

Introduction

Modern automation often relies on a sequencing that allows the machine to perform a repeated series of operations based on a specific time, an elapsed time or a set of prior conditions. Although the APB controller provides numerous generic function blocks that provide timing, counting and combinatorial logic processing it also provides three special function blocks that specifically address sequencing requirements.

The generic SCHED scheduler block allows scheduling events at programmed times. The SSEQ step sequencer supports up to 8 outputs that are sequentially triggered when an input becomes active. The TSEQ time sequencer also supports up to 8 outputs which are triggered based on an elapsed time.

SCHED Sequencing

The SCHED function block provides an output which is turned ON or OFF based on the time of day. Each SCHED function supports 32 time events (may be turned ON or OFF at 32 unique times) and an APB controller could theoretically support 320 SCHED blocks although a more practical upper limit is set by the number of outputs (64 maximum) that could be controlled.

To examine the use of a SCHED block our application example will address light sequencing for lighting control for retail establishments.

References



Ingram Products Inc.,
8725 Youngerman Court
Suite 206
Jacksonville, FL 32244
888-875-2221
West Coast Sales: 951-200-3592
e-mail: sales@ingramproducts.com

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Sequencing Control

Web Site: www.ingramproducts.com