EtherCAT DeviceDesigner + Microchip LAN9252 UART Example

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1 Introduction

This document contains a description how to get the LAN9252 UART example easily working with the emtas EtherCAT DeviceDesigner and MPLAB X.

2 Prerequisites

The following tools and files are needed to get this UART example working.

- MPLAB X IDE
  (http://www.microchip.com/pagehandler/en-us/family/mplabx/)

- MPLAB XC Compiler
  (http://www.microchip.com/pagehandler/en-us/devtools/mplabxc/home.html)

- SSC v5.10 or higher from EtherCAT.org
  You need to be a member of the ETG to be allowed to download and use the SSC.
  You do not have to extract the SSC, just remember where the downloaded .zip file is saved.

- EtherCAT DeviceDesigner
  (Included in this archive or available at http://www.emtas.de/download/ethercat-devicedesigner)

3 Step – by – Step

The following guide expects that you have downloaded and installed the MPLAB X IDE, the MPLAB XC Compiler and the EtherCAT DeviceDesigner. Furthermore it is necessary that the SSC was downloaded.

3.1 EtherCAT DeviceDesigner

1. To generate all necessary files just launch the EtherCAT DeviceDesigner and open the bundled project “LAN9252_UART.eddp” from the sub folder “EDD”.

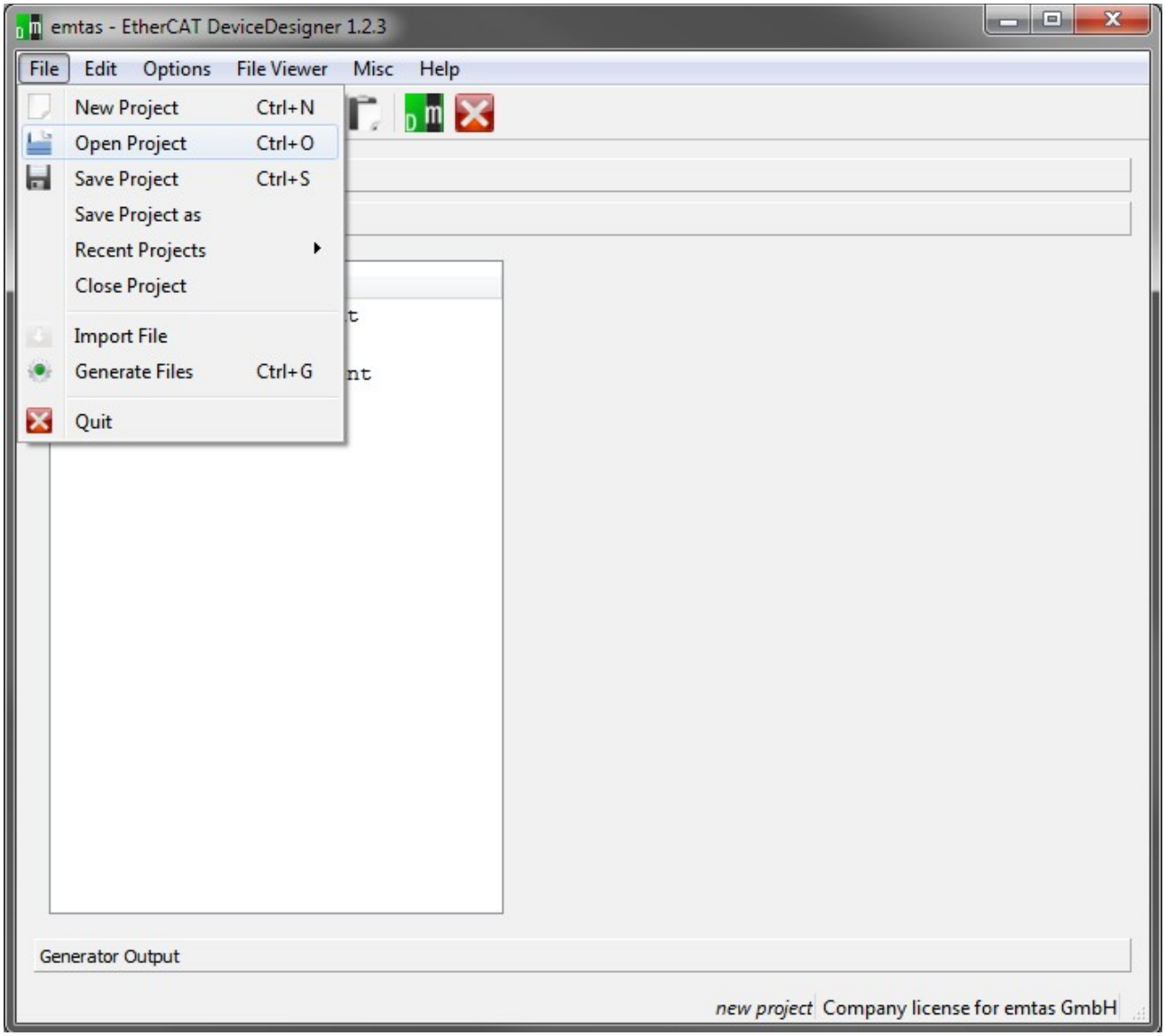

Figure 1: EtherCAT DeviceDesigner Open existing project

2. Select the downloaded SSC zip file via “Options -> Select SCC File” as shown in “Figure 2”. Just point to the .zip file.

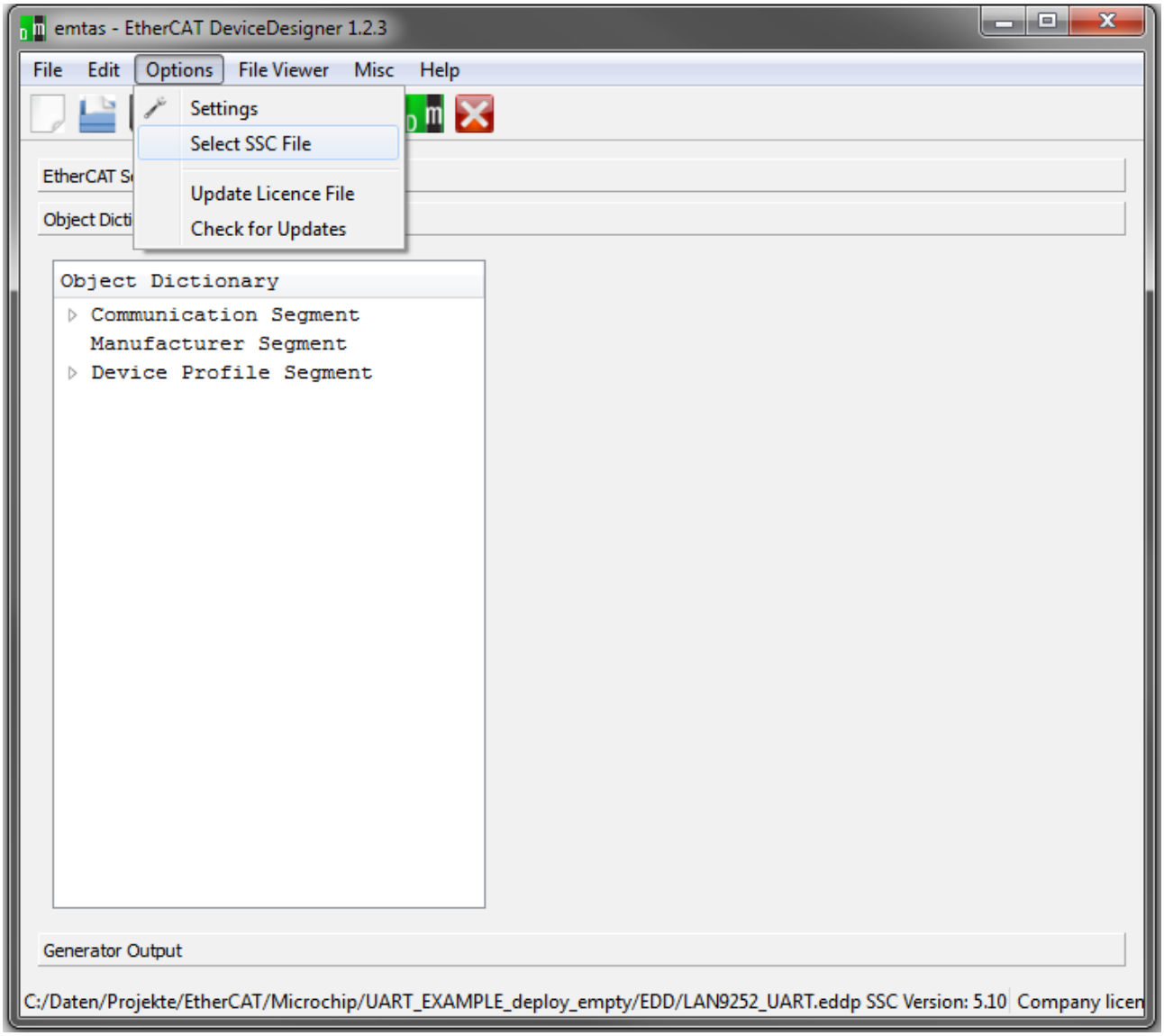

Figure 2: Select the SSC zip file

3. Generate all necessary files by clicking the “Generate files” button.

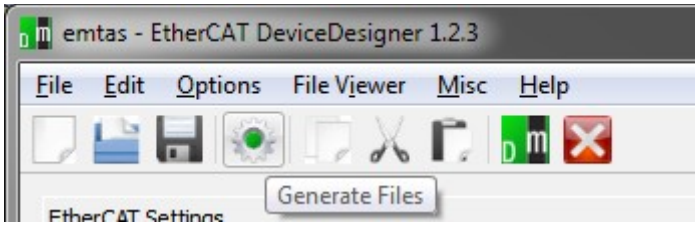

Figure 3: Generate Files

3.2 MPLAB X

1. Start MPLAB X and open the project in the "MPLAB" folder.

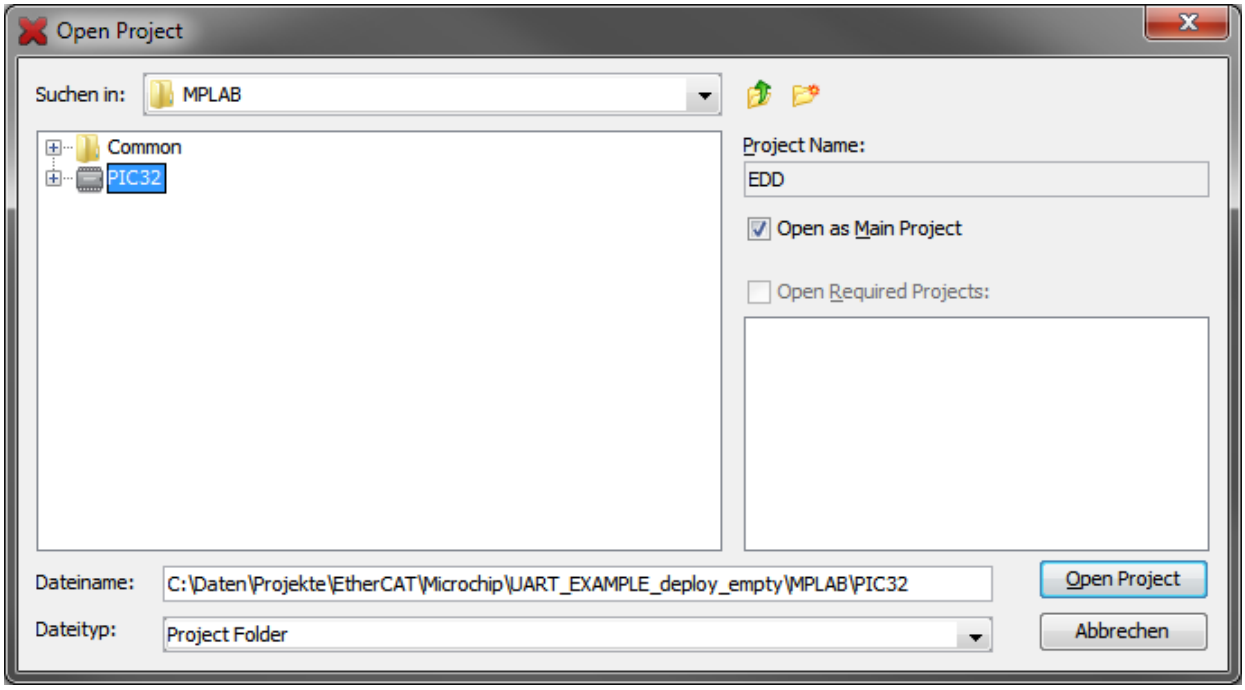

Figure 4: MPLAB X - Open Project

2. Select your programming hardware via "Customize" in the Configurations Combo Box, see "Figure 5".

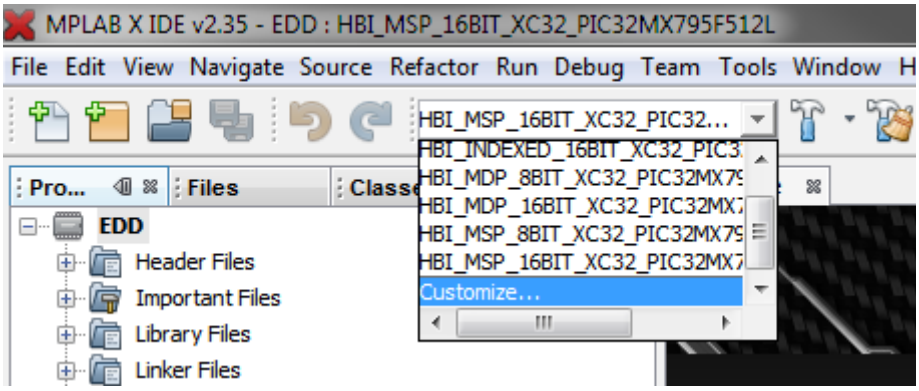

Figure 5: MPLAB X - Customize

3. The next dialog lets you choose your hardware.

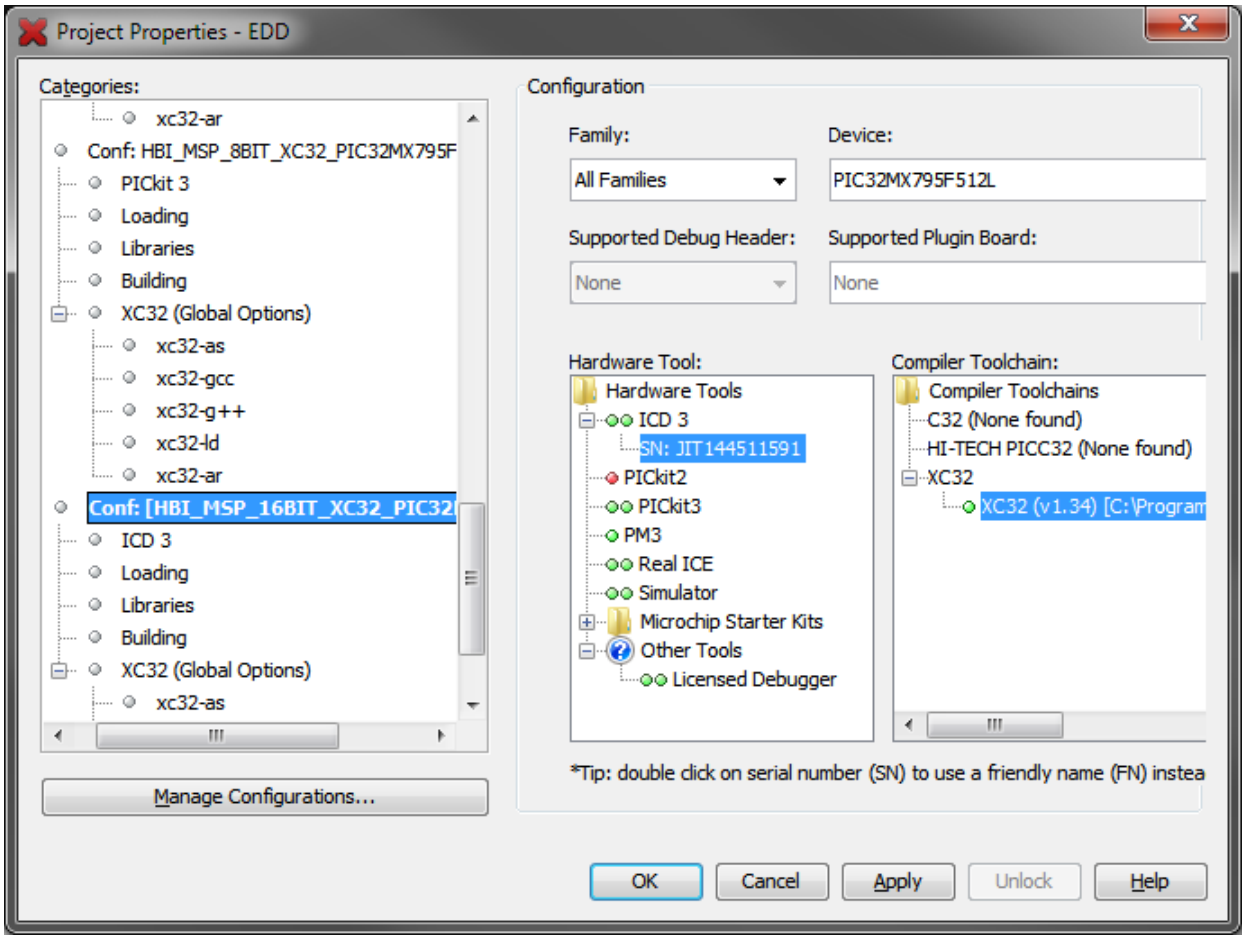

Figure 6: Selecting Hardware

4. Build the project and program the device.

3.3 Program the EEPROM

It is necessary to program the EEPROM of your LAN9252. You can do this by using the „EEPROM Programmer“, „TwinCAT“ or the „EtherCAT DeviceExplorer“ by emtas.

The necessary files are generated by the EtherCAT DeviceDesigner. If you use the „EEPROM Programmer“ or TwinCAT you can use the LAN9252_UART.xml file. You can find this file at „\EDD\esi“.

If you use the „EtherCAT DeviceExplorer“ you can directly use the EEPROM file at “\EDD\eeprom\eeprom.bin”.

4 Using the example

4.1 Description

This example demonstrates how EtherCAT can interact simply with the MCU. Furthermore it shows some basic functions of the EtherCAT framework by emtas. After connecting the EVB2-LAN9252 board via UART with a PC you can send and receive values with a terminal program.

4.2 Connecting UART

The example uses the UART3 pins of the PIC32 on the EVB-LAN9252 board. You can use a simple USB to serial cable to connect your PC to the board.

The pins of UART3 are accessible at header P1. pin 44 is the UART TX and pin 41 is the UART RX.

After connecting your PC with the board use a simple terminal programm like „HyperTerminal“, „HTerm“ or „Putty“.

The used settings are:

- 9600 baudrate
- 8 Databits
- 1 Stopbit
- No parity, no flow control

4.3 Using the example

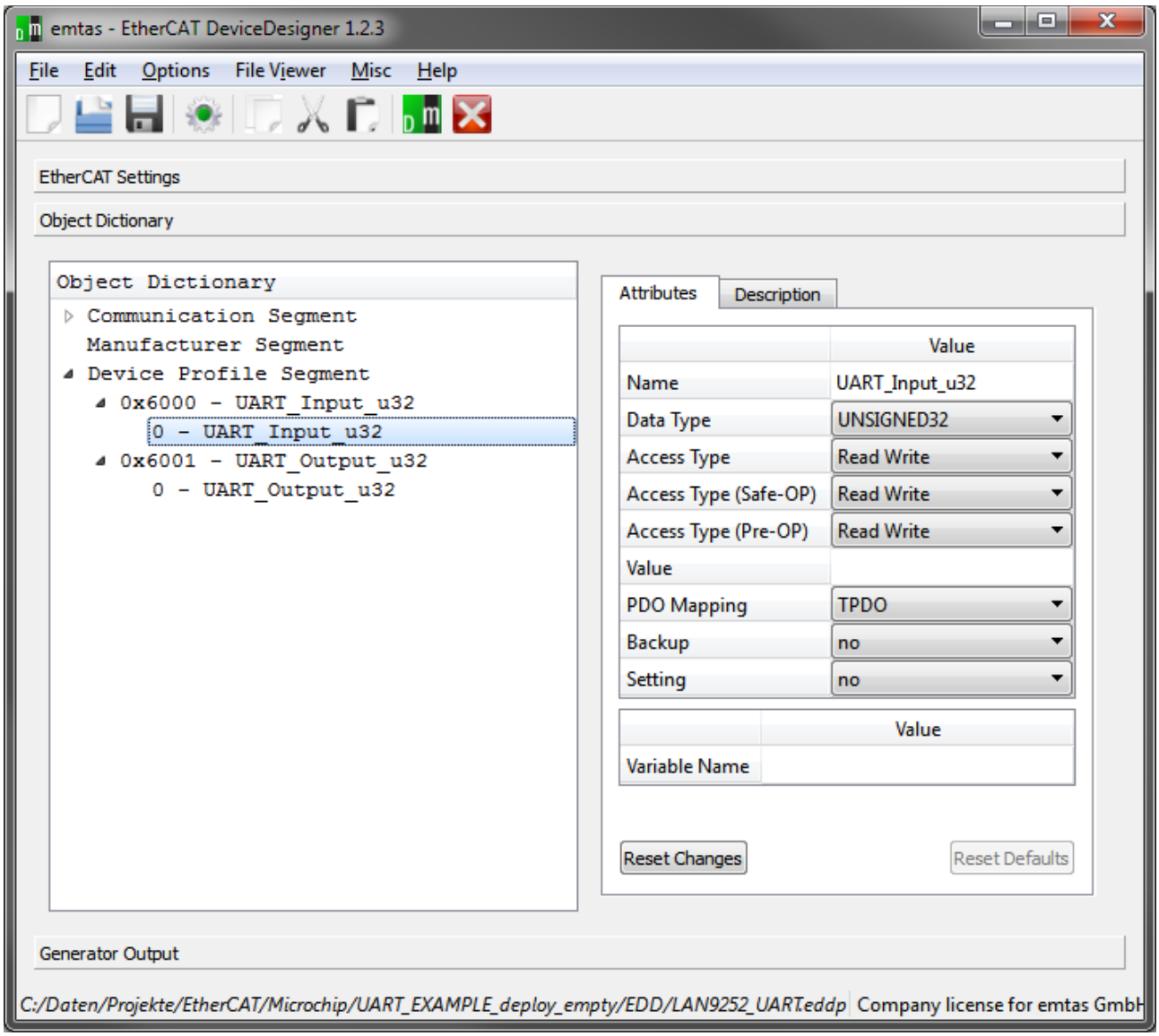

Figure 7: Input- and Output variables

As you can see in the EtherCAT DeviceDesigner there exists two unsigned32 variables which are mapped as PDO. "UART_Input_u32" as transmit-PDO and "UART_Output_u32" as receive-PDO.

Values received via EtherCAT are mapped to "UART_Output_u32". In this case the EtherCAT framework function "pdoReceivceInd()" in main.c is called. This function writes the received value as string via UART.

If a value is entered in a terminal program the interrupt service routine "IntUart3Handler()" in serial.c is triggered. This function add the available byte to a buffer. If the byte is a line feed the received value is mapped to the variable "UART_Input_u32" and so transmitted via PDO.

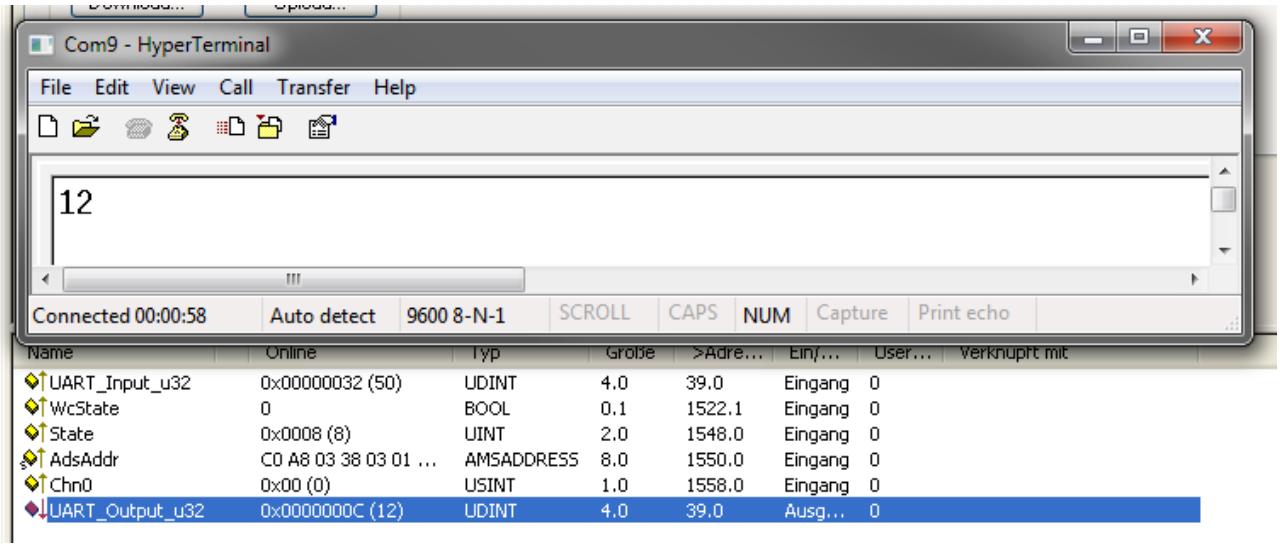

Figure 8: HyperTerminal Example

In „Figure 7“ you can see a screenshot containing the „HyperTerminal“ window and a part of TwinCAT.

As you can see I changed the value of „UART_Output_u32“ in TwinCAT to 12 and this value is outputted in „HyperTerminal“. After typing 50 and ENTER in „HyperTerminal“ this value is read via UART and transmitted as „UART_Input_u32“.