

User manual Horus Recorder Builder



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1 Working with the Inspection and Survey Suite

1.1 Introduction Inspection and Survey Suite

The Horus Inventory and Survey Suite consists of three programs: the Movie Recorder, the Movie Maker and the Movie Player. The Movie Recorder's main function is to record all the data from the camera's and additional sensors. The Movie Recorder has a simple playback function, it is merely used to check the images that have just been recorded.

The Horus Movie Maker is used to edit the recordings, it is used to select the useful recordings and allow you to cut out sections that aren't needed. The Horus Movie Player is used for the actual inspection and survey duties. This manual describes the Horus Movie Maker software. This program is used to edit the recorded camera streams so the recordings are tailored for the Inventory and Survey with the Movie Player software.

This manual is written in the assumption that the reader has basic knowledge of video inspections and basic computer knowledge.

1.2 System requirements

We recommend that you run the Horus Movie Maker on a machine running on Windows 7 x86 / x64, Open GL 2.1 or higher and an Intel Core i3 processer or faster.



2 Installing the software

You can start the installation of the Horus Movie Maker by double-clicking on the installation package icon:



This will start the setup wizard, select *Next* to start the installation procedure:



Before installation just must have read the software license agreement, after accepting the terms in the agreement, check the box and press *Next* to proceed:



After that, you must select the location where the Horus Movie Player should be installed. Click *Next* after you have selected the desired installation location:





The installation wizard needs a final approval before it can install the Horus Movie Player. Click *Install* to start the installation:



The progress of the installation is shown by a progress bar. After the installation is finished, select *Finish*.



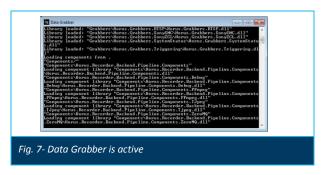
3 Starting the Recorder Builder

The Recorder Builder is linked to the Data Grabber module, the Recorder Builder will only work when the Data Grabber is active. Before you can start working with the Recorder Builder, you need to start the Data Grabber first before the Recorder Builder is started.

To start the Data Grabber, double click on the icon:



Wait until the Data Grabber is active:



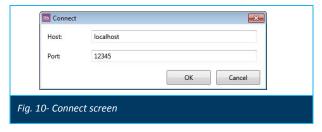
Start the recorder Builder by double clicking the icon:



When the Recorder Builder is started, the main screen is initially blank, this is because the Recorder Builder and the Data Grabber are not connected yet. Click the *Connect* icon in the upper left corner:



The *Connect* screen opens, specify the Host name and the port and click *OK* to connect:

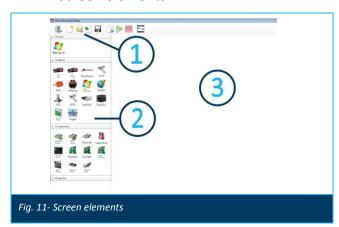


After the Recorder Builder and the Data Grabber are connected, the Recorder Builder is ready to use.



4 Description of the Recorder Builder

4.1 Screen elements



From left to right:

- 1 Toolbar
- 2 Component panels
- 3 Build screen

The Horus Recorder Builder is used to build so called recording pipeline, a data stream in which camera setups, grabbers and physical devices are connected. In the component panels (2) you can select camera's, grabbers, components and drag and drop them in the build screen (3). All components that are placed in the main screen can be connected by simple drawing a line between the components you want to connect. The pipeline that is created in the main screen can be exported as a Horus Recorder Pipeline file.

4.1.1 Toolbar buttons



From left to right:

Connect

New pipeline

Load pipeline

Import on top of current pipeline

Send pipeline

Start pipeline

Stop pipeline

Generate camera configuration



4.1.2 Component panels

The component screen consists of four separate panels that represent a group of components: Devices, grabbers, Components and the Properties of the components:



4.1.3 Component properties

The component properties are shown at the bottom of the Component panels. By using the pull down menus and the fill in field you can set the properties of a component. The settings are described in section 7.2

4.1.4 Expand or collapse a group

The component groups can be expanded or collapsed using the arrows in the group title:





5 Grabbers – description and properties

Grabbers are used to 'grab' the data from the camera and transfer the data into a data stream that is useable for further data transportation and processing.

5.1 HTTP grabber

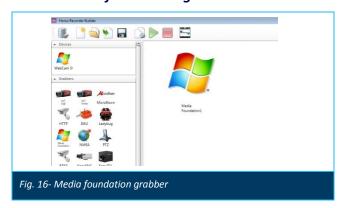


The HTTP grabber in the Recorder Builder can capture HTTP (MJPEG) streams from cameras that provide such data. To connect a grabber, drag a grabber to the build screen and enter the URL where the camera provides the MJPEG stream.

5.1.1 HTTP Grabber properties

PROPERTY	DESCRIPTION
Name	The name of the grabber instance.
URL	The URL where the camera provides the MJPEG stream. For example: http://192.168.1.43/axis-cgi/mjpg/video.cgi

5.2 Media foundation grabber



This grabber is used to capture streams from windows media foundation devices. These are devices that are recognized by Microsoft Windows, such as webcams and other USB cameras.

The most convenient way to connect a media foundation device is to use the discovery feature: expand the *Devices* panel (see **Fout! Verwijzingsbron niet gevonden.**) at the top and drag any discovered Media Foundation devices. You can also configure the grabber by hand by dragging the grabber from the *Grabbers* panel and completing the *Source* property. You should enter (part of) the name of the desired device for the source property.



5.2.1 Media foundation grabber properties

PROPERTY	DESCRIPTION
Name	The name of the grabber instance.
Decode	Whether the output should be decoded to raw video.
Height	The desired output width. If the exact combination of width and height is not
	available for the selected source, the nearest width and height will be used.
Width	The desired output width. If the exact combination of width and height is not
	available for the selected source, the nearest width and height will be used.
Source	The media foundation source. This can be (1) part of a name of an audio or video
	device or (2) empty to use the first video device in the system.

5.3 Allied vision technologies (GigE) grabber



This grabber is used to capture image streams from Allied Vision Technologies GigE cameras.

Drag the grabber to the build screen and complete the *SerialNumber* property. You should enter the serial number of the camera you wish to capture here (this number should be mentioned on the casing of the camera). Alternatively, you can expand the *Devices* panel at the top and drag a discovered camera to your build screen for which the serial number property will be automatically entered.

Note that these cameras often output raw image data without any compression. Due to the size of these packets, storing them on disk or transmitting them over a network may be unfeasible. You can use a JPEG encoder component or image converter component between this grabber and the rest of the pipeline to compress the images to a smaller size.

5.3.1 Allied Vision grabber properties

PROPERTY	DESCRIPTION	
Name	The name of the grabber instance.	
ConfigFileIndex	The index number of a configuration that is stored on the camera.	
SerialNumber	The serial number of the camera that should be capured.	



5.4 IMU grabber



This grabber registers the motion (e.g. roll,pitch,yaw) of the unit is mounted on. The data of the IMU can be enriched into other grabber data.

Drag the grabber to the build screen and complete the *COM_BAUDRATE* and *COM_PORT* properties. Set these to the baud rate and com port that the IMU device uses. Select the sentence the IMU should deliver and select the type of IMU from the pull down menu.

5.4.1 IMU grabber properties

PROPERTY	DESCRIPTION
Name	The name of the grabber instance.
COM_PORT	Which com port the PTZ device sending sentences to. For example: "COM3".
COM_BAUDRATE	The baud rate (speed) that the devices uses.
SystemCoordinateSentence	GPS sentence used for time and spatial indexing
Туре	(Supported) type of IMU.

5.5 Ladybug grabber



This grabber is used to capture streams from Ladybug cameras. Drag the Ladybug grabber to the build screen. The grabber currently only supports capturing a single Ladybug camera and will automatically capture the first Ladybug camera it finds.

5.5.1 Ladybug grabber properties

PROPERTY	DESCRIPTION
Name	The name of the grabber instance.
FrameRate	The frame rate to set the camera to. Only applicable if the camera is not in triggered mode.
Triggered	Whether to set the camera to triggered mode. In triggered mode, the camera will only capture a panorama when it receives a signal on its trigger port. You should therefor only enable this if you have a hardware trigger connected to your Ladybug camera.



5.6 Microflown grabber



This grabber processes events generated by the Microflown gunshot detector. Drag the grabber to the build screen and complete the *Port* property. You should enter the same port as you entered in the Microflown sensor software. The grabber will listen on this port for events from the Microflown software.

5.6.1 Microflown grabber properties

PROPERTY	DESCRIPTION	
Name	The name of the grabber instance.	
Port	The UDP port to listen on for event messages. Defaults to 1234.	

5.7 NMEA grabber



This grabber captures NMEA (such as GPS) data from a serial port. Drag the grabber to the build screen and complete the *COM_BAUDRATE* and *COM_PORT* properties. Set these to the baud rate and com port that the NMEA device uses.

5.7.1 NMEA grabber properties

PROPERTY	DESCRIPTION
Name	The name of the grabber instance.
SystemCoordinateSentence	Which NMEA sentence is marked as system coordinate. Refer to the manual
	section on system coordinates.
COM_PORT	Which com port the NMEA device sending sentences to. For example: "COM3".
COM_BAUDRATE	The baud rate (speed) that the devices uses to transmit NMEA sentences.



5.8 PTZ grabber



This grabber captures pan tilt zoom (PTZ) commands from a serial port. It can process different PTZ protocols, such as Pelco-D. Drag the grabber to the build screen and complete the *COM_BAUDRATE* and *COM_PORT* properties. Set these to the baud rate and com port that the PTZ device uses.

5.8.1 PTZ grabber properties

PROPERTY	DESCRIPTION	
Name	The name of the grabber instance.	
Protocol	The protocol that the PTZ device uses. Valid values are:	
	Pelco-D: the frequently used Pelco-D protocol	
	Horus ASCII: an proprietary format used primarily for test purposes	
COM_PORT	Which com port the PTZ device sending sentences to. For example: "COM3".	
COM_BAUDRATE	The baud rate (speed) that the devices uses.	

5.9 System status grabber



This grabber captures the current state of the system that the recorder is running on. It can record CPU usage and remaining disk space. It is frequently used in combination with the "Disk cleaner" component to ensure enough free disk space is available. Refer to the documentation of said component for more information on the interaction between them.

Drag the grabber to the build screen to capture CPU usage. If you also wish the capture free disk space, complete the *DiskSpaceMeasurementPaths* property.



5.9.1 System status grabber properties

PROPERTY	DESCRIPTION
Name	The name of the grabber instance.
CpuUsageMeasurementInterval	The interval with which to measure the CPU usage in hh:mm:ss format. The
	default is every second (00:00:01).
DiskSpaceMeasurementInterval	The interval with which to measure the remaining free disk space in
	hh:mm:ss format. The default is every second (00:00:01).
DiskSpaceMeasurementPaths	The paths to the disks for which remaining disk space should be measured,
·	separated by new lines (enters). For example: "c:\".

5.10 RTSP grabber



This grabber captures Real Time Streaming Protocol (RTSP) network streams from cameras and other sources that provide one. Drag the grabber to the build screen and complete the URL property.

5.10.1 RSTP grabber properties

PROPERTY	DESCRIPTION
Name	The name of the grabber instance.
URL	The URL of the RTSP stream to capture. For cameras, this URL can often be obtained from the camera's documentation. For example: "rtsp://192.168.1.5".



5.11 Sony SNC grabber



This grabber captures streams from Sony cameras that use the Sony Network Camera (SNC) API. Drag the grabber to the build screen and complete all properties. Alternatively, you can expand the *Devices* panel at the top and drag a discovered SNC camera to your build screen for all properties will automatically be completed. Note that the username and password will both be set to *admin* for discovered devices. If your camera uses a different username and password, you should adjust these properties accordingly.

5.11.1 Sony SNC grabber properties

PROPERTY	DESCRIPTION
Name	The name of the grabber instance.
IPAddress	The IP address of the camera.
Port	The port the camera accepts connections on.
Protocol	The protocol to use to communicate with the camera. Valid values are: http
	https
	rtp_over_udp
Username	The username that should be used to connect to the camera.
Password	The password that should be used to connect to the camera.
UseAuthentication	Whether or not the grabber should provide credentials when connecting to the
	camera. When this property is unchecked, the <i>Username</i> and <i>Password</i> properties will
	be ignored.



5.12 Trigger grabber



This grabber will log trigger signals sent to a serial port. This can be used to record at which times an external hardware trigger fired. Drag the grabber to the build screen and complete the *COM_BAUDRATE* and *COM_PORT* properties. Set these to the baud rate and com port the trigger is connected to.

5.12.1 Trigger grabber properties

PROPERTY	DESCRIPTION
Name	The name of the grabber instance.
COM_PORT	Which com port. For example: "COM3".
COM_BAUDRATE	Baudrate of the port. For example "115200".

5.13 Sony ZCL grabber



This grabber is used for grabbing images from Sony ZCL cameras. Install the device driver software of the Sony ZCL camera. Sony ZCL uses their own gige device drivers to connect their camera. Once the drivers are installed. The grabber can be used in the software.

5.13.1 Sony ZCL grabber properties

PROPERTY	DESCRIPTION
Name	The name of the grabber instance.
MacAddress	Device id of the camera to connect with.
UserSettings	Load internal camera settings with id.



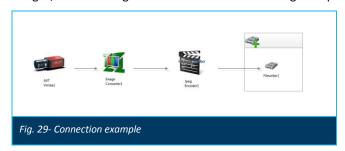
6 Components – Description and properties

6.1 Libjpeg Turbo



This component encodes the incoming image packets to JPEG format. This is particularly useful for cameras that do not have any compression method built in: storing and/or transmitting raw image data can often be infeasible. Encoding raw image data to JPEG reduces the required bandwidth and storage space.

Connect the camera grabber to the Libjpeg turbo component and link the Libjpeg turbo component to the filewriter to store mjpeg on the fly. Be sure that the camera can produce RGB(A)/BGR(A) or YUV420/422/444 images, else the image converter is needed to change the pixelformat of the source.

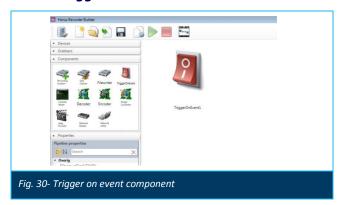


6.1.1 Libjpeg Turbo properties

PROPERTY	DESCRIPTION
Name	The name of the component.
DCT method	Advanced option. The discrete cosine transform (DCT) method can be used to fine-tune performance versus quality.
Quality	The quality of the resulting image [0-100]. A lower quality results in faster encoding but in a lower quality image.



6.2 Trigger on event



This component is used for generating a trigger when an event occurs. With this component the behavior of the pipeline can be altered by events that this component receives.

A Trigger on event component can be connected to grabbers and components that are able to generate an event. A trigger will never occur if this component is connected to non-event generating components or grabbers.

6.2.1 Trigger on event properties

PROPERTY	DESCRIPTION
Name	The name of the Trigger on event instance.

6.3 Recording location



The recording location component is a *container* component for the file writer component. It does not have any inputs or outputs itself, but is instead used to place file writer components on. It represents a disk or directory where the file writers will write their incoming packets to.

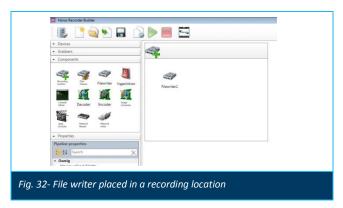
Drag a recording location to the build screen and enter a valid path in the *Recording location* property. You can then drag *file writer* components to the recording location.



6.3.1 Recording location properties

PROPERTY	DESCRIPTION
Name	The name of the component.
RecordingLocation	The path that the file writer components in the recording location will write their data to. Note that the actual data will be placed in recording subdirectories of the specified path.
MaximumLocationTotalSize	The maximum size that a single recording directory can consume for this recording location. If this limit is reached, a new recording directory will be created. You can enter the value as bytes (e.g. '123'), kilobytes (e.g. '123kb'), megabytes or gigabytes (e.g. '10GB').
MaximumLocationSingleFileSize	The maximum size that any file writer in a recording directory can consume for this recording location. If this limit is reached, a new recording directory will be created. You can enter the value as bytes (e.g. '123'), kilobytes (e.g. '123kb'), megabytes or gigabytes (e.g. '10GB').

6.4 File writer



The file writer component stores the packets it receives on disk. It can thus be used to make a recording of data generated by grabbers.

Drag a file writer component to a *recording location* component, which acts as a container. You cannot drop a file writer without a recording location: the recording location specifies the disk or directory where one or more file writers store their data.

The file writer takes one or more inputs and has no outputs.

6.4.1 File writer properties

PROPERTY	DESCRIPTION
Name	The name of the component.
Attachments	One or more files that will be stored alongside the data of this file writer.
	Can be used to output additional files to recording directories.
Device	The file name of the file that this file writer writes to.
MaximumLocationTotalSize	Copied from the recording location the file writer is placed on. Cannot be
	edited.
MaximumLocationSingleFileSize	Copied from the recording location the file writer is placed on. Cannot be
	edited.
RecordingLocation	Copied from the recording location the file writer is placed on. Cannot be
	edited.



6.5 Network writer



The network writer component listens on a network port and sends any packets it receives to all clients that connect to this port. This is useful for transmitting data from the data grabber to other applications, such as the Horus Movie Recorder (which can be used to view live streams of the images being captured) or other instances of the data grabber running on other machines (see section 6.6 for information on the Network reader component).

The network writer has one or more inputs and no outputs.

6.5.1 Network writer properties

PROPERTY	DESCRIPTION
Name	The name of the component.
Protocol	The protocol used for transmission. Valid value are "TCP" and "UDP". TCP is a good default.
Host	The host the component will listen on for connections. When left empty, the component will listen on all interfaces. Note that you should use an IP address instead of a textual host name as the latter may not work.
Port	The port the component will listen on for connections. When left empty, the data grabber will use a random free port.
Behavior	The behavior used when transmitting packets. Valid values are: Publish/subscribe (fast): all incoming packets will be transmitted to the network Publish/subscribe (sleep): transmits one packet every X seconds. The interval is specified using the "Sleep" property. In case of multiple input streams, the component picks a different stream to send the last packet of whenever the interval passes, so that data from all streams is transmitted. Request/reply: currently under development. Should not be used.
Sleep	The sleep interval in milliseconds. Should be used together with the "Publish/subscribe (sleep)" protocol. Refer to the "Behavior" property for more information.



6.6 Network reader



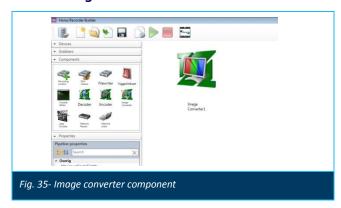
This component reads (ZeroMQ) network streams as generated by the Network writer component (see 6.5). It can be used to connect two different instances of the recorder software (on two different computers for example): one should contain a network writer component and the other instance should contain a network reader component. The reader receives packets from the network writer and output them into its own pipeline.

The network reader component has no inputs and one or multiple outputs.

6.6.1 Network reader properties

PROPERTY	DESCRIPTION
Name	The name of the component.
URL	The URL where the network writer is sending packets on in the format:
	"protocol://host:port". For example: "tcp://127.0.0.1:5001".

6.7 Image converter



This component is able to transform the size and underlying pixel format of the (RAW) source images. The size can be changed to default size values or a percentage of the original. The pixel format can be used to change the internal representation of the source image.

The image converter can be connected to any component or grabber in the pipeline that produces RAW images (Bayer format not yet supported.) The transformed image stream can be picked up for further processing in the pipeline.



6.7.1 Image converter properties

PROPERTY	DESCRIPTION
Name	The name of the component.
Pixelformat	Change the internal pixel representation for the source image. Formats can be changed from and to RGB(A)/BGR(A) red green blue (alpha) to Chroma Luminance (YUV) or Black and White (Mono) representations.
Size	Change the size of the image to default settings or a percentage of the original.

6.8 Filter



This component can be used to filter the data passing through it. For example, you can use the filter to block everything but image key frames. This can be useful to limit the throughput of image formats that use key frames, such as H264.

The filter should be placed in between two pipeline elements. It will examine the incoming data and only transmit messages that satisfy the specified criteria. For example:

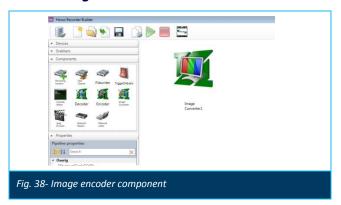


6.8.1 Filter properties

PROPERTY	DESCRIPTION
Name	The name of the component.
KeyFramesOnly	Whether to only let packets through that (1) contain image data and (2) contain
	image data that represents an image key frame.



6.9 Image encoder



This component encodes (RAW) source images to a preset of selected encoded output formats. The image encoder can be connected to any component or grabber in the pipeline that produces RAW images (Bayer format not yet supported.) The encoded image stream can be picked up for further processing in the pipeline.

6.9.1 Image encoder properties

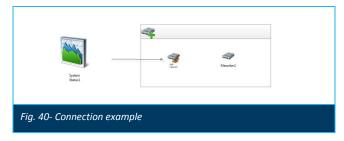
PROPERTY	DESCRIPTION
Name	The name of the component.
Preset	A predefined encoder setting to be chosen from. Currently only H264 or MJPEG streams are implemented.

6.10 Disk cleaner



The disk cleaner component can be used to ensure that sufficient free disk space remains available at all times. It should be used together with the System status grabber (see 5.9), as it processes packets generated by said grabber. The system status grabber measures the available disk space and provides this data to the disk cleaner component. The disk cleaner component can then delete old recordings when the available free disk space drops below a predefined threshold.

The input of the disk cleaner component should originate from the system status grabber. The disk cleaner component has no output. The setup should thus be as follows:

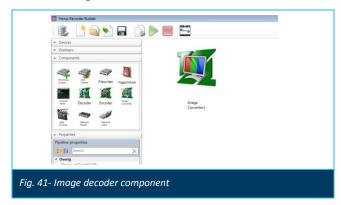




6.10.1 Disk cleaner properties

PROPERTY	DESCRIPTION
Name	The name of the component.
CleanupPolicy	The <i>policy</i> that will be used to determine which directories to remove in order to create more free disk space. Valid values are: DELETE_EARLIEST_MODIFICATION_DATE: deletes the directory that has the oldest
	modification date.
DiskCleanupPaths	The paths that recordings will be deleted from. Warning: be very careful of what you input here, as the component will remove directories from these locations. For this reason, top level directories such as "/" or "c:\\" are ignored to prevent accidental removal of important data.
MinimumDiskSpace	The minimum space that any disk should have. When the disk space on any watched paths drops below this number, directories are deleted from the configured paths using the configured policy. You can enter the value as a number in bytes, or as text such as '10GB' or '128MB'.

6.11 Image decoder



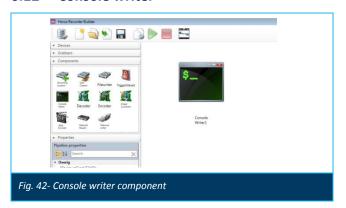
This component is able to decode encoded source streams to RAW images. The image encoder can be connected to any component or grabber in the pipeline that produces RAW images or encoded images (Bayer format not yet supported.) The raw image stream can be picked up for further processing in the pipeline.

6.11.1 Image decoder properties

PROPERTY	DESCRIPTION
Name	The name of the component.



6.12 Console writer



This component gives the user feedback on one or multiple component(s) or grabber(s) in the pipeline. The console writer lists all the streams that pass the console writer and updates the information every couple of seconds. If a stream isn't producing any data anymore the stream will be shown in red.

The console writer can be connected to any or multiple component(s) or grabber(s). The console grabber does not produce any output or perform any transformation on the underlying data.

6.12.1 Console writer properties

PROPERTY	DESCRIPTION
Name	The name of the component.



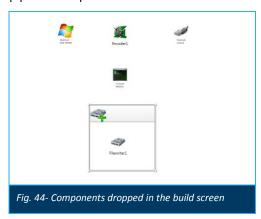
7 Creating a new pipeline

To start building a new pipeline, click the *New* button in the toolbar. A blank build field is created:



7.1 Adding components

You can select the components (Devices, grabbers, components) in the Component panels on the left. These can be dragged and dropped to the Build screen by left clicking. Select the components you want to use for the pipeline and place them in the build screen:

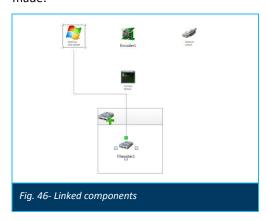


7.1.1 Linking components

When the mouse pointer is placed on a component, four connecting boxes will appear:



By left clicking on one of the connecting boxes you can start drawing a line that connects this component to another. When the line reaches the connecting box of another component, one of the connecting boxes turns green. This indicates that a connection can be made. By releasing the left mouse button, the connection is made:





You can proceed by linking the selected components to another until the pipeline is complete. The Recorder Builder monitors the connections that are made. When you try to make a connection that is not possible, the Recorder Builder will refuse to connect. This is indicated by a red connecting box and the *Not allowed* sign:



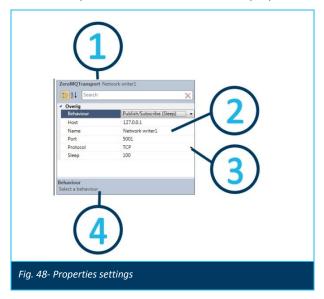
7.1.2 Removing components

To delete a component from the build screen, select the component and press the Delete button

7.2 Component properties

When all necessary connections are made, you can set the properties of the components in the Component panels.

Select a component in the Build screen, the properties of that component are shown in the Properties box:



The name of the component is displayed in the upper field (1). The contents of a fill in field (2) can be changed by entering / typing the desired name in this field. With the pull down menus (3) you can select pre-defined settings. The info field (4) provides additional information for the selected field.

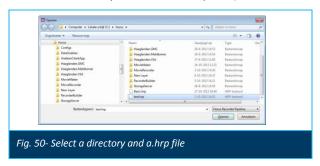


7.3 Opening an existing pipeline

To open a exsiting pipeline, click the *Load* button:



Select the directory in which the .hrp file (Horus Recorder Pipeline) is stored and click *Open*:



The pipeline will be opened in the Build screen and can now be redesigned to your preferences. The properties of the components in the pipeline can also be adjusted. When you are finished adjusting the pipeline, you can save the pipeline with the *Save* button:



If desired the file can be renamed in the Save as screen.

7.4 Send a pipeline

The pipeline that is built in the Build screen can be sent to the Data Grabber so it can be used instantly. To do so, click the *Send pipeline* button



7.4.1 Run / Stop a pipeline

To run or stop a sent pipeline, click the *Run* or *Stop* buttons in the toolbar:





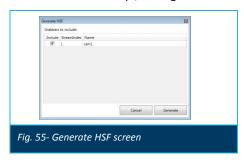
8 Generating a camera configuration

The Recorder Builder can automatically generate a camera configuration and create a .hsf (Horus Setup File). To do this, it is necessary that a camera is connected and that the related camera drivers are installed on your computer.

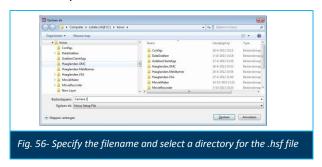
To create a camera setup, click the *Generate camera configuration* button:



The Recorder Builder will then open the *Generate HSF* screen in which you can select camera for which you want to create a setup / configuration:



Select the camera(s) you want to use by marking the checkboxes and click *Generate*. The Recorder Builder will ask where you want to store the .hsf file. Select a directory and specify the file name:



Click Save to save the created .hsf file.



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