

1. How do persistent variables keep their value?

When you **reboot** after downloading a new program, the master **loads** the new program into **memory before** erasing the old one. The **master** searches through the two programs for **matching** persistent variables; i.e., a variable with the **same** variable name, source location (filename), and variable type. It then **updates** the new program with the **persistent values** from the old, and when it's finished, it **deletes** the **old** program from **memory**.

2. Why can't I use **CLEAN DISK** to reset the value of persistent variables?

CLEAN DISK does **not clear** the **RAM** memory. That's where the **values** are **stored** (with the rest of the running program).

3. What are some ways to reset the value of persistent variables?

- **To clear all the values** - change the name of the program, download, and reboot.
- **To clear all the values** - download a different program, reboot.
- **To clear one value** - change it's name; e.g., rename "nFlag" to "Flag".
- **To clear one value** - change it's type; e.g., instead of declaring "Flag" as INTEGER, declare it as LONG or CHAR.
- **To set variables to a specific value only on the first download, use the code below:**

```
DEFINE_VARIABLE
```

```
PERSISTENT INTEGER nVARS_SET
```

```
PERSISTENT INTEGER nSOME_VAR_1
```

```
PERSISTENT INTEGER nSOME_VAR_2
```

```
PERSISTENT INTEGER nSOME_VAR_3
```

```
PERSISTENT INTEGER nSOME_VAR_4
```

```
DEFINE_START
```

```
IF (!nVARS_SET)
```

```
{
```

```
ON[nVARS_SET]
```

```
nSOME_VAR_1 = 1
```

```
nSOME_VAR_2 = 2
```

```
nSOME_VAR_3 = 3
```

```
nSOME_VAR_4 = 4
```

}

If you want to **reset** the **variables** back to their **defaults**, use **debug** to set "**nVARS_SET**" to **0**, then **reboot**.

4. Why don't persistent variables work in modules?

With **modules** there is the potential for a **number** of **variables** with the **same** name but located in **different** instances of a particular **module**. Since these duplicate **variables** all have the **samename**, source location (filename), and type - a **fourth attribute would have to be determined**. This has not yet been done.

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