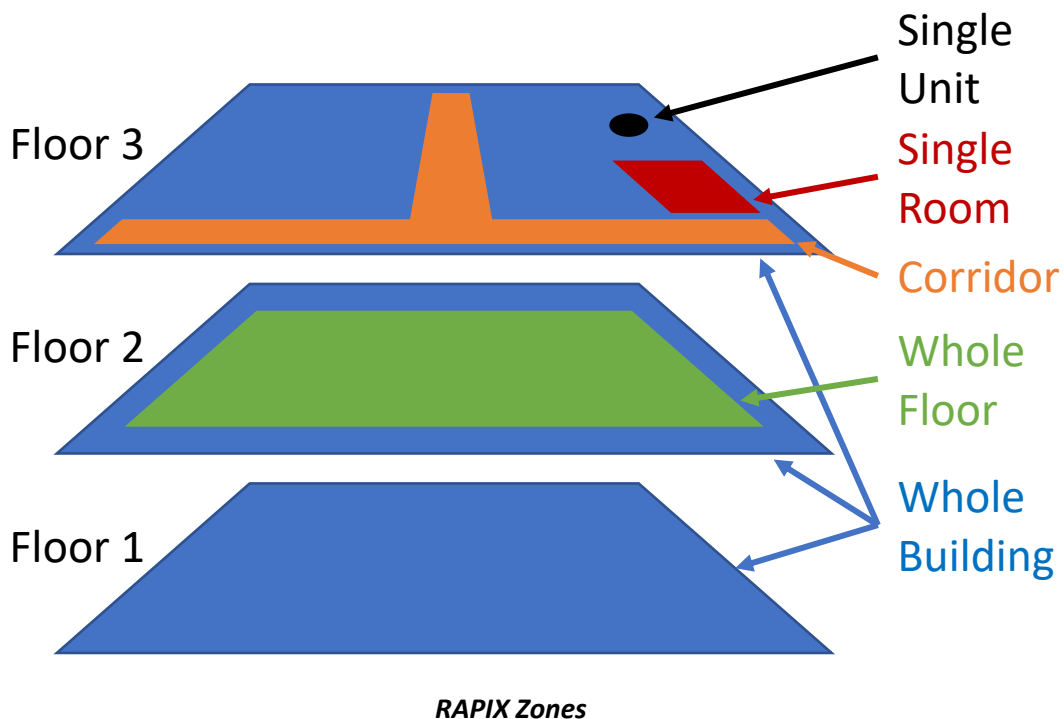


Introduction

This document describes the use of virtual zones within the RAPIX Lighting Control System.

Zones

A RAPIX zone is an area of lighting that is controlled or monitored by the RAPIX system. A zone can range in scale from a single device or room, through larger areas including corridors or floors of a building, up to an entire building or site.



A RAPIX zone can contain any combination of zone “members”:

- DALI Units (“control gear”)
- DALI Groups
- DALI Lines (DALI “broadcast”)
- Other Zones

All aspects of the RAPIX system are configured through zones, which greatly simplifies commissioning and maintenance. This includes:

- RAPIX switches and sensors
- Schedules and Logic
- Floor plans
- Third-party interfaces: RAPIX API, ModBus, BACnet, MQTT

Virtual Zone Members

If a non-RAPIX device or system needs to control a RAPIX Zone, it can be done through a “virtual” zone member (Short Address or DALI Group). A virtual zone member has no physical DALI units associated with it.

Example

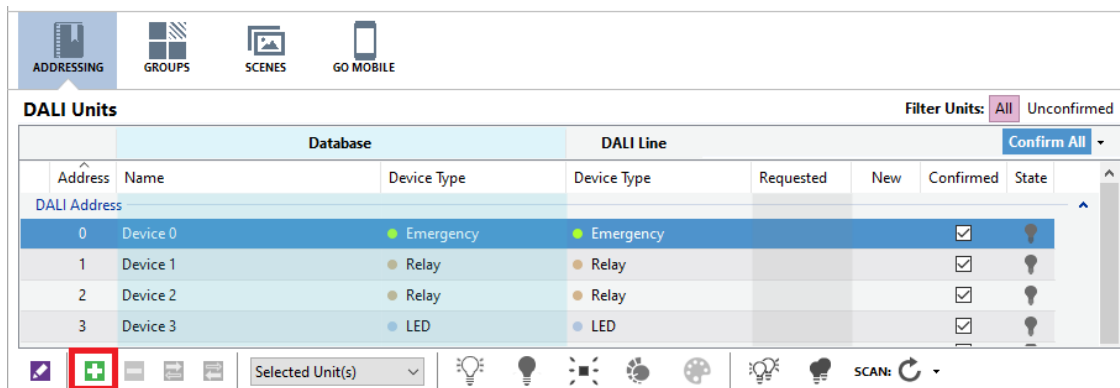
Requirement

A non-RAPIX wall switch needs to control some aspect of logic through a virtual zone. The wall switch controls Short Address 50 and there is no DALI unit at this address.

Creating the Virtual Zone Member

In RAPIX Integrator, a virtual unit can be added as follows:

1. In the **Addressing** tab, click on the **Add** button.



The Add Unit button (highlighted)

2. Select the “**Virtual**” unit type, the short address, and click on **OK**.

Add DALI Units

Add DALI unit(s) to the database.

Add one or more DALI units of the same type to the database.

Unit Details

Type: Virtual

Starting Address: 50

Quantity: 1

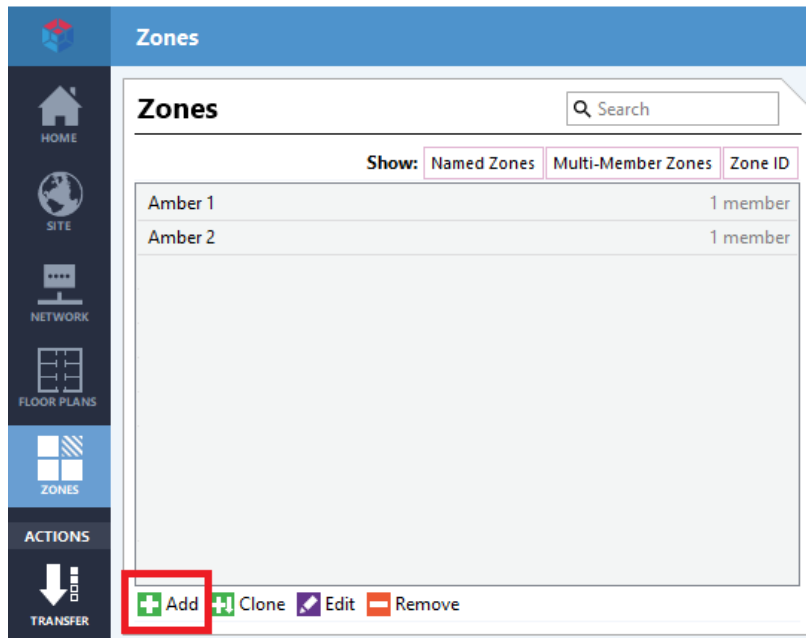
OK
Cancel

Adding a virtual unit

Creating the Virtual Zone

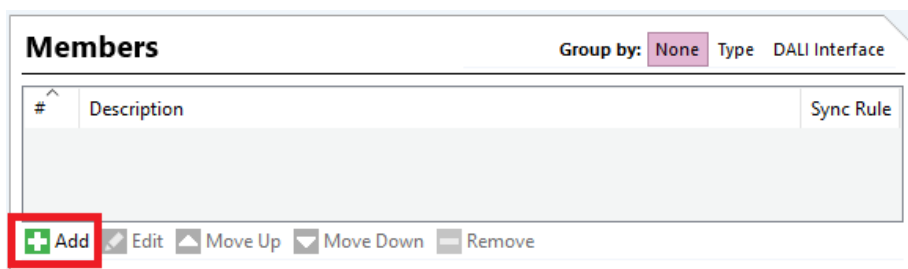
To create a virtual zone containing the virtual Short Address:

1. On the **Zones** tab, click on the **Add** button:



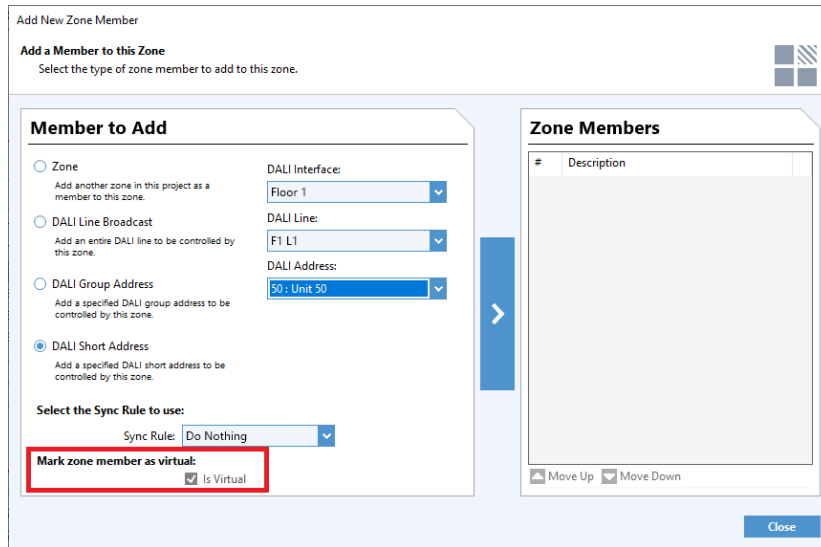
The Add Zone button (highlighted)

2. Give the zone a name, then click on the **Add Members** button.



The Add Zone Members button (highlighted).

3. Select the virtual short address, then click on the **>** button to add it to the zone. Click on **Close**. Note that the **"Is Virtual"** check box will be already selected, as a virtual unit is being added.



Adding a virtual short address to a zone

Virtual Zones

A virtual zone is a zone that has no physical DALI units. It can have a virtual zone member, as described above, or it can have no members at all.

A virtual zone can be used anywhere in the RAPIX system that a normal zone is used.

A RAPIX input unit can control a virtual zone directly, without the need for a virtual short address.

Example

Requirement

A RAPIX wall switch needs to control a virtual zone.

Creating the Virtual Zone

To create a virtual zone with no virtual addresses:

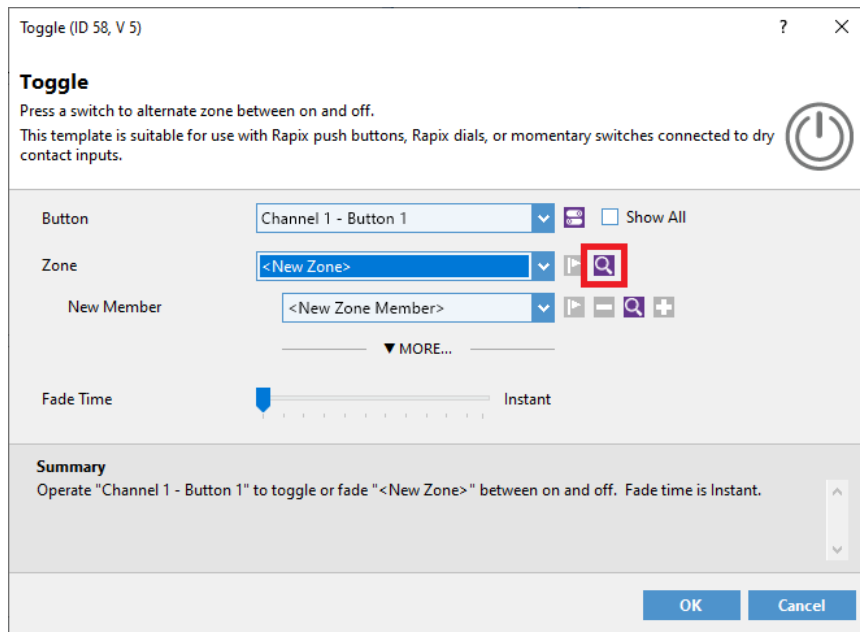
- On the Zones tab, click on the **Add** button.
- Give the zone a name.

Controlling the Virtual Zone

To allow the RAPIX Wall switch to control the virtual zone:

1. Edit the RAPIX unit.
2. Add the **Toggle** template.

- The virtual zone is not local to the device, so it will not be in the drop-down list of local zones. Click on the **remote zones** button, then select the virtual zone from the list.



The Toggle template (with Remote Zones button highlighted)

- Click on the **OK** button to finish.

Change History

Rev	Date	Updated By	Comment
1	15 April 2024	DS	First Release

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