBuffer++;

returnValue = mpiControlMemorySet(control,
                                   &buffer->UserBuffer.Data[0],
                                   &tempBuffer,
                                   sizeof(buffer->UserBuffer.Data[0]));
msgCHECK(returnValue);
```

Return Values

MPIMessageOK if *ControlMemoryGet* successfully gets *count* bytes of *control* memory and puts (writes) them in application memory

See Also [mpiControlMemorySet](#) | [mpiControlMemory](#) | [mpiControlMemoryAlloc](#) | [mpiControlMemoryCount](#) | [mpiControlMemoryFree](#)

mpiControlMemorySet

Declaration

```
long mpiControlMemorySet(MPIControl control,
                        void *dst,
                        void *src,
                        long count)
```

Required Header stdmpi.h

Description **ControlMemorySet** sets (writes) *count* bytes of application memory (starting at address *src*) to *control* memory (starting at address *dst*).

Sample Code

```
/* Simple code to increment userbuffer[0] */
MEIXmpData      *firmware;
MEIXmpBufferData *buffer;

long returnValue, tempBuffer;

/* Get memory pointers */
returnValue =
    mpiControlMemory(control,
                    &firmware,
                    &buffer);
msgCHECK(returnValue);

returnValue = mpiControlMemoryGet(control,
    &tempBuffer,
    &buffer->UserBuffer.Data[0],
    sizeof(buffer->UserBuffer.Data[0]));
msgCHECK(returnValue);

tempBuffer++;

returnValue = mpiControlMemorySet(control,
    &buffer->UserBuffer.Data[0],
    &tempBuffer,
    sizeof(buffer->UserBuffer.Data[0]));
msgCHECK(returnValue);
```

Return Values

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| MPIMessageOK | if <i>ControlMemorySet</i> successfully sets (writes) count bytes of application memory to control memory |
|---------------------|---|

See Also [mpiControlMemoryGet](#) | [mpiControlMemory](#) | [mpiControlMemoryAlloc](#) | [mpiControlMemoryCount](#) | [mpiControlMemoryFree](#)

meiControlPlatform

Declaration [MEIPlatform](#) [meiControlPlatform](#)([MPIControl](#) **control**)

Required Header [stdmei.h](#)

Description **ControlPlatform** returns a handle to the Platform object with which the control is associated.

| | |
|----------------|--------------------------------|
| control | a handle to the Control object |
|----------------|--------------------------------|

Return Values

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| MPIPlatform | handle to a Platform object |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|

| | |
|----------------------|------------------------------|
| MPIHandleVOID | if <i>control</i> is invalid |
|----------------------|------------------------------|

See Also [mpiControlCreate](#)

mpiControlInit

mpiControlInit

Declaration long `mpiControlInit`([MPIControl](#) `control`)

Required Header stdmpi.h

Description **ControlInit** initializes the motion control device *control*. ControlInit must be called at least once after a control object has been created and before any other **mpiControl** methods are called [with the exception of `mpiControlDelete(...)`].

Return Values

MPIMessageOK if *ControlInit* successfully initializes the motion control device `control`

See Also [mpiControlDelete](#)

mpiControlInterruptWake

Declaration `long mpiControlInterruptWake(MPIControl control)`

Required Header `stdmpi.h`

Description **ControlInterruptWake** wakes all threads waiting for an interrupt from the motion controller *control* [as a result of a call to `mpiControlInterruptWait(...)`]. The waking thread(s) will return from the call with no interrupt indicated.

Return Values

MPIMessageOK if *ControlInterruptWake* successfully wakes all threads waiting for an interrupt from the motion controller

See Also [mpiControlInterruptWait](#) | [mpiControlInteruptEnable](#)

mpiControlReset

Declaration long `mpiControlReset`([MPIControl](#) `control`)

Required Header `stdmpi.h`

Description `ControlReset` resets the motion controller (*control*) board.

Return Values

MPIMessageOK if *ControlReset* successfully resets the motion controller board

See Also

meiControlVersionMismatchOverride

Declaration long `meiControlVersionMismatchOverride`([MPIControl](#) `control`);

Required Header stdmei.h

Description **ControlMismatchOverride** overrides the version mismatch between the MPI and the Xmp.

This function is reserved for MEI use only and should not be used by a customer.

Return Values

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| MPIMessageOK | if the motion controller successfully overrides the version mismatch between the MPI and the Xmp. |
|---------------------|---|

See Also

MPIControlAddress

MPIControlAddress

```

typedef struct MPIControlAddress {
    long    number;    /* controller number */

    union {
        void                *mapped;    /* memory address */
        unsigned long       ioPort;    /* I/O port number */
        char                *device;    /* device driver name */
        struct {
            char            *name;    /* image file name */
            MPIControlFileType type;    /* image file type */
        } file;
        struct {
            char    *server;    /* IP address: host.domain.com */
            long    port;    /* socket number */
        } client;
    } type;
} MPIControlAddress;

```

Description

ControlAddress is a structure that specifies the location of the controller that to be accessed when `mpiControlCreate()` is called. Please refer to the documentation for `mpiControlCreate()` to see how to use this structure.

| | |
|---------------|--|
| number | The controller number in the computer |
| type | A union that holds information about controllers on non-local computers. |

See Also

[MPIControl](#) | [MPIControlType](#) | [mpiControlCreate](#)

MPIControlConfig / MEIControlConfig

MPIControlConfig

```
typedef struct MPIControlConfig {
    long    axisCount ;
    long    axisFrameCount [MPIControlMAX_AXES] ;
    long    captureCount ;
    long    compareCount ;
    long    compensatorCount ;
    long    compensatorPointCount [MPIControlMAX_COMPENSATORS] ;
    long    cmdDacCount ;
    long    auxDacCount ;
    long    filterCount ;
    long    motionCount ;
    long    motorCount ;
    long    recorderCount ;
    long    recordCount [MPIControlMAX\_RECORDERS] ;
    long    sequenceCount ;
    long    userVersion ;
    long    sampleRate ;
} MPIControlConfig ;
```

Description

The **ControlConfig** structure specifies the controller configurations. It allocates the number of resources and configurations for the controller's operation. The controller's performance is inversely related to the DSP's load. The controller configuration structure allows the user to disable/enable objects for optimum performance.

For SynqNet controllers, changing the sampleRate or TxTime will cause the SynqNet network to be shutdown and re-initialized using the new sampleRate or TxTime values.

| | |
|------------------|---|
| axisCount | Number of axis objects enabled for the controller. The controller's axis object handles the trajectory calculations for command position. For simple systems, set the <i>axisCount</i> equal to the <i>motorCount</i> . |
|------------------|---|

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| axisFrameCount[] | An array of the number of frames for each axis frame buffer. Each frame is the size of MEIXmpFrame. The controller's frame buffers are dynamically allocated by changing the axisFrameCount. The default axisFrameCount is reasonable for most applications. A larger frame buffer may be required for long multi-point or cam motion profiles. The valid range is from 16 to the available memory. Use meiControlExtMemAvail(...) to determine the controller's available memory. Be sure to leave some free memory for potential future features. |
| captureCount | Number of capture objects enabled for the controller. The controller supports up to 16 captures. The controller's capture object manages the hardware resources to latch a motor's position feedback, triggered by a motor's input. |
| compareCount | Number of compare objects enabled for the controller. The controller's compare object manages the hardware resources to trigger a motor's output, triggered by a comparison between the motor's feedback and a pre-loaded position value. |
| compensatorCount | This value defines the number of enabled compensators. |
| compensatorPointCount | <p>The number of points in the compensation table for each compensator. See Determining Required Compensator Table Size for more information.</p> <p>An array of the number of points in the compensation table for each compensator. Each point is 32bits. The controller's compensation tables are dynamically allocated by changing the <i>compensatorPointCount</i>. When using compensator objects, see Determining Required Compensator Table Size for more information on a proper value for the point count.</p> |
| cmdDacCount | Number of command DACs (digital to analog converter) enabled for the controller. The controller's cmdDac transmits and scales a torque demand value to a SynqNet servo drive or a physical DAC circuit. There is one cmdDac per motor. Normally, the cmdDacCount should be equal to the motorCount. |
| auxDacCount | Number of auxilliary DACs (digital to analog converter) enabled for the controller. The controller's auxDac transmits and scales a torque demand value to a SynqNet servo drive or a physical DAC circuit. Auxilliary DACs can be used for sinusoidal motor commutation, where the cmdDac and auxDac provide the commutation phases. Or, auxilliary DACs can be used for general purpose analog outputs. There is one auxDac per motor. |
| filterCount | Number of filter objects enabled for a controller. The filter object handles the closed-loop servo calculations to control the motor. For simple systems, set the filterCount equal to the motorCount. |

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| motionCount | Number of motion supervisor objects enabled for a controller. The controller's motion supervisor handles coordination of motion and events for an axis or group of axes. For simple systems, set the motionCount equal to the axisCount. |
| motorCount | Number of motor objects enabled for a controller. The controller's motor object handles the interface to the servo or stepper drive, dedicated I/O and general purpose motor related I/O. For simple systems, the motorCount should equal the number of physical motors connected to the controller (either directly or via SynqNet). |
| recorderCount | Number of data recorder objects enabled for a controller. The controller's recorder object handles collecting and buffering any data in controller memory. The enabled data recorders can collect up to a total of 32 addresses each sample. The valid range for the recordCount is 0 to 32. |
| recordCount | An array of the number of records for each data recorder buffer. Each data record is 32 bits. The controller's data recorder buffers can be dynamically allocated by changing the recordCount. A larger data recorder buffer may be required for higher sample rates, slow host computers, when running via client/server, or when a large number of data fields are being recorded. The valid range is 0 to the available memory. Use meiControlExtMemAvail(...) to determine the controller's available external memory. |
| sequenceCount | Number of sequence objects enabled for the controller. The controller's sequence object executes and manages a sequence of pre-compiled controller commands. |
| userVersion | A 32 bit user defined field. The userVersion can be used to mark a firmware image with an identifier. This is useful if multiple controller firmware images are saved to a file. |
| sampleRate | <p>Number of controller foreground update cycles per second. For SynqNet controllers, this is also the cyclic update rate for the SynqNet network. During the controller's foreground cycle, the axis trajectories are calculated, the filters (closed-loop servo control) are calculated, motion is coordinated, the SynqNet data buffers are updated, and other time critical operations are performed. The default sample rate is 2000 (period = 500 microseconds). The minimum sampleRate for SynqNet systems is 1000 (period = 1 millisecond). The maximum is dependent on the controller hardware and processing load.</p> <p>There are several factors that must be considered to find an appropriate sampleRate for a system. The servo performance, the motion profile accuracy, the SynqNet network cyclic rate, the SynqNet drive update rates, controller background cycle update rate, and controller/application performance.</p> <p>For SynqNet systems, select a sampleRate that is a common multiple of the SynqNet drives connected to the network. For example, if the drive update rate is 8kHz, then appropriate controller sample rates are: 16000, 8000, 5333, 4000, 3200, 2667, 2286, 2000, 1778, 1600, 1455,</p> |

1333, 1231, 1067, and 1000

MEIControlConfig

```
typedef struct MEIControlConfig {
    long                preFilterCount;
    long                TxTime;
    MEIXmpPreFilter    PreFilter[MEIXmpMAX_PreFilters];
    MEIXmpUserBuffer   UserBuffer;
} MEIControlConfig;
```

Description

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| preFilterCount | This value defines the number of enabled pre-filters. |
| TxTime | This value determines the controller's transmit time for the SynqNet data. The units are a percentage of the sample period. The default is 75%. Smaller TxTime values will reduce the latency between when the controller receives the data, calculates the outputs, and transmits the data. If the TxTime is too small, the data will be sent before the controller updates the buffer, which will cause a TX_FAILURE event. |
| PreFilter | This array defines the configuration for each pre-filter. |
| UserBuffer | This structure defines the controller's user buffer. This is used for custom features that require a controller data buffer. |

Sample Code

```
/*
 * Write a value to element index of the user buffer.
 * Make sure to save topology to flash before doing this.
 */
void write2UserBufferFlash(MPIControl control, long value, long index)
{
    MPIControlConfig config;
    MEIControlConfig external;
    long returnValue;

    if((index < MEIXmpUserDataSize) && (index >= 0))
    {
        /* Make sure to save topology to flash before doing this */
        returnValue = mpiControlFlashConfigGet(control,
            MPIHandleVOID,
            &config,
            &external);
        msgCHECK(returnValue);
    }
}
```

```
        external.UserBuffer.Data[index] = value;

        returnValue = mpiControlFlashConfigSet(control,
            MPIHandleVOID,
            &config,
            &external);
        msgCHECK(returnValue);
    }
}
```

See Also [mpiControlConfigGet](#) | [mpiControlConfigSet](#) | [meiControlExtMemAvail](#) | [Dynamic Allocation of External Memory Buffers](#)

MEIControlInfo

MEIControlInfo

```
typedef struct MEIControlInfo {
    MEIControlInfoMpi        mpi;
    MEIControlInfoFirmware  firmware;
    MEIControlInfoPld       pld;
    MEIControlInfoRincon   rincon;
    MEIControlInfoHardware hardware;
    MEIControlInfoDriver   driver;
} MEIControlInfo;
```

Description **ControlInfo** contains the information about the motion controller being used.

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| mpi | Information about the MPI software located on the host computer. |
| firmware | Information about the Firmware running on the controller. |
| pld | Information about the PLD located in the controller. |
| rincon | Information about the Rincon FPGA located on the controller. |
| hardware | Production information about the hardware stored in the controller. |
| driver | Information about the Driver, running on the host, used to interface with the controller. |

See Also

MEIControlInfoDriver

Declaration

```
typedef struct MEIControlInfoDriver {  
    char    version[MEIControlSTRING\_MAX];  
} MEIControlInfoDriver;
```

Required Header stdmei.h

Description **ControlInfoDriver** is a structure that contains the version information of the connected hardware.

| | |
|----------------|---|
| version | The version of the Driver the host uses to interface with the controller. |
|----------------|---|

See Also

MEIControlInfoFirmware

Declaration

```
typedef struct MEIControlInfoFirmware {
    long   version;      /* MEIXmpVERSION_EXTRACT(SoftwareID) */
    long   option;       /* MEIXmpOPTION_EXTRACT(Option) */
    char   revision;    /* ('A' - 1) + MEIXmpREVISION_EXTRACT(SoftwareID) */
    long   subRevision; /* MEIXmpSUB_REV_EXTRACT(Option) */
    long   branchId;
} MEIControlInfoFirmware;
```

Required Header stdmei.h

Description **ControlInfoFirmware** is a structure that contains read-only version information for the firmware running in the controller.

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| version | The major version number for the controller's firmware. To be compatible with the MPI library, this number must match the fwVersion in the MEIControlInfoMpi structure. |
| option | The firmware option number. Special or custom firmware is given a unique option number. An application or user can identify optional firmware from this value. |
| revision | The minor version number for the controller's firmware. Indicates a minor change or bug fix to the firmware code. |
| subRevision | The micro version value for the controller's firmware. Indicates a very minor change or bug fix to the firmware code. |
| branchId | Identifies an intermediate branch software revision. The branch value is represented as a hex number between 0x00000000 and 0xFFFFFFFF. Each digit represents an instance of a branch (0x1 to 0xF). A single digit represents a single branch from a specific version, two digits represent a branch of a branch, three digits represent a branch of a branch of a branch, etc. |

See Also [MEIControlInfoMPI](#)

MEIControlInfoHardware

Declaration

```
typedef struct MEIControlInfoHardware {  
    char    modelName[MEIControlSTRING\_MAX];  
    char    serialNumber[MEIControlSTRING_MAX];  
    char    type[MEIControlSTRING_MAX];  
} MEIControlInfoHardware;
```

Required Header stdmei.h

Description **ControlInfoHardware** is a structure that contains the version information of the connected hardware.

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| modelName | The Controller's model number or t-level number (ex: T001-0001) which is stored on the hardware. |
| serialNumber | The Controller's serial number, which is unique to each controller. |
| type | The type of Controller (XMP or ZMP). |

See Also

MEIControlInfoMpi

Declaration

```
typedef struct MEIControlInfoMpi {
    char        version[MEIControlSTRING\_MAX];
    long        fwVersion;
    long        fwOption;
} MEIControlInfoMpi;
```

Required Header `stdmei.h`

Description [ControlInfoMpi](#) is a structure that contains read-only version information for the MPI.

| | |
|------------------|--|
| version | A string representing the version of the MPI. The version of the MPI is broken down by date, branch, and revision (MPIVersion.branch.revision). For ex: 20021220.1.2 means MPI version 20021220, branch 1, revision 2. |
| fwVersion | The firmware version information that the current version of the MPI will work with. A new field has been added to the XMP's firmware to identify and differentiate between intermediate branch software revisions. The branch value is represented as a hex number between 0x00000000 and 0xFFFFFFFF. Each digit represents an instance of a branch (0x1 to 0xF). A single digit represents a single branch from a specific version, two digits represent a branch of a branch, three digits represent a branch of a branch of a branch, etc. |
| fwOption | The firmware option number. Special or custom firmware is given a unique option number. An MPI library that requires optional firmware will have a value that must match the firmware's option number. |

See Also [MEIControlInfoFirmware](#) | [MEIControlInfo](#)

MEIControlInfoPld

Declaration

```
typedef struct MEIControlInfoPld {
    char    version[MEIControlSTRING\_MAX];
    char    option[MEIControlSTRING_MAX];
} MEIControlInfoPld;
```

Required Header stdmei.h

Description

ControlInfoPld is a read-only structure that contains PLD version information. The PLD is a hardware component that contains logic to handle the controller's internal operation.

| | |
|----------------|---|
| version | This is an 8-bit value in the hardware. The version string for the PLD. The PLD image is downloaded to the controller during manufacturing. |
| option | This is a 16-bit value (actually 2 8 bit values) in the hardware. The build option string for the PLD. The PLD option number is a coded value that describes the PLD image build type and target component. For XMP controllers, the option field has bits defining various features on the PCB - for example, the presence of the CAN interface, or the type of FPGA on the PCB. |

See Also [MEIControlInfo](#)

MEIControlInfoRincon

Declaration

```
typedef struct MEIControlInfoRincon {
    char    version[MEIControlSTRING\_MAX];
    char    package[MEIControlSTRING\_MAX];
} MEIControlInfoRincon;
```

Required Header `stdmei.h`

Description

ControlInfoRincon is a structure that contains read-only version information for the controller's Rincon image. The Rincon image contains the logic to operate a controller's SynqNet interface.

| | |
|----------------|--|
| version | This is a 16-bit value in the hardware. The version string for the Rincon image on the controller. |
| package | <p>This is a 16-bit value in the hardware. The package string identification for the Rincon. The package string is a coded value that describes the Rincon image build type and target component.</p> <p>Existing types are:</p> <p>9201 - Rincon for XMP, XC2S100, PQ208 package 9601 - Rincon for XMP, XC2S100, FG256 package A102 - RinconZ for ZMP, XC2S300E, FT256 package A301 - RinconZ for ZMP, XC3S200, FT256 package</p> <p>The package and version data can be used to create the FPGA filename. For example, 221_9201.fpg is Rincon type 9201, version 221.</p> |

See Also [MEIControlInfo](#)

MEIControlInput

MEIControlInput

```
typedef enum {
    MEIControlInputUSER_0    = MEIXmpControlIOMaskUSER0_IN,
    MEIControlInputUSER_1    = MEIXmpControlIOMaskUSER1_IN,
    MEIControlInputUSER_2    = MEIXmpControlIOMaskUSER2_IN,
    MEIControlInputUSER_3    = MEIXmpControlIOMaskUSER3_IN,
    MEIControlInputUSER_4    = MEIXmpControlIOMaskUSER4_IN,
    MEIControlInputUSER_5    = MEIXmpControlIOMaskUSER5_IN,
    MEIControlInputXESTOP    = MEIXmpControlIOMaskXESTOP,
} MEIControlInput;
```

Description

ControlInput is an enumeration of a controller's local digital input bit masks. Each mask represents a discrete input.

See Also

[mpiControlIoGet](#) | [mpiControlIoSet](#) | [MEIControlOutput](#)

MPIControlIo

MPIControlIo

```
typedef struct MPIControlIo {  
    unsigned long    input[MPIControlIoWords];  
    unsigned long    output[MPIControlIoWords]  
} MPIControlIo;
```

Description

The **ControlIo** structure contains controller's local digital input and output states. The digital inputs can be read and the digital outputs can be read or written through this structure.

| | |
|---------------|--|
| input | An array of digital input values. Each bit mask is defined by the MEIControlInput enumeration. |
| output | An array of digital output values. Each bit mask is defined by the MEIControlOutput enumeration. |

See Also

[MEIControlOutput](#) | [MEIControlInput](#) | [mpiControlIoGet](#) | [mpiControlIoSet](#)

MEIControlIoBit

Declaration

```
typedef enum {
    MEIControlIoBitUSER_0_IN,
    MEIControlIoBitUSER_1_IN,
    MEIControlIoBitUSER_2_IN,
    MEIControlIoBitUSER_3_IN,
    MEIControlIoBitUSER_4_IN,
    MEIControlIoBitUSER_5_IN,
    MEIControlIoBitUSER_0_OUT,
    MEIControlIoBitUSER_1_OUT,
    MEIControlIoBitUSER_2_OUT,
    MEIControlIoBitUSER_3_OUT,
    MEIControlIoBitUSER_4_OUT,
    MEIControlIoBitUSER_5_OUT,
} MEIControlIoBit;
```

Required Header stdmpi.h

Description [ControlIoBit](#) is an enumeration of a controller's local digital I/O bit numbers.

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| MEIControlIoBitUSER_0_IN | controller's local input, bit number 0 |
| MEIControlIoBitUSER_1_IN | controller's local input, bit number 1 |
| MEIControlIoBitUSER_2_IN | controller's local input, bit number 2 |
| MEIControlIoBitUSER_3_IN | controller's local input, bit number 3 |
| MEIControlIoBitUSER_4_IN | controller's local input, bit number 4 |
| MEIControlIoBitUSER_5_IN | controller's local input, bit number 5 |
| MEIControlIoBitUSER_0_OUT | controller's local output, bit number 0 |
| MEIControlIoBitUSER_1_OUT | controller's local output, bit number 1 |
| MEIControlIoBitUSER_2_OUT | controller's local output, bit number 2 |
| MEIControlIoBitUSER_3_OUT | controller's local output, bit number 3 |
| MEIControlIoBitUSER_4_OUT | controller's local output, bit number 4 |
| MEIControlIoBitUSER_5_OUT | controller's local output, bit number 5 |

Return Values

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| MPIMessageOK | if <i>ControlIoGet</i> successfully gets the I/O bits from controller and puts (writes) them in the structure. |
| MPIMessageARG_INVALID | if the <i>io</i> pointer points to NULL. |

See Also [meiControlIoBitGet](#) | [meiControlIoBitSet](#)

MPIControlIoWords

MPIControlIoWords

```
#define MPIControlIoWords (1)
```

Description

ControlIoWords defines the number of 32 bit Input and Output words on the controller.

See Also

[MPIControlIo](#) | [MEIControlIoBit](#) | [MEIControlInput](#) | [MEIControlOutput](#)

MPIControlMemoryType

MPIControlMemoryType

```
typedef enum {
    MPIControlMemoryTypeUSER,
    MPIControlMemoryTypeDEFAULT = MPIControlMemoryTypeUSER
} MPIControlMemoryType;
```

Description

ControlMemoryType is an enumeration of controller memory types. The controller memory contains static and dynamic regions. The controller firmware defines the regions and the MPI configures the dynamic memory.

| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| MPIControlMemoryTypeUSER | The dynamic portion of the controller's external memory that is not in use by the controller. |
| MPIControlMemoryTypeDEFAULT | Defined as MPIControlMemoryTypeUSER. |

See Also

[mpiControlMemoryAlloc](#) | [mpiControlMemoryCount](#) | [mpiControlMemoryFree](#) | [mpiControlConfigGet](#) | [mpiControlConfigSet](#)

MPIControlMessage / MEIControlMessage

MPIControlMessage

```
typedef enum {
    MPIControlMessageLIBRARY_VERSION,
    MPIControlMessageADDRESS_INVALID,
    MPIControlMessageCONTROL_INVALID,
    MPIControlMessageCONTROL_NUMBER_INVALID,
    MPIControlMessageTYPE_INVALID,
    MPIControlMessageINTERRUPTS_DISABLED,
    MPIControlMessageEXTERNAL_MEMORY_OVERFLOW,
    MPIControlMessageADC_COUNT_INVALID,
    MPIControlMessageAXIS_COUNT_INVALID,
    MPIControlMessageAXIS_FRAME_COUNT_INVALID,
    MPIControlMessageCAPTURE_COUNT_INVALID,
    MPIControlMessageCOMPARE_COUNT_INVALID,
    MPIControlMessageCMDDAC_COUNT_INVALID,
    MPIControlMessageAUXDAC_COUNT_INVALID,
    MPIControlMessageFILTER_COUNT_INVALID,
    MPIControlMessageMOTION_COUNT_INVALID,
    MPIControlMessageMOTOR_COUNT_INVALID,
    MPIControlMessageSAMPLE_RATE_TO_LOW,
    MPIControlMessageRECORDER_COUNT_INVALID,
    MPIControlMessageCOMPENSATOR_COUNT_INVALID,
    MPIControlMessageAXIS_RUNNING,
    MPIControlMessageRECORDER_RUNNING,
} MPIControlMessage;
```

Description

MPIControlMessageLIBRARY_VERSION

The MPI Library does not match the application. This message code is returned by [mpiControlInit\(...\)](#) if the MPI's library (DLL) version does not match the MPI header files that were compiled with the application. To correct this problem, the application must be recompiled using the same MPI software installation version that the application uses at run-time.

MPIControlMessageADDRESS_INVALID

The controller address is not valid. This message code is returned by [mpiControlInit\(...\)](#) if the controller address is not within a valid memory range. [mpiControlInit\(...\)](#) only requires memory addresses for certain operating systems. To correct this problem, verify the controller memory address.

MPIControlMessageCONTROL_INVALID

Currently not supported.

MPIControlMessageCONTROL_NUMBER_INVALID

The controller number is out of range. This message code is returned by [mpiControlInit\(...\)](#) if the controller number is less than zero or greater than or equal to MaxBoards(8).

MPIControlMessageTYPE_INVALID

The controller type is not valid. This message code is returned by [mpiControlInit\(...\)](#) if the controller type is not a member of the MPIControlType enumeration.

MPIControlMessageINTERRUPTS_DISABLED

The controller interrupt is disabled. This message code is returned by [mpiControlInterruptWait\(...\)](#) if the controller's interrupt is not enabled. This prevents an application from waiting for an interrupt that will never be generated. To correct this problem, enable controller interrupts with [mpiControlInterruptEnable\(...\)](#) before waiting for an interrupt.

MPIControlMessageEXTERNAL_MEMORY_OVERFLOW

The controller's external memory will overflow. This message code is returned by [mpiControlConfigSet\(...\)](#) if the dynamic memory allocation exceeds the external memory available on the controller. To correct the problem, reduce the number/size of control configuration resources or use a controller model with a larger static memory component.

MPIControlMessageADC_COUNT_INVALID

The ADC count is not valid. This message code is returned by [mpiControlConfigSet\(...\)](#) if the number of ADCs is greater than MEIXmpMAX_ADCs.

MPIControlMessageAXIS_COUNT_INVALID

The axis count is not valid. This message code is returned by [mpiControlConfigSet\(...\)](#) if the number of axes is greater than MEIXmpMAX_Axes.

MPIControlMessageAXIS_FRAME_COUNT_INVALID

This message is returned from [mpiControlConfigSet\(...\)](#) if the value for MPIControlConfig.axisFrameCount is not a power of two or if axisFrameCount is less than MPIControlMIN_AXIS_FRAME_COUNT.

MPIControlMessageCAPTURE_COUNT_INVALID

The capture count is not valid. This message code is returned by [mpiControlConfigSet\(...\)](#) if the number of captures is greater than MEIXmpMAX_Captures.

MPIControlMessageCOMPARE_COUNT_INVALID

The compare count is not valid. This message code is returned by [mpiControlConfigSet\(...\)](#) if the number of compares is greater than MEIXmpMAX_Compare.

MPIControlMessageCMDDAC_COUNT_INVALID

The command DAC count is not valid. This message code is returned by [mpiControlConfigSet\(...\)](#) if the number of command DACs is greater than MEIXmpMAX_DACs.

MPIControlMessageAUXDAC_COUNT_INVALID

The auxiliary DAC count is not valid. This message code is returned by [mpiControlConfigSet\(...\)](#) if the number of auxiliary DACs is greater than MEIXmpMAX_DACs.

MPIControlMessageFILTER_COUNT_INVALID

The filter count is not valid. This message code is returned by [mpiControlConfigSet\(...\)](#) if the number of filters is greater than MEIXmpMAX_Filters.

MPIControlMessageMOTION_COUNT_INVALID

The motion count is not valid. This message code is returned by [mpiControlConfigSet\(...\)](#) if the number of motions is greater than MEIXmpMAX_MSs.

MPIControlMessageMOTOR_COUNT_INVALID

The motor count is not valid. This message code is returned by [mpiControlConfigSet\(...\)](#) if the number of motors is greater than MEIXmpMAX_Motors.

MPIControlMessageSAMPLE_RATE_TO_LOW

The controller sample rate is too small. This message code is returned by [mpiControlConfigSet\(...\)](#) if the sample rate is less than 1000. SynqNet does not support cyclic data rates below 1kHz. The controller's sample rate specifies the SynqNet cyclic rate.

MPIControlMessageRECORDER_COUNT_INVALID

The recorder count is not valid. This message code is returned by [mpiControlConfigSet\(...\)](#) if the number of recorders is greater than MEIXmpMAX_Recorders.

MPIControlMessageCOMPENSATOR_COUNT_INVALID

The compensator count is not valid. This message code is returned by [mpiControlConfigSet\(...\)](#) if the number of compensators is greater than MPIControlMAX_COMPENSATORS.

MPIControlMessageAXIS_RUNNING

Attempting to configure the control object while axes are running. It is recommended that all configuration of the control object occur prior to commanding motion.

MPIControlMessageRECORDER_RUNNING

Attempting to configure the control object while a recorder is running. It is recommended that all configuration of the control object occur prior to operation of any recorder objects.

MEIControlMessage

```
typedef enum {
    MEIControlMessageFIRMWARE_INVALID,
    MEIControlMessageFIRMWARE_VERSION_NONE,
    MEIControlMessageFIRMWARE_VERSION,
    MEIControlMessageFPGA_SOCKETS,
    MEIControlMessageBAD_FPGA_SOCKET_DATA,
    MEIControlMessageNO_FPGA_SOCKET,
    MEIControlMessageINVALID_BLOCK_COUNT,
    MEIControlMessageSYNQNET_OBJECTS,
    MEIControlMessageSYNQNET_STATE,
    MEIControlMessageIO_BIT_INVALID,
} MEIControlMessage;
```

Description

MEIControlMessageFIRMWARE_INVALID

The controller firmware is not valid. This message code is returned by [mpiControlInit\(...\)](#) if the MPI library does not recognize the controller signature. After power-up or reset, the controller loads the firmware from flash memory. When the firmware executes, it writes a signature value into external memory. If [mpiControlInit\(...\)](#) does not recognize the signature, then the firmware did not execute properly. To correct this problem, download firmware and verify the controller hardware is working properly.

MEIControlMessageFIRMWARE_VERSION_NONE

The controller firmware version is zero. This message code is returned by control methods do not find a firmware version. This indicates the firmware did not execute at controller power-up or reset. To correct this problem, download firmware and verify the controller hardware is working properly.

MEIControlMessageFIRMWARE_VERSION

The controller firmware version does not match the software version. This message code is returned by control methods if the firmware version is not compatible with the MPI library. To correct this problem, either download compatible firmware or install a compatible MPI run-tim library.

MEIControlMessageFPGA_SOCKETS

The maximum number of FPGA socket types has been exceeded. This message code is returned by [meiFlashMemoryFromFile\(...\)](#) if the controller has more FPGA types than the controller has flash memory space to support them.

MEIControlMessageBAD_FPGA_SOCKET_DATA

Not supported.

MEIControlMessageNO_FPGA_SOCKET

The FPGA socket type does not exist. This message code is returned by [meiFlashMemoryFromFile\(...\)](#) if the controller does not support the FPGA type that was specified in the FPGA image file. To correct this problem, use a different FPGA image that is compatible with the controller.

MEIControlMessageINVALID_BLOCK_COUNT

Not supported.

MEIControlMessageSYNQNET_OBJECTS

Not supported.

MEIControlMessageSYNQNET_STATE

The controller's SynqNet state is not expected. This message code is returned by [mpiControlInit\(...\)](#), [mpiControlReset\(...\)](#) and [mpiControlConfigSet\(...\)](#) if the SynqNet network initialization fails to reach the SYNQ state. To correct this problem, check your node hardware and network connections.

MEIControlMessageIO_BIT_INVALID

The controller I/O bit is not valid. This message code is returned by [meiControlIoBitGet\(...\)](#) or [meiControlIoBitSet\(...\)](#) if the controller I/O bit is not a member of the MEIControlIoBit enumeration.

See Also

MEIControlOutput

MEIControlOutput

```
typedef enum {  
    MEIControlOutputUSER_0 = MEIXmpControlIOMaskUSER0_OUT,  
    MEIControlOutputUSER_1 = MEIXmpControlIOMaskUSER1_OUT,  
    MEIControlOutputUSER_2 = MEIXmpControlIOMaskUSER2_OUT,  
    MEIControlOutputUSER_3 = MEIXmpControlIOMaskUSER3_OUT,  
    MEIControlOutputUSER_4 = MEIXmpControlIOMaskUSER4_OUT,  
    MEIControlOutputUSER_5 = MEIXmpControlIOMaskUSER5_OUT,  
} MEIControlOutput;
```

Description

ControlOutput is an enumeration of a controller's local digital output bit masks. Each mask represents a discrete output.

See Also

[mpiControlIoGet](#) | [mpiControlIoSet](#) | [MEIControlInput](#)

MEIControlTrace

MEIControlTrace

```
typedef enum {  
    MEIControlTraceDYNA_ALLOC = MEIControlTraceFIRST << 0,  
} MEIControlTrace;
```

Description **ControlTrace** is an enumeration of control object trace bits to enable debug tracing.

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| MEIControlTraceDYNA_ALLOC | This trace bit enables tracing for calls that dynamically allocate controller memory. |
|----------------------------------|---|

See Also

MPIControlType

MPIControlType

```
typedef enum {  
    MPIControlTypeDEFAULT,  
    MPIControlTypeMAPPED,  
    MPIControlTypeIOPORT,  
    MPIControlTypeDEVICE,  
    MPIControlTypeCLIENT,  
    MPIControlTypeFILE,  
} MPIControlType;
```

Description

ControlType is an enumeration that specifies the type of controller that needs to be accessed when `mpiControlCreate()` is called. Please refer to the documentation for `mpiControlCreate()` to see how to use this enumeration.

See Also

[MPIControl](#) | [mpiControlCreate](#) | [mpiControlType](#)

MPIControlMAX_AXES

Declaration `#define MPIControlMAX_AXES (32)`

Required Header `stdmpi.h`

Description Defines the maximum number of axes available on one controller.

See Also [MPIAxis](#) | [mpiControlConfigGet](#) | [mpiControlConfigSet](#)

MPIControlMAX_COMPENSATORS

Declaration `#define MPIControlMAX_COMPENSATORS (4)`

Required Header `stdmpi.h`

Description Defines the maximum number of compensator objects available on one controller.

See Also [MPICompensator](#) | [mpiControlConfigGet](#) | [mpiControlConfigSet](#)

MPIControlMAX_RECORDERS

Declaration `#define MPIControlMAX_RECORDERS (32)`

Required Header `stdmpi.h`

Description Defines the maximum number of recorder objects available on one controller.

See Also

MPIControlMIN_AXIS_FRAME_COUNT

Declaration `#define MPIControlMIN_AXIS_FRAME_COUNT (128)`

Required Header `stdmpi.h`

Description Defines the the minimum allowed value for which
MPIControlConfig.axisFrameCount can be set.

See Also [MPIControlConfig](#) | [mpiControlConfigGet](#) | [mpiControlConfigSet](#)

MEIControlSTRING_MAX

Declaration `#define MEIControlSTRING_MAX (16)`

Required Header `stdmei.h`

Description Defines the maximum number of characters in MEIControlInfo strings.

See Also [MEIControlInfo](#) | [MEIControlInfoHardware](#)

Dynamic Allocation of External Memory Buffers

In previous versions, the XMP external memory was statically allocated at firmware compile time.

In version 20010119 and later, specific buffers of the XMP external memory are dynamically allocated. The dynamic allocation feature allows an application to efficiently use the XMP controller's on-board memory and allows for future expansion. The dynamically allocated buffers currently include the Frame Buffer and Record Buffer. Each of these buffers sizes are recalculated during a call to [mpiControlConfigSet\(...\)](#) if there is a change in any of the associated ControlConfig values.

The **Frame Buffer** is used for motion on each axis. The Frame Buffer is directly associated with the number of EnabledAxes in the [MPIControlConfig](#) structure. The Frame Buffer will be allocated to the minimum size required to support the number of enabled axes. The default number of EnabledAxes is eight (8).

The **Record Buffer** is used for the on-board data recorder. The Record Buffer is directly associated with the number of EnabledRecord in the [MPIControlConfig](#) structure. The Record Buffer will be allocated to the minimum size required to support the number of enabled records. The default number of EnabledRecords is 3064. Each record is the size of one memory word.

The [meiControlExtMemAvail\(...\)](#) method has been added to discover how much memory is available on your controller.

```
MPI_DEF1 long MPI_DEF2
    meiControlExtMemAvail(MPIControl control,
                          long *size)
```

The [meiControlExtMemAvail\(...\)](#) method will return the number of memory words available. Since each record size is one memory word, the size returned from the above function can be used to increase the Record Buffer to maximum size possible. This greatly improves client/server operation of Motion Scope and any application used for data collection.

WARNING! Due to the nature of dynamic allocation and the clearing of external memory buffers [mpiControlConfigSet\(...\)](#) should ONLY be called at motion application initialization time and NOT during motion.

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TCP/IP and Sockets for Control Objects

The MPI implements network functionality as client/server. The xmp\util\server.c program implements a basic server. You just create a Control object of type [MPIControlTypeCLIENT](#) and specify the server's host in the [MPIControlAddress](#){ }.client{ } structure.

You can try “MPI networking” on a single machine by starting up the server program in a DOS window, and then running a sample application in another DOS window. Note that you can specify the host name and port of the server as command line arguments to all sample applications and utilities.

The way the MPI client/server works internally is that low-level [mpiControlMemory](#) and [mpiControlInterrupt](#) methods are intercepted just before they read/write XMP memory. The methods are packaged up as remote procedure calls and sent to the server for execution. The server sends the results back to the client.

There are 2 channels of communication - one channel to wait for interrupts, and another channel to do everything else. All MPI methods that communicate with the XMP do so by calling (eventually) the low level [mpiControlMemory](#) methods, so no application code needs to be changed other than the initial call to [mpiControlCreate](#)(...). This is all implemented on WinNT using WinSock.

Note that it would be possible to implement the client/server scenario above using an RS-232 line rather than TCP/IP WinSock. The MPI's client/server protocol only requires a reliable transport mechanism (WinSock, RS-232) between a client and server.

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