



- [Home](#)
- [synApps](#)
- [SPEC](#)
- [Data Acquisition](#)
- [Data Visualization](#)
- [JCA](#)
- [Hardware](#)
- [Group Info](#)
- [Knowledge Base](#)
- [Meetings](#)
- [Mailing list](#)
- [APS PV Information](#)
- **■ [APS PV Naming](#)**
- [Links](#)
- [Google Search](#)
- [APS Only](#)
- [Old site](#)

[Format page  
for printing](#)



[Security/Privacy  
Notice](#)

JFM, 08 Apr 2004

## APS EPICS Process Variable Naming Conventions

The recommended convention for process variable names at the APS is;

*All beamline PVs should begin with their sector number [preferred] or lower case letters.  
All accelerator PVs (those on the .2 subnet) should begin with capital letters.*

Examples of preferred beamline PV prefixes...

- **4IDB:\*** - Indicates Sector 4, Insertion Device beamline, Station B
- **2bma:\*** - Indicates Sector 2, Bending Magnet beamline, Station A
- **35LAB1:\*** - Indicates Sector 35, a lab system

Example of conforming non-preferred beamline PV prefix...

- **sri:\*** - Starts with lower case letter

Example of non-conforming beamline PV prefix...

- **S35ID:\*** - Starts with upper case letter

### Exceptions

Since this is a rule, then we must have exceptions! This naming convention only came in to existence after many beamlines had been built beamlines had adopted PV prefixes starting with a capital letter. These are "grand fathered" in to our scheme. These being...

- **BM\*, BMT\*, ID\*** - Sector 19

### Why?

The rationale behind how this convention arose is explained in [this note](#) and in a presentation, given at the December 2003 [TWG](#) meeting.

### Further recommendation for beamline PVs

Many sectors, have adopted the following convention. If you are looking for a slightly more detailed convention to follow this is a good m

The PV prefix should consist of the following elements... *sector#, source, station, separator*. For example

- **3IDC:\*** - Indicates Sector 3, Insertion Device beamline, Station C, with a colon separating the remainder of t

At a glance, this tells you where a PV is associated with. More examples are given in the [preferred examples](#) shown above

· [Home](#) · [synApps](#) · [SPEC](#) · [Data Acquisition](#) · [Data Visualization](#) · [JCA](#) · [Hardware](#) · [Group Info](#) · [Knowledge Base](#) · [Meetings](#) · [Mailing list](#) · [APS PV Information](#) · **APS PV Naming** · [Links](#) · [Google Search](#) · [APS Only](#) · [Old site](#) ·

