

TRB246 Modbus

[Main Page](#) > [TRB Gateways](#) > [TRB246](#) > [TRB246 Manual](#) > [TRB246 WebUI](#) > [TRB246 Services section](#) > **TRB246 Modbus**

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Contents

- [1 Summary](#)
- [2 Modbus TCP Server](#)
- [3 Modbus Serial Server](#)
 - [3.1 Modbus Serial Server Configuration](#)
- [4 Modbus Registers](#)
 - [4.1 Get Parameters](#)
 - [4.2 Set Parameters](#)
- [5 Modbus TCP Client](#)
 - [5.1 Server Device Configuration](#)
 - [5.2 Requests Configuration](#)
 - [5.3 Alarms Configuration](#)
- [6 Modbus Serial Client](#)
 - [6.1 Modbus Serial Device Configuration](#)
 - [6.1.1 RS Device Modbus Client Configuration](#)
 - [6.2 Modbus Server Device Configuration](#)
 - [6.2.1 Server Device Configuration](#)
 - [6.2.1.1 Requests Configuration](#)
 - [6.2.1.2 Modbus Client Alarms](#)
- [7 MQTT Modbus Gateway](#)
 - [7.1 Serial Gateway Configuration](#)
 - [7.2 Request messages](#)
 - [7.3 Response messages](#)
 - [7.4 Examples](#)
- [8 Modbus TCP over Serial Gateway](#)
 - [8.1 Modbus TCP over Serial Gateway Configuration](#)
 - [8.2 IP Filter](#)
- [9 See also](#)

Summary

Modbus is a serial communications protocol. Simple and robust, it has become a de facto standard communication protocol and is now a commonly available means of connecting industrial electronic devices.

This manual page provides an overview of the Modbus functionality in TRB246 devices.

If you're having trouble finding this page or some of the parameters described here on your device's WebUI, you should **turn on "Advanced WebUI" mode**. You can do that by clicking the "Advanced" button, located at the top of the WebUI.



Modbus TCP Server

A **Modbus TCP Server** listens for connections from a TCP Client (client) and sends out a response or sets some system related parameter in accordance with the given query. This provides the user with the possibility to set or get system parameters.

The figure below is an example of the Modbus TCP window section and the table below provides information on the fields contained in that window:



Field	Value	Description
Enable	off on; default: off	Turns Modbus TCP on or off.
Port	integer [0..65535]; default: 502	TCP port used for Modbus communications.
Device ID	integer [0..255]; default: 1	The device's Modbus server ID. When set to 0, it will respond to requests addressed to any ID.
Mobile Data type	Bytes Kilobytes Megabytes; default: Bytes	Selects mobile data unit representation type.
Allow remote access	off on; default: off	Allows remote Modbus connections by adding an exception to the device's firewall on the port specified in the field above.
Keep persistent connection	off on; default: onn	Allows keep the connection open after responding a Modbus TCP client request.
Connection timeout	integer [0..60]; default: 0	Sets TCP timeout in seconds after which the connection is forcefully closed.
Enable custom register block	off on ; default: off	Allows the usage of custom register block.
Register file path	path; default: /tmp/regfile	Path to file in which the custom register block will be stored. Files inside /tmp or /var are stored in RAM. They vanish after reboot, but do not degrade flash memory. Files elsewhere are stored in flash memory. They remain after reboot, but degrade flash memory (severely, if operations are frequent).
First register number	integer [1025..65536]; default: 1025	First register in custom register block
Register count	integer [1..64512]; default: 128	Register count in custom register block

Modbus Serial Server

A **Modbus Serial Server** listens for connections from a serial client and sends out a response or sets some system related parameter in accordance with the given query. This provides the user with

the possibility to set or get system parameters.

Modbus Serial Server Configuration

The **Modbus Serial Server Configuration** section is used to configure serial servers. By default, the list is empty. To add a new server instance, enter the instance name, select serial interface and click the 'Add' button.



After clicking 'Add' you will be redirected to the newly added server instance configuration page.



Field	Value	Description
Enable	off on; default: off	Enables this Modbus Serial Server instance configuration.
Name	string; default: none	Name of the serial server instance. Used for management purposes only.
Device	RS232 RS485; default: RS232	Specifies which serial port will be used for serial communication.
Device ID	integer [0..255]; default: 1	Specifies which serial port will be used for serial communication.
Mobile Data type	Bytes Kilobytes Megabytes; default: Bytes	Selects mobile data unit representation type.
Baud rate	300 1200 2400 4800 9600 19200 38400 57600 115200 230400 460800 921600 1000000 3000000; default: 9600	Serial data transmission rate (in bits per second).
Data bits	7 8; default: 8	Number of data bits for each character.
Stop bits	1 2; default: 1	Stop bits sent at the end of every character allow the receiving signal hardware to detect the end of a character and to resynchronise with the character stream. Electronic devices usually use one stop bit. Two stop bits are required if slow electromechanical devices are used.
Parity	Even Odd Mark Space None; default: None	<p>In serial transmission, parity is a method of detecting errors. An extra data bit is sent with each data character, arranged so that the number of 1 bits in each character, including the parity bit, is always odd or always even. If a byte is received with the wrong number of 1s, then it must have been corrupted. However, an even number of errors can pass the parity check.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• None (N) - no parity method is used.• Odd (O) - the parity bit is set so that the number of "logical ones (1s)" has to be odd.• Even (E) - the parity bit is set so that the number of "logical ones (1s)" has to be even.• Space (s) - the parity bit will always be a binary 0.• Mark (M) - the parity bit will always be a binary 1.

In many circumstances a transmitter might be able to send data faster than the receiver is able to process it. To cope with this, serial lines often incorporate a "handshaking" method, usually distinguished between hardware and software handshaking.

- **RTS/CTS** - hardware handshaking. RTS and CTS are turned OFF and ON from alternate ends to control data flow, for instance when a buffer is almost full.

- **Xon/Xoff** - software handshaking. The Xon and Xoff characters are sent by the receiver to the sender to control when the sender will send data, i.e., these characters go in the opposite direction to the data being sent. The circuit starts in the "sending allowed" state. When the receiver's buffers approach capacity, the receiver sends the Xoff character to tell the sender to stop sending data. Later, after the receiver has emptied its buffers, it sends an Xon character to tell the sender to resume transmission.

Flow control None | RTS/CTS | Xon/Xoff; default: **None**

RS485: Full Duplex off | on; default: **off**

Enables RS485 full duplex.

Enable custom register block off | **on**; default: **off**

Allows the usage of custom register block.

Register file path path; default: **/tmp/regfile**

Path to file in which the custom register block will be stored. Files inside /tmp or /var are stored in RAM. They vanish after reboot, but do not degrade flash memory. Files elsewhere are stored in flash memory. They remain after reboot, but degrade flash memory (severely, if operations are frequent).

First register number integer [1025..65536]; default: **1025**

First register in custom register block

Register count integer [1..64512]; default: **128**

Path to file in which the custom register block will be stored. Files inside /tmp or /var are stored in RAM. They vanish after reboot, but do not degrade flash memory. Files elsewhere are stored in flash memory. They remain after reboot, but degrade flash memory (severely, if operations are frequent).

Modbus Registers

Get Parameters

Modbus parameters are held within **registers**. Each register contains 2 bytes of information. For simplification, the number of registers for storing numbers is 2 (4 bytes), while the number of registers for storing text information is 16 (32 bytes).

The register numbers and corresponding system values are described in the table below:

	required value	register address	register number	number of registers	representation
System uptime		1	2	2	32 bit unsigned integer
Mobile signal strength (RSSI in dBm)		3	4	2	32 bit integer
System temperature (in 0.1 °C)		5	6	2	32 bit integer
System hostname		7	8	16	Text

GSM operator name	23	24	16	Text
Router serial number	39	40	16	Text
LAN MAC address	55	56	16	Text
Router name	71	72	16	Text
Currently active SIM card slot	87	88	16	Text
Network registration info	103	104	16	Text
Network type	119	120	16	Text
Current WAN IP address	139	140	2	8 bit unsigned integer
Analog input (PIN) value	141	142	2	32 bit unsigned integer
GPS latitude coordinate	143	144	2	32 bit float
GPS longitude coordinate	145	146	2	32 bit float
GPS fix time	147	148	16	Text (YYYY-MM-DD hh:mm:ss)
GPS date and time	163	164	16	Text (YYYY-MM-DD hh:mm:ss)
GPS speed	179	180	2	32 bit float
GPS satellite count	181	182	2	32 bit unsigned integer
GPS accuracy	183	184	2	32 bit float
Mobile data received today (SIM1)	185	186	2	32 bit unsigned integer
Mobile data sent today (SIM1)	187	188	2	32 bit unsigned integer
Mobile data received this week (SIM1)	189	190	2	32 bit unsigned integer
Mobile data sent this week (SIM1)	191	192	2	32 bit unsigned integer
Mobile data received this month (SIM1)	193	194	2	32 bit unsigned integer
Mobile data sent this month (SIM1)	195	196	2	32 bit unsigned integer
Mobile data received last 24h (SIM1)	197	198	2	32 bit unsigned integer
Mobile data sent last 24h (SIM1)	199	200	2	32 bit unsigned integer
Active SIM card	205	206	1	16 bit unsigned integer
Mobile data received last 7 days (SIM1)	292	293	2	32 bit unsigned integer
Mobile data sent 7 days (SIM1)	294	295	2	32 bit unsigned integer
Mobile data received last 30 days (SIM1)	296	297	2	32 bit unsigned integer
Mobile data sent last 30 days (SIM1)	298	299	2	32 bit unsigned integer
Mobile data received today (SIM2)	300	301	2	32 bit unsigned integer
Mobile data sent today (SIM2)	302	303	2	32 bit unsigned integer
Mobile data received this week (SIM2)	304	305	2	32 bit unsigned integer
Mobile data sent this week (SIM2)	306	307	2	32 bit unsigned integer
Mobile data received this month (SIM2)	308	309	2	32 bit unsigned integer
Mobile data sent this month (SIM2)	310	311	2	32 bit unsigned integer
Mobile data received last 24h (SIM2)	312	313	2	32 bit unsigned integer
Mobile data sent last 24h (SIM2)	314	315	2	32 bit unsigned integer
Mobile data received 7 days (SIM2)	316	317	2	32 bit unsigned integer
Mobile data sent 7 days (SIM2)	318	319	2	32 bit unsigned integer
Mobile data received last 30 days (SIM2)	320	321	2	32 bit unsigned integer
Mobile data sent last 30 days (SIM2)	322	323	2	32 bit unsigned integer
Digital non-isolated input	324	325	1	16 bit unsigned integer
Digital open collector output	325	326	1	16 bit unsigned integer
PIN 3 direction	326	327	1	16 bit unsigned integer
PIN 4 direction	327	328	1	16 bit unsigned integer
Modem ID	328	329	8	Text
IMSI	348	349	16	Text
Unix timestamp	364	365	2	32 bit unsigned integer
Local ISO time	366	367	12	Text
UTC time	378	389	12	Text
LAN IP	394	395	2	8 bit unsigned integer
Add SMS	397	398	90	Text

Set Parameters

The Modbus daemon can also set some device parameters.

value to set	register address	register number	register value	description
Hostname	7	8	Hostname (in decimal form)	Changes hostname
Device name	71	72	Device name (in decimal form)	Changes device name
Switch mobile data connection (ON/OFF*)	204	205	1 0	Turns mobile data connection ON or OFF
Switch SIM card	205	206	1 2 0	Changes the active SIM card slot <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 - switch to SIM1 • 2 - switch to SIM2 • 0 - switch from the the SIM card opposite of the one currently in use (SIM1 → SIM2 or SIM2 → SIM1)
Reboot	206	207	1	Reboots the router
Change APN	207	208	APN code	Changes APN. The number of input registers may vary depending on the length of the APN, but the very first byte of the set APN command denotes the number of the SIM card for which to set the APN. This byte should be set to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 - to set APN for SIM1 • 2 - to set APN for SIM2
Switch PIN 3 state	324	325	1 0	Toggles PIN 3 ON or OFF, when output is selected
Switch PIN 4 state	325	326	1 0	Toggles PIN 4 ON or OFF, when output is selected

Switch PIN 3 direction	326	327	1 0	Toggles PIN 3 direction between INPUT (0) or OUTPUT (1)
Switch PIN 4 direction	327	328	1 0	Toggles PIN 4 direction between INPUT (0) or OUTPUT (1)
Change LAN IP	394	395	IPv4 (in decimal form)	Changes device LAN IP
Send SMS	396	397	1 0	Sends an SMS with content defined in Add SMS (397) register
Add SMS	397	398	Message (in decimal form)	Define SMS content which will be sent using Send SMS (396) register. The register array is split into two parts that represent the recipient's "phone number" (first 10 registers) and the "SMS message contents" (remaining 80 registers).

Modbus TCP Client

A **Modbus Client** device can request data from Modbus servers. The Modbus TCP Client section is used to configure Modbus TCP servers and enable Client.

Notice the Global section config. It is used to outright turn the service off or on if any active configurations are present.



Clicking the Cog icon opens a modal window. The global configuration slider can be set and it's state saved.



By default, the server list is empty and client is disabled. To add a new server, click the 'Add' button



After clicking 'Add' you will be redirected to the newly added server's configuration page.

Server Device Configuration

The **Server Device Configuration** section is used to configure the parameters of Modbus TCP servers that the Client (this TRB246 device) will be querying with requests. The figure below is an example of the Server Device Configuration and the table below provides information on the fields contained in that section:



Field	Value	Description
Enabled	off on; default: off	Turns communication with the server device on or off.
Name	string; default: none	Server device's name, used for easier management purposes.
Server ID	integer [0..255]; default: none	Server ID. Each server in a network is assigned a unique identifier ranging from 1 to 255. When the client requests data from a server, the first byte it sends is the Server ID. When set to 0, the server will respond to requests addressed to any ID.
IP address	ip4; default: none	Server device's IP address.
Port	integer [0..65535]; default: none	Server device's Modbus TCP port.
Timeout	integer [1..30]; default: 5	Maximum response wait time.

Always reconnect	off on; default: off	Create new connection after every Modbus request.
Number of timeouts	integer [0..10]; default: 1	Skip pending request and reset connection after number of request failures.
Frequency	Period Schedule; default: Period	
Delay	integer [0..999]; default: 0	Wait in milliseconds after connection initialization.
Period	integer [1..99999]; default: none	Interval in seconds for sending requests to this device

Requests Configuration

A Modbus **request** is a way of obtaining data from Modbus servers. The client sends a request to a server specifying the function code to be performed. The server then sends the requested data back to the Modbus client.

Note: Modbus TCP Client uses *Register Number* instead of *Register Address* for pointing to a register. For example, to request the *Uptime* of a device, you must use **2** in the *First Register* field.

The Request Configuration list is empty by default. To add a new Request Configuration loon to the Add New Instance section. Enter a custom name into the 'Name' field and click the 'Add' button:



The new Request Configuration should become visible in the list:



Field	Value	Description
Name	string; default: Unnamed	Name of this Request Configuration. Used for easier management purposes.
Data type	8bit INT 8bit UINT 16bit INT, high byte first 16bit INT, low byte first 16bit UINT, high byte first 16bit UINT, low byte first 32bit float (various Byte order) 32bit INT (various Byte order) 32bit UINT (various Byte order) 64bit INT (various Byte order) 64bit UINT (various Byte order) 64bit float (various Byte order) ASCII Hex Bool PDU; default: 16bit INT, high byte first	Defines how read data will be stored.
Function	Read coils (1) Read input coils (2) Read holding registers (3) Read input registers (4) Set single coil (5) Set single coil register (6) Set multiple coils (15) Set multiple holding registers (16); default: Read holding registers (3)	Specifies the type of register being addressed by a Modbus request.
First Register	integer [0..65535]; default: 1	First Modbus register from which data will be read.

Register Count / Values	integer [1..2000]; default: 1	Number of Modbus registers that will be read during the request.
Remove Brackets	off on; default: off	Removes the starting and ending brackets from the request (only for read requests).
off/on slider	off on; default: off	Turns the request on or off.
Delete [X]	- (interactive button)	Deletes the request.

Additional note: by default the newly added Request Configurations are turned off. You can use the on/off slider to the right of the Request Configuration to turn it on:



After having configured a request, you should see a new 'Request Configuration Testing' section appear. It is used to check whether the configuration works correctly. Simply click the 'Test' button and a response should appear in the box below. **Note:** to use test buttons, you need to enable [Client section](#). A successful response to a test may look something like this:



Alarms Configuration

Alarms are a way of setting up automated actions when some Modbus values meet user-defined conditions. When the Modbus TCP Client (this TRB246 device) requests some information from a server device it compares that data to with the parameters set in an Alarm Configuration. If the comparison meets the specified condition (more than, less than, equal to, not equal to), the Client performs a user-specified action, for example, a Modbus write request or switching the state of an output.

The figure below is an example of the Alarms Configuration list. To create a new Alarm, click the 'Add' button.



After adding the Alarm you should be redirected to its configuration page which should look similar to this:



Field	Value	Description
Enabled	off on; default: off	Turns the alarm on or off.
Function code	Read Coil Status (1) Read Input Status (2) Read Holding Registers (3) Read Input Registers (4); default: Read Coil Status (1)	Modbus function used for this alarm's Modbus request. The Modbus TCP Client (this TRB246 device) perform this request as often as specified in the 'Period' field in Server Device Configuration .

Compared condition data type	8bit INT 8bit UINT 16bit INT, high byte first 16bit INT, low byte first 16bit UINT, high byte first 16bit UINT, low byte first 32bit float (various Byte order) 32bit INT (various Byte order) 32bit UINT (various Byte order) 64bit INT (various Byte order) 64bit UINT (various Byte order) 64bit float (various Byte order) ASCII Hex Bool; default: 16bit INT, high byte first	Select data type that will be used for checking conditions.
First register number	integer [1..65536]; default: none	Number of the Modbus coil/input/holding-register/input-register to read from.
Values	various; default: none	The value against which the read data will be compared.
Condition	More than Less than Equal to Not Equal to Less or equal More or equal; default: More than	When a value is obtained it will be compared against the value specified in the following field. The comparison will be made in accordance with the condition specified in this field.
Action frequency	Every trigger First trigger; default: Every trigger	Describes how frequently the specified action will be taken.
Redundancy protection	off on ; default: off	Protection against executing a configured action too often.
Redundancy protection period	integer [1..86400]; default: none	Duration to activate redundancy protection for, measured in seconds. This field becomes visible only when 'Redundancy protection' is turned on.
Action	Ubus event SMS MODBUS Write Request Trigger output MQTT message ; default: MODBUS Write Request	Action that will be taken if the condition is met. Possible actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SMS - sends an SMS message to a specified recipient(s). • Modbus Request - sends a Modbus Write request to a specified server. • Trigger output - changes state of selected I/O output pin.
SMS: Message	string; default: none	SMS message text.
SMS: Phone number	phone number; default: none	Recipient's phone number.
MODBUS Write Request: IP address	ip host; default: none	Modbus server's IP address.
MODBUS Write Request: Port	integer [0..65535]; default: none	Modbus server's port.
MODBUS Write Request: Timeout	integer [1..30]; default: 5	Maximum time to wait for a response.

MODBUS Write Request: ID	integer [1..255]; default: none	Modbus server ID.
MODBUS Write Request: Modbus function	Set Single Coil (5) Set Single Register (6) Set Multiple Coils (15) Set Multiple Registers (16); default: Set Single Coil (5) 8bit INT 8bit UINT 16bit INT, high byte first 16bit INT, low byte first 16bit UINT, high byte first 16bit UINT, low byte first 32bit float (various Byte order) 32bit INT (various Byte order) 32bit UNIT (various Byte order) 64bit INT (various Byte order) 64bit UINT (various Byte order) 64bit float (various Byte order) ASCII Hex Bool; default: Bool	A function code specifies the type of register being addressed by a Modbus request.
MODBUS Write Request: Executed action data type	(various Byte order) 32bit INT (various Byte order) 32bit UNIT (various Byte order) 64bit INT (various Byte order) 64bit UINT (various Byte order) 64bit float (various Byte order) ASCII Hex Bool; default: Bool	Select data type that will be used for executing action.
MODBUS Write Request: First register number	integer [0..65535]; default: none	Begins reading from the register specified in this field.
MODBUS Write Request: Values	integer [0..65535]; default: none Configurable Input/Output (2) Configurable	Register/Coil values to be written (multiple values must be separated by space character).
Trigger output: Output	Input/Output (3) Configurable Input/Output (4); default: Configurable Input/Output (2)	Selects which output will be triggered.
Trigger output: I/O Action	Turn On Turn Off Invert; default: Turn On	Selects the action performed on the output.

Below this field you can find special codes that begin with the '%' sign. Each code represents a piece of information related to the status of the device. Include these codes in the field for dynamic information reports. Possible values: Local time, Unix time, Router name, Device name, Serial number, Current FW version, LAN IP address, Monitoring status, UTC time in ISO, WAN IP address, New line, Modbus server ID, Modbus server IP, First register number, Register value, Mobile IP addresses, Signal strength, Operator name, Network type, Data connection state, Network state, IMSI, IMEI, Modem model, Modem serial number, SIM pin state, SIM state, RSCP, ECIO, RSRP, SINR, RSRQ, ICCID, CELLID, Neighbour cells, Network info, Network serving, WAN MAC address, Analog Current Loop (6,9), Analog Input (6,9), Input (3), Digital Input (1), Output (4), Isolated Output (3,4,8), Isolated Input (2,7), Relay (5,10)

MQTT message:
JSON format string; default: **none**

MQTT message:
Hostname host | ip; default: **none**

Broker's IP address or hostname.

MQTT message:
Port integer [0..65535];
default: **1883**

Broker's port number.

MQTT message:
Keepalive positive integer; default:
none

The number of seconds after which the broker should send a PING message to the client if no other messages have been exchanged in that time

MQTT message:
Topic string; default: **none**

The name of the topic that the broker will subscribe to.

MQTT message:
Client ID positive integer; default:
none

Client ID to send with the data. If empty, a random client ID will be generated

MQTT message:
QoS At most once (0) | At
least once (1) | Exactly
once (2); default: **At
most once (0)**

A period of time (in seconds) which has to pass after a trigger event before this Action is executed.

MQTT message:
Use root CA off | on; default: **off**

Use root CA for verifying the servers certificates

MQTT message:
Use TLS off | on; default: **off**

Turns the use of TLS/SSL for this MQTT connection on or off.

MQTT message:
Use credentials off | on; default: **off**

Turns the use of username and password for this MQTT connection on or off.

Modbus Serial Client

The **Modbus Serial Client** page is used to configure the device as a Modbus RTU Client. Modbus RTU (remote terminal unit) is a serial communication protocol mainly used in communication via serial interfaces.



Notice the Global section config. It is used to outright turn the service off or on if any active configurations are present.



Clicking the Cog icon opens a modal window. The global configuration slider can be set and its state saved.



Modbus Serial Device Configuration

This section is used to create Modbus Serial Client's server device instances. You may create a Serial Device instance for each supported serial interface.



By default there are no instances created. To add a new serial device configuration, enter an instance name and click the 'Add' button.



After clicking 'Add' you will be redirected to the newly added device's configuration page.

RS Device Modbus Client Configuration

This section is used to configure the Modbus Serial Client's server device interface settings.



Field	Value	Description
Enable	off on; default: off	Enables this Modbus Serial Device instance configuration.
Name	string; default: none	Name of the serial device instance. Used for management purposes only.
Device	RS232 RS485; default: RS232	Specifies which serial port will be used for serial communication.
Baud rate	300 1200 2400 4800 9600 19200 38400 57600 115200 230400 460800 921600 1000000 3000000; default: 9600	Serial data transmission rate (in bits per second).
Data bits	7 8; default: 8	Number of data bits for each character.
Stop bits	1 2; default: 1	Stop bits sent at the end of every character allow the receiving signal hardware to detect the end of a character and to resynchronise with the character stream. Electronic devices usually use one stop bit. Two stop bits are required if slow electromechanical devices are used.

Parity	Even Odd Mark Space None; default: None	<p>In serial transmission, parity is a method of detecting errors. An extra data bit is sent with each data character, arranged so that the number of 1 bits in each character, including the parity bit, is always odd or always even. If a byte is received with the wrong number of 1s, then it must have been corrupted. However, an even number of errors can pass the parity check.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None (N) - no parity method is used. • Odd (O) - the parity bit is set so that the number of "logical ones (1s)" has to be odd. • Even (E) - the parity bit is set so that the number of "logical ones (1s)" has to be even. • Space (s) - the parity bit will always be a binary 0. • Mark (M) - the parity bit will always be a binary 1.
Flow control	None RTS/CTS Xon/Xoff; default: None	<p>In many circumstances a transmitter might be able to send data faster than the receiver is able to process it. To cope with this, serial lines often incorporate a "handshaking" method, usually distinguished between hardware and software handshaking.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RTS/CTS - hardware handshaking. RTS and CTS are turned OFF and ON from alternate ends to control data flow, for instance when a buffer is almost full. • Xon/Xoff - software handshaking. The Xon and Xoff characters are sent by the receiver to the sender to control when the sender will send data, i.e., these characters go in the opposite direction to the data being sent. The circuit starts in the "sending allowed" state. When the receiver's buffers approach capacity, the receiver sends the Xoff character to tell the sender to stop sending data. Later, after the receiver has emptied its buffers, it sends an Xon character to tell the sender to resume transmission.
RS485: Full Duplex	off on; default: off	Enables RS485 full duplex.

Modbus Server Device Configuration

This section is used to create server instances that the Client (this TRB246 device) will be querying with requests.



By default there are no instances created. To add a new server configuration, enter an instance name, select a serial device instance and click the 'Add' button.



After clicking 'Add' you will be redirected to the newly added server's configuration page.

Server Device Configuration

The **Server Device Configuration** section is used to configure the parameters of Modbus RTU servers that the Client (this TRB246 device) will be querying with requests. The figure below is an

example of the Server Device Configuration and the table below provides information on the fields contained in that section:



Field	Value	Description
Enabled	off on; default: off	Turns communication with the server device on or off.
Name	string; default: none	Server device's name, used for easier management purposes.
Serial device	<i>serial device instance</i> ; default: none	Specifies which serial device will be used on this server.
Server ID	integer [0..255]; default: 1	Server ID. Each server in a network is assigned a unique identifier ranging from 1 to 255. When the client requests data from a server, the first byte it sends is the Server ID. When set to 0, the server will respond to requests addressed to any ID.
Number of timeouts	integer [0..10]; default: 0	Skip pending request and reset connection after number of request failures.
Frequency	Period Schedule; default: Period	
Period	integer [1..99999]; default: none	Interval at which requests are sent to the server device.
Timeout	integer [1..60]; default: 1	Maximum response wait time.

Requests Configuration

A Modbus **request** is a way of obtaining data from Modbus servers. The client sends a request to a servers specifying the function code to be performed. The server then sends the requested data back to the Modbus client.

Note: Modbus Serial Client uses *Register Number* instead of *Register Address* for pointing to a register. For example, to request the *Uptime* of a device, you must use **2** in the *First Register* field.

The Request Configuration list is empty by default. To add a new Request Configuration loon to the Add New Instance section. Enter a custom name into the 'Name' field and click the 'Add' button:



The new Request Configuration should become visible in the list:



Field	Value	Description
Name	string; default: Unnamed	Name of this Request Configuration. Used for easier management purposes.

Data type	8bit INT 8bit UINT 16bit INT, high byte first 16bit INT, low byte first 16bit UINT, high byte first 16bit UINT, low byte first 32bit float (various Byte order) 32bit INT (various Byte order) 32bit UINT (various Byte order) 64bit INT (various Byte order) 64bit UINT (various Byte order) 64bit float (various Byte order) ASCII Hex Bool PDU; default: 16bit INT, high byte first	Defines how read data will be stored.
Function	Read coils (1) Read input coils (2) Read holding registers (3) Read input registers (4) Set single coil (5) Set single coil register (6) Set multiple coils (15) Set multiple holding registers (16); default: Read holding registers (3)	Specifies the type of register being addressed by a Modbus request.
First Register	integer [0..65535]; default: 1	First Modbus register from which data will be read.
Register Count / Values	integer [1..2000]; default: 1	Number of Modbus registers that will be read during the request.
Remove Brackets	off on; default: off	Removes the starting and ending brackets from the request (only for read requests).
off/on slider	off on; default: off	Turns the request on or off.
Delete [X]	- (interactive button)	Deletes the request.

Additional note: by default the newly added Request Configurations are turned off. You can use the on/off slider to the right of the Request Configuration to turn it on:



After having configured a request, you should see a new 'Request Configuration Testing' section appear. It is used to check whether the configuration works correctly. Simply click the 'Test' button and a response should appear in the box below. **Note:** to use test buttons, you need to enable [Client section](#). A successful response to a test may look something like this:



Modbus Client Alarms

Alarms are a way of setting up automated actions when some Modbus values meet user-defined conditions. When the Modbus Serial Client (this TRB246 device) requests some information from a server device it compares that data to with the parameters set in an Alarm Configuration. If the comparison meets the specified condition (more than, less than, equal to, not equal to), the Client performs a user-specified action, for example, a Modbus write request or switching the state of an output.

The figure below is an example of the Modbus Client Alarms list. To create a new Alarm, click the 'Add' button.



After this you should be redirected to that Alarm's configuration page which should look similar to this:



Field	Value	Description
Enabled	off on; default: off	Turns the alarm on or off.
Function code	Read Coil Status (1) Read Input Status (2) Read Holding Registers (3) Read Input Registers (4); default: Read Coil Status (1)	Modbus function used for this alarm's Modbus request. The Modbus TCP Client (this TRB246 device) perform this request as often as specified in the 'Period' field in Server Device Configuration .
Compared condition data type	8bit INT 8bit UINT 16bit INT, high byte first 16bit INT, low byte first 16bit UINT, high byte first 16bit UINT, low byte first 32bit float (various Byte order) 32bit INT (various Byte order) 32bit UINT (various Byte order) 64bit INT (various Byte order) 64bit UINT (various Byte order) 64bit float (various Byte order) ASCII Hex Bool; default: 16bit INT, high byte first	Select data type that will be used for checking conditions.
First register number	integer [1..65536]; default: none	Number of the Modbus coil/input/holding-register/input-register to read from.
Values	various; default: none	The value against which the read data will be compared.
Condition	More than Less than Equal to Not Equal to Less or equal More or equal; default: More than	When a value is obtained it will be compared against the value specified in the following field. The comparison will be made in accordance with the condition specified in this field.
Action frequency	Every trigger First trigger; default: Every trigger	Describes how frequently the specified action will be taken.
Redundancy protection	off on; default: off	Protection against executing a configured action too often.
Redundancy protection period	integer [1..86400]; default: none	Duration to activate redundancy protection for, measured in seconds. This field becomes visible only when 'Redundancy protection' is turned on.
Action	SMS MODBUS Write Request Trigger output ; default: MODBUS Write Request	Action that will be taken if the condition is met. Possible actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SMS - sends and SMS message to a specified recipient(s). • Modbus Request - sends a Modbus Write request to a specified server. • Trigger output - changes state of selected I/O output pin.
SMS: Message	string; default: none	SMS message text.

SMS: Phone number	phone number; default: none	Recipient's phone number.
MODBUS Write Request: Timeout	integer [1..30]; default: 5	Maximum time to wait for a response.
MODBUS Write Request: ID	integer [1..255]; default: none	Modbus server ID.
MODBUS Write Request: Modbus function	Read Single Coil (5) Set Single Register (6) Set Multiple Coils (15) Set Multiple Registers (16); default: Set Single Coil (5) 8bit INT 8bit UINT 16bit INT, high byte first 16bit INT, low byte first 16bit UINT, high byte first 16bit UINT, low byte first 32bit	A function code specifies the type of register being addressed by a Modbus request.
MODBUS Write Request: Executed action data type	float (various Byte order) 32bit INT (various Byte order) 32bit UNIT (various Byte order) 64bit INT (various Byte order) 64bit UINT (various Byte order) 64bit float (various Byte order) ASCII Hex Bool; default: Bool	Select data type that will be used for executing action.
MODBUS Write Request: First register number	integer [0..65535]; default: none	Begins reading from the register specified in this field.
MODBUS Write Request: Values	integer [0..65535]; default: none	Register/Coil values to be written (multiple values must be separated by space character).
Trigger output: Output	Configurable Input/Output (2) Configurable Input/Output (3) Configurable Input/Output (4); default: Configurable Input/Output (2)	Selects which output will be triggered.
Trigger output: I/O Action	Turn On Turn Off Invert; default: Turn On	Selects the action performed on the output.

MQTT Modbus Gateway

The **MQTT Modbus Gateway** function is used to transfer Modbus data (send requests, receive responses) over MQTT. When it is enabled, the device (this TRB246) subscribes to a REQUEST topic and publishes on a RESPONSE topic on a specified MQTT broker. It translates received MQTT message payload to a Modbus request and relays it to the specified Modbus TCP server.

When the MQTT Gateway receives a response from the server, it translates it to an MQTT message and publishes it on the RESPONSE topic.



Below is an example of the MQTT Gateway page. Refer to the table for information on MQTT Gateway configuration fields.



Field	Value	Description
Enable	off on; default: off	Turns MQTT gateway on or off.
Host	ip host; default: 127.0.0.1	IP address or hostname of an MQTT broker.
Port	integer [0..65535]; default: 1883	Port number of the MQTT broker.
Request topic	alphanumeric string; default: request	MQTT topic for sending requests.
Response topic	alphanumeric string; default: response	MQTT topic for subscribing to responses.
QoS	At most once (0) At least once (1) Exactly once (2); default: Exactly once (2)	Specifies quality of service.
Username	string; default: none	Username for authentication to the MQTT broker.
Password	string; default: none	Password for authentication to the MQTT broker.
Client ID	integer; default: none	Specifies client ID for MQTT broker.
Keepalive	integer; default: 5	Keepalive message to MQTT broker (seconds)
Use TLS/SSL	off on; default: off	Turns TLS support on or off
TLS type	cert psk ; default: cert	Selects the type of TLS encryption
TLS insecure	off on; default: off	Disables TLS security
Certificate files from device	off on; default: off	Choose this option if you want to use certificate files generated on device.
CA file	string; default: none	Upload/select certificate authority file.
Certificates file	string; default: none	Upload/select certificate file.
Key file	string; default: none	Upload/select certificate key file.
PSK	string; default: none	Specifies the pre-shared key.
Identity	string; default: none	Specifies identity.

Serial Gateway Configuration

Serial Gateway Configuration section displays Serial gateway instances currently existing on the router.

By default the list is empty. To create a new gateway instance, enter the ID of serial device, select serial interface and click the 'Add' button.



After this you should be redirected to instance's configuration page which should look similar to this:



Field	Value	Description
Enable	off on; default: off	Enables this Serial Gateway instance configuration.
Name	string; default: none	Name of the gateway instance. Used for management purposes only.
Device	RS232 RS485; default: RS232	Specifies which serial port will be used for serial communication.
Baud rate	300 1200 2400 4800 9600 19200 38400 57600 115200 230400 460800 921600 1000000 3000000; default: 9600	Serial data transmission rate (in bits per second).
Data bits	7 8; default: 8	Number of data bits for each character.
Stop bits	1 2; default: 1	Stop bits sent at the end of every character allow the receiving signal hardware to detect the end of a character and to resynchronise with the character stream. Electronic devices usually use one stop bit. Two stop bits are required if slow electromechanical devices are used.
Parity	Even Odd Mark Space None; default: None	<p>In serial transmission, parity is a method of detecting errors. An extra data bit is sent with each data character, arranged so that the number of 1 bits in each character, including the parity bit, is always odd or always even. If a byte is received with the wrong number of 1s, then it must have been corrupted. However, an even number of errors can pass the parity check.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None (N) - no parity method is used. • Odd (O) - the parity bit is set so that the number of "logical ones (1s)" has to be odd. • Even (E) - the parity bit is set so that the number of "logical ones (1s)" has to be even. • Space (s) - the parity bit will always be a binary 0. • Mark (M) - the parity bit will always be a binary 1.
Flow control	None RTS/CTS Xon/Xoff; default: None	<p>In many circumstances a transmitter might be able to send data faster than the receiver is able to process it. To cope with this, serial lines often incorporate a "handshaking" method, usually distinguished between hardware and software handshaking.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RTS/CTS - hardware handshaking. RTS and CTS are turned OFF and ON from alternate ends to control data flow, for instance when a buffer is almost full. • Xon/Xoff - software handshaking. The Xon and Xoff characters are sent by the receiver to the sender to control when the sender will send data, i.e., these characters go in the opposite direction to the data being sent. The circuit starts in the "sending allowed" state. When the receiver's buffers approach capacity, the receiver sends the Xoff character to tell the sender to stop sending data. Later, after the receiver has emptied its buffers, it sends an Xon character to tell the sender to resume transmission.
RS485: Full Duplex	off on; default: off	Enables RS485 full duplex.

Request messages

Note: MQTT Gateway uses *Register Number* instead of *Register Address* for pointing to a register. For example, to request the *Uptime* of a device, you must use **2** in the *Register Number* field.

Modbus request data sent in the MQTT payload should be generated in accordance with the one of the following formats:

- TCP:

```
0 <COOKIE> <IP_TYPE> <IP> <PORT> <TIMEOUT> <SERVER_ID> <MODBUS_FUNCTION>
<FIRST_REGISTER> <REGISTER_COUNT/VALUES>
```

- Serial:

```
1 <COOKIE> <SERIAL_DEVICE_ID> <TIMEOUT> <SERVER_ID> <MODBUS_FUNCTION>
<FIRST_REGISTER> <REGISTER_COUNT/VALUES>
```

- MODBUS TCP connection management messages:

```
2 <COOKIE> <CONNECTION_INDEX> <ACTION>
2 <COOKIE> <CONNECTION_INDEX> 0 <IP_TYPE> <IP> <PORT> <TIMEOUT>
```

Explanation:

- **Cookie** - a 64-bit unsigned integer in range $[0..2^{64}-1]$. A cookie is used in order to distinguish which response belongs to which request, each request and the corresponding response contain a matching cookie: a 64-bit unsigned integer.
- **IP type** - host IP address type. Possible values:
 - **0** - IPv4 address;
 - **1** - IPv6 address;
 - **2** - hostname that will be resolved to an IP address.
- **IP** - IP address of a Modbus TCP server. IPv6 must be presented in full form (e.g., `2001:0db8:0000:0000:0000:8a2e:0370:7334`).
- **Port** - port number of the Modbus TCP server.
- **Timeout** - timeout for Modbus connection, in seconds. Range $[1..999]$.
- **Server ID** - Modbus TCP server ID. Range $[1..255]$.
- **Modbus function** - Modbus task type that will be executed. Possible values are:
 - **1** - read coils;
 - **2** - read input coils;
 - **3** - read holding registers;
 - **4** - read input registers;
 - **5** - set single coil;
 - **6** - write to a single holding register;
 - **15** - set multiple coils;
 - **16** - write to multiple holding registers.
- **First register** - number (not address) of the first register/coil/input (in range $[1..65536]$) from which the registers/coils/inputs will be read/written to.
- **Register count/value** - this value depends on the Modbus function:
 - **1** - coil count (in range $[1..2000]$); must not exceed the boundary (first coil number + coil count ≤ 65537);

- **2** - input count (in range [1..2000]); must not exceed the boundary (first input number + input count <= 65537);
- **3** - holding register count (in range [0..125]); must not exceed the boundary (first register number + holding register count <= 65537);
- **4** - input register count (in range [0..125]); must not exceed the boundary (first register number + input register count <= 65537);
- **5** - coil value (in range [0..1]);
- **6** - holding register value (in range [0..65535]);
- **15** - coil count (in range [1..1968]); must not exceed the boundary (first coil number + coil count <= 65537); and coil values separated with commas, without spaces (e.g., 1,2,3,654,21,789); there must be exactly as many values as specified (with coil count); each value must be in the range of [0..1].
- **16** - register count (in range [1..123]); must not exceed the boundary (first register number + register count <= 65537); and register values separated with commas, without spaces (e.g., 1,2,3,654,21,789); there must be exactly as many values as specified (with register count); each value must be in the range of [0..65535].
- **Serial device ID** - a string used to identify a serial device. Must match with Device ID field in MQTT Gateway page Serial gateway configuration section.
- **Connection index** - a number used to identify a connection on which an action will be preformed (in range [0..7]).
- **Action** - a connection action. Possible values are:
 - **0** - OPEN. This will open a closed connection, reopen an already open connection with the same parameters or close an already open connection and open a new one with new parameters.
 - **1** - CLOSE. This will close an open connection and do nothing to the closed one.
 - **2** - STATUS. This will respond with either **OK 1** for an open connection or **OK 0** for a closed connection.

Response messages

A special response message can take one of the following forms:

```

<COOKIE> OK                               - for functions 6 and 16
<COOKIE> OK <VALUE> <VALUE> <VALUE>...    - for function 3, where <VALUE>
<VALUE> <VALUE>... are read register values
<COOKIE> ERROR: ...                        - for failures, where ... is the
error description
  
```

Examples

Below are a few **examples** of controlling/monitoring the internal Modbus TCP Server on TRB246.

Reboot the device

- Request:

```
0 65432 0 192.168.1.1 502 5 1 6 206 1
```

- Response:

```
65432 OK
```

Retrieve uptime

- Request:

```
0 65432 0 192.168.1.1 502 5 1 3 2 2
```

- Response:

```
65432 OK 0 5590
```

If you're using Eclipse Mosquitto (MQTT implementation used on TRB246), Publish/Subscribe commands may look something like this:

Retrieve uptime

- Request:

```
mosquitto_pub -h 192.168.1.1 -p 1883 -t request -m "0 65432 0  
192.168.1.1 502 5 1 3 2 2"
```

- Response:

```
mosquitto_sub -h 192.168.1.1 -p 1883 -t response  
65432 OK 0 5590
```

Modbus TCP over Serial Gateway

The **Modbus TCP over Serial gateway** serial type allows redirecting TCP data coming to a specified port to an RTU specified by the Server ID. The Server ID can be specified by the user or be obtained directly from the Modbus header.

Modbus TCP over Serial Gateway Configuration

Modbus TCP over Serial Gateway Configuration section displays gateway instances currently existing on the router.

By default the list is empty. To create a new gateway instance, enter the name of instance, select serial interface and click the 'Add' button.



After this you should be redirected to instance's configuration page which should look similar to this:



Field	Value	Description
Enable	off on; default: off	Enables this Modbus TCP over Serial Gateway instance configuration.
Name	string; default: none	Name of the gateway instance. Used for management purposes only.
Device	RS232 RS485; default: RS232	Specifies which serial port will be used for serial communication.
Baud rate	300 1200 2400 4800 9600 19200 38400 57600 115200 230400 460800 921600 1000000 3000000; default: 9600	Serial data transmission rate (in bits per second).
Data bits	1. default=5 6 7 8; default: 8	Number of data bits for each character.
Stop bits	1 2; default: 1	Stop bits sent at the end of every character allow the receiving signal hardware to detect the end of a character and to resynchronise with the character stream. Electronic devices usually use one stop bit. Two stop bits are required if slow electromechanical devices are used.
Parity	Even Odd Mark Space None; default: None	<p>In serial transmission, parity is a method of detecting errors. An extra data bit is sent with each data character, arranged so that the number of 1 bits in each character, including the parity bit, is always odd or always even. If a byte is received with the wrong number of 1s, then it must have been corrupted. However, an even number of errors can pass the parity check.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• None (N) - no parity method is used.• Odd (O) - the parity bit is set so that the number of "logical ones (1s)" has to be odd.• Even (E) - the parity bit is set so that the number of "logical ones (1s)" has to be even.• Space (s) - the parity bit will always be a binary 0.• Mark (M) - the parity bit will always be a binary 1.
Flow control	None RTS/CTS Xon/Xoff; default: None	<p>In many circumstances a transmitter might be able to send data faster than the receiver is able to process it. To cope with this, serial lines often incorporate a "handshaking" method, usually distinguished between hardware and software handshaking.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• RTS/CTS - hardware handshaking. RTS and CTS are turned OFF and ON from alternate ends to control data flow, for instance when a buffer is almost full.• Xon/Xoff - software handshaking. The Xon and Xoff characters are sent by the receiver to the sender to control when the sender will send data, i.e., these characters go in the opposite direction to the data being sent. The circuit starts in the "sending allowed" state. When the receiver's buffers approach capacity, the receiver sends the Xoff character to tell the sender to stop sending data. Later, after the receiver has emptied its buffers, it sends an Xon character to tell the sender to resume transmission.

Listening IP	ip; default: none	IP address to listen for incoming connections. (0.0.0.0) value may be used to listen for incoming connections on any interface or IP address.
Port	integer [0..65535]; default: none	Port number to listen for incoming connections.
Server ID configuration type	User defined Obtained from TCP; default: User defined	Specifies whether server IDs are user defined or automatically obtained from TCP.
Server ID	integer; default: none	Specifies the server ID of range of permitted server IDs. The way this field is named and its function depends on the value of the <i>Server ID configuration</i> field. A range of IDs can be specified by placing a hyphen (-) between two integer numbers. For example, if you permit server IDs in the range of 10 to 20, you would specify it as: <i>10-20</i> You can also specify multiple values that are not connected in a range using commas (.). For example, to specify 6, 50 and 100 as permitted server IDs, you would have to use: <i>6,50,100</i>
Permitted server IDs	range of integers; default: 1-247	Read <i>Server ID</i> field description.
CRC verification	off on; default: off	Checks if sent serial message is not disturbed.
Echo	off on; default: off	Turns RS232 echo on or off. RS232 echo is a loopback test usually used to check whether the RS232 cable is working properly.
RS485: Full Duplex	off on; default: off	Enables RS485 full duplex.

IP Filter

The **IP Filter** section is used for configuring which network is allowed to communicate with the device. You may add a new instance by selecting the Interface and pressing Add.



Then enter the IP address and save.



See also

- [Monitoring via Modbus](#) - detailed examples on how to use Modbus TCP