

# MultiRail



## Installation and Operation



# PREFACE

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>MultiRail</b> <b>Installation and Operation</b> <b>January 2002</b></p>
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This manual represents your meter as manufactured at the time of publication. It assumes standard software. Special versions of software may be fitted, in which case you will be provided with additional details.

Every effort has been made to ensure that the information in this manual is complete and accurate. We revised this manual but cannot be held responsible for errors or omissions.

The apparatus has been designed and tested in accordance with EN 61010-1, 'Safety Requirements for Electrical Equipment for Measurement, Control and Laboratory Use'. This operating guide contains information and warnings which must be followed by the user to ensure safe operation and to maintain the apparatus in a safe condition.

We reserve the right to make changes and improvements to the product without obligation to incorporate these changes and improvements into units previously shipped.

General Editor : Ian Sykes BSc (hons).

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## 1. Safety

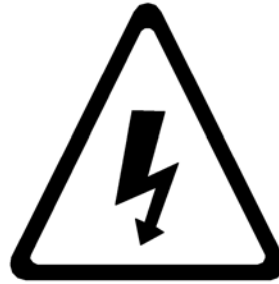
### 1.1 Warning Symbols

This manual provides details of safe installation and operation of the meter. Safety may be impaired if the instructions are not followed. Labels on individual meters give details of equipment ratings for safe operation. Take time to examine all labels on the meter and to read this manual before commencing installation.



**Caution**

Refer to User Instructions



**Danger**

Risk of Electric Shock

Figure 1-1 Safety Symbols

**WARNING**

The meter contains no user serviceable parts. Installation and commissioning should be carried out by qualified personnel

### 1.2 Maintenance

The equipment should be maintained in good working order. Damage to the product should be repaired by the manufacturer. The meter may be cleaned by wiping lightly with a soft cloth. No solvents or cleaning agents should be used. All inputs and supplies must be isolated before cleaning any part of the equipment.

## 2. Meter Operation

### 2.1 Measurements

The MultiRail makes use of a high speed micro-processor and an Analogue to Digital converter to monitor input signals from three independent phases. Each phase voltage, current and power (kW) are measured directly and a number of other parameters derived from these in software. The measurement process is continuous with all six signals scanned simultaneously at high speed. Unlike many other sampling systems, which sample one phase after another, this ensures that all input cycles are detected. Distorted input waveforms, with harmonics to the 20th are therefore detected accurately.

Derived parameters are calculated once a second then scaled by user programmed constants for current and voltage transformers.

Instantaneous power parameters are integrated over long time periods providing a number of energy registers. System frequency is detected by digital processing of the phase 1 voltage signal.

#### 2.1.1 Balance Current Measurements

The total current in a three phase system may be represented as :

$$\mathbf{I_{ba1} = I_1 + I_2 + I_3 = I_{LEAK} + I_n}$$

$\mathbf{I_{ba1}}$  is the balance phase current (Leakage + Neutral currents)

$\mathbf{I_{LEAK}}$  is any current leaving the system (e.g. Leakage to earth)

$\mathbf{I_n}$  is the current in the neutral (4 wire systems only)

**NOTE** In 3-Phase 3-Wire systems the MultiRail must be wired using 3 CTs as shown in Section 3.5 for balanced current measurements to be made.

# Meter Operation

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## 2.1.1.1 Rolling Demand (V, I and kW Demand)

Average values of volts, Amps and kW are calculated over a user programmable time period (10 - 2500 seconds for V and I, 1 - 60 minutes for kW). These calculated values represent the averages for the most recent time period ending at the present time. The demand period is continuously updated as time progresses hence the term "**Rolling Demand**".

## 2.1.1.2 Calculating Rolling Demand

Each user set time period is split into smaller sub-periods (10 for V and I, 15 for kW). An average value for measurements taken every second during a sub-period are calculated for each parameter. The most recent 10 (15 for kW) sub-period averages are stored in memory as an array. An average of the data in each of these arrays is displayed as rolling demand.

On power up (or after a brown-out) the sub-period array values are reset to zero. During the first full period the Rolling Demand value will accumulate as the zeroes are replaced with valid sub-period averages.

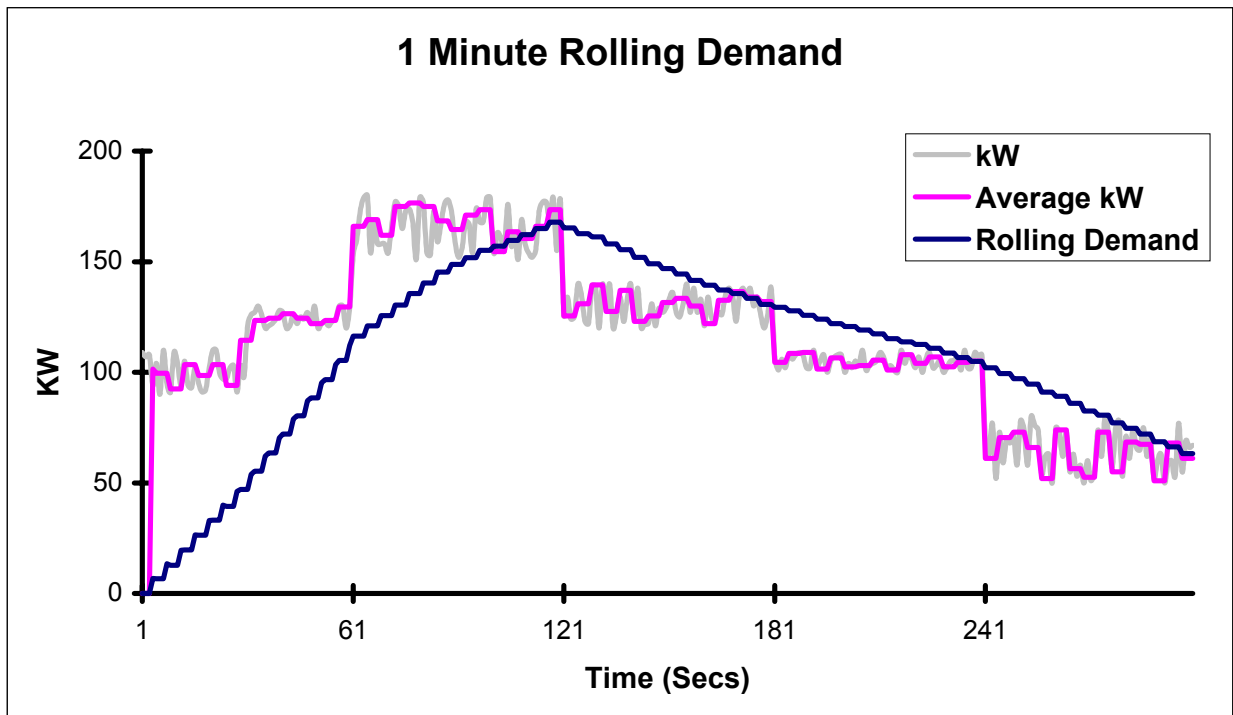
## 2.1.1.3 Peak Demand (kW, V and I Pk)

Peak demand readings are the maximum recorded values of corresponding Rolling Demand values.

Peak demand amps and kW readings may be used to determine the maximum load requirement of a system. They are often used to determine spare capacity in a supply system, supply plant requirement etc.

On power failure or brown-out Peak Demand values are automatically saved in non-volatile memory within the MultiRail. The memory requires no battery and will hold the value for up to 10 years in the absence of mains power.





**Figure 2-1 Graphical Example Of rolling kW Demand**

Figure 2.1 above graphically illustrates Rolling Demand. Instantaneous kW is seen to change rapidly (calculated once a second) due to the nature of the load being measured. Step changes appear in the profile as loads are switched on/off.

The sub-period averages are shown updated every 4 seconds (15 periods for 1 min rolling demand). These follow the instantaneous kW curve closely but smooth out the peaks and troughs.

The Rolling Demand provides a "Trend Line" for instantaneous kW. There is a time lag between the instantaneous changes and the Rolling Demand due to the time taken to build a history of average readings.

# Meter Operation

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## 2.1.2 Percentage THD

Modern power systems are often required to drive non-linear loads such as motor controllers, computers etc. These non linear loads may cause waveform distortion of the currents and voltages in the system. This can lead to inefficiency or cause many problems such as motor over heating, leakage currents etc.

A distorted waveform is made up of the pure fundamental sine wave with a number of harmonics added to this. For example a current waveform could be made up of 100A at 50Hz, 10A at 150Hz, 15A at 200Hz etc. Badly distorted waveforms have a higher harmonic content.

The MultiRail provides a measure of the distortion, in each phase voltage and current waveform, as a percentage deviation from pure 50Hz or 60Hz sine waves. This is carried out using a Fast Fourier Transform (FFT) algorithm to accurately extract the fundamental sine wave from the total waveform. The 50Hz component is automatically detected for signals with frequencies in the range 45-55Hz and 60Hz is used for 55-65Hz.

The calculation is performed as follows :

$$\% \text{ THD} = \sqrt{\{(\mathbf{W}_{\text{rms}}^2 - \mathbf{W}_f^2) / \mathbf{W}_{\text{rms}}^2\}} \times 100$$

Where :

**W<sub>rms</sub>** is the RMS value of a total waveform

**W<sub>f</sub>** is the RMS value of the 50Hz (or 60Hz) component of the waveform

**Note:** A Vr input greater than 5% of full scale is required for all THD calculations. THD for an individual input is not detected for signals less than 6% of full scale.

## Display Pages

Displays in the MultiRail are organised into menus for ease of access.

### 2.1.3 The Current Menu

To select current measurements press the **I** key repeatedly until the desired page is displayed. The pages of the current menu are organised as shown below:



#### Phase Currents

Instantaneous true rms current on lines L1,L2 and L3, scaled by the user programmed CT Primary.

#### Peak Hold Currents

The largest value of each Phase Current is recorded in non-volatile memory for review here.

#### Rolling Demand Currents

Rolling demand values of Phase currents. Rolling demand calculations are defined in section 2.1.1.1.

#### Peak Demand Currents

The largest value of each Rolling Demand Current is recorded in non-volatile memory for review here.

#### Current Distortion

Harmonic distortion on each line current as a percentage of the overall rms value as defined in section 2.1.2.

# Meter Operation

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## 2.1.4 The Voltage Menu

To select voltage measurements press the **V** key repeatedly until the desired page is displayed. The pages of the voltage menu are organised as shown below:



### Phase Voltages

Instantaneous true rms volts (L-N) on Lines L1-N, L2-N and L3-N, scaled by the user programmed PT Primary.

### Line-Line Voltages

Instantaneous true rms volts (L-L) on Lines L1-2, L2-3 and L3-1. Scaled by the user programmed PT Primary..

### Peak Hold Voltages

The largest value of each Phase Voltage is recorded in non-volatile memory for review here.

### Rolling Demand Voltages

Rolling demand values of Phase Voltages. Rolling demand calculations are defined in section 2.1.1.1.

### Peak Demand Voltages

The largest value of each Rolling Demand Voltage is recorded in non-volatile memory for review here.

### Voltage Distortion

Harmonic distortion on each line voltage as a percentage of the overall rms value as defined in section 2.1.2.

## 2.1.5 The Power Menu

To select power measurements press the **(P)** key repeatedly until the desired page is displayed. The pages of the power menu are organised as shown below:



### System Power

Instantaneous true rms W, VA and var scaled by user programmed CT and PT primaries. Negative kvars indicate capacitive loads.



### Frequency, PF and Balance Current

Frequency measured from L1-N volts.  
System Power Factor (- for capacitive)  
Balance Current defined in section 2.1.1.



### Phase Power Factors

Instantaneous power factors for each phase (- for capacitive loads).



### Phase Watts

Instantaneous true rms watts on each phase scaled by the user programmed PT and CT Primaries.

# Meter Operation

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## Phase VA

Instantaneous true rms Volt-Amperes on each phase scaled by the user programmed PT and CT Primaries.



## Phase var

Instantaneous true rms Reactive-Volt-Amperes on each phase scaled by the user programmed PT and CT Primaries.



## KW & Peak kW Demand

Rolling demand value of system watts and the largest recorded value of this. Rolling demand calculations are defined in section 2.1.1.1.

## 2.1.6 The Energy Menu

To select energy measurements press the **E** key repeatedly until the desired page is displayed. The pages of the energy menu are organised as shown below:



### Wh Register

Totalising counter for Wh energy scaled by user programmed PT and CT Primaries.



### VAh Register

Totalising counter for VAh energy scaled by user programmed PT and CT Primaries.



### Inductive varh Register

Totalising counter for varh energy accumulated only when the measured load is inductive.



### Capacitive varh Register

Totalising counter for varh energy accumulated only when the measured load is capacitive.



### Total varh Register

Displays the absolute sum of inductive + capacitive energy registers.

# Meter Operation

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## 2.2 Display Scaling

The MultiRail scales its displays automatically to provide the optimum resolution dependant on user settings (CT and PT Primary). This provides direct reading of parameters with decimal points and legends automatically selected (e.g. kW or MW etc).

### 2.2.1 Voltage Scaling (Phase, Peak, Demand, Pk Demand)

PT Primary Setting	Example Display
60V <sub>L-L</sub> - 140V <sub>L-L</sub>	20.00 V
141V <sub>L-L</sub> - 1,400V <sub>L-L</sub>	200.0 V
1,401V <sub>L-L</sub> - 14,000V <sub>L-L</sub>	2.000 kV
14,001V <sub>L-L</sub> - 50,000V <sub>L-L</sub>	20.00 kV

### 2.2.2 Line-Line Voltage Scaling (V<sub>L-L</sub>)

PT Primary Setting	Example Display
60V <sub>L-L</sub> - 80V <sub>L-L</sub>	50.00 V <sub>L-L</sub>
81V <sub>L-L</sub> - 800V	500.0 V <sub>L-L</sub>
801V <sub>L-L</sub> - 8,000V <sub>L-L</sub>	5.000 kV <sub>L-L</sub>
8,001V <sub>L-L</sub> - 50,000V <sub>L-L</sub>	50.00 kV <sub>L-L</sub>

### 2.2.3 Current Scaling (Phase, Peak, I bal, Demand, Pk Demand)

CT Primary Setting	Example Display
5A - 8A	5.000 A
9A - 80A	50.00 A
81A - 800A	500.0 A
801A - 6,500A	5.000 kA



## 2.2.4 Phase Power Scaling (Per Phase W, VA, var)

PT Setting x CT Setting	Example Display
300VA - 1,400VA	200.0 W
1,401VA - 14,000VA	2.000 kW
14,001VA - 140,000VA	20.00 kW
140,001VA - 1,400,000VA	200.0 kW
1,400,001VA - 14,000,000VA	2000 kW
14,000,001VA - 140,000,000VA	20.00 MW
140,000,001VA - 250,000,000VA	200.0 MW

## 2.2.5 System Power Scaling (3-Phase W, VA, var, kW Demand)

PT Setting x CT Setting	Example Display
300VA - 1,400VA	2.000 kW
1,401VA - 14,000VA	20.00 kW
14,001VA - 140,000VA	200.0 kW
140,001VA - 1,400,000VA	2000 kW
1,400,001VA - 14,000,000VA	20.00 MW
14,000,001VA - 140,000,000VA	200.0 MW
140,000,001VA - 250,000,000VA	2000 MW

## 2.2.6 Energy Registers (Wh, VAh, varh)

PT Setting x CT Setting	Example Display
300VA - 1,400VA	999.999 kWh
1,401VA - 14,000VA	9999.99 kWh
14,001VA - 140,000VA	99999.9 kWh
140,001VA - 1,400,000VA	999999 kWh
1,400,001VA - 14,000,000VA	9999.99 MWh
14,000,001VA - 140,000,000VA	99999.9 MWh
140,000,001VA - 250,000,000VA	999999 MWh

# Meter Operation

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## 2.3 Energy Register Reset

All accumulating energy registers may be simultaneously reset to zero using the front panel keys. Once reset, energy readings are lost forever so great care must be taken when using this feature. To reset all energy registers

- Select any energy display page as described above
- Press **V** and **P** keys together and Hold for 5 seconds.

## 2.4 Peak Voltage Reset

The peak voltage readings may be simultaneously reset to zero using the front panel keys. Once reset the old values will be immediately replaced by the latest instantaneous readings and subsequent peaks as they occur. To reset Peak Voltages

- Select the Peak Voltage display page as described above
- Press **V** and **P** keys together and Hold for 5 seconds.

## 2.5 Peak Current Reset

The peak current readings may be simultaneously reset to zero using the front panel keys. Once reset the old values will be immediately replaced by the latest instantaneous readings and subsequent peaks as they occur. To reset Peak Currents

- Select the Peak Current display page as described above
- Press **V** and **P** keys together and Hold for 5 seconds.

## 2.6 Peak Demand Reset

Peak rolling demand readings (Volts, Amps or kW) may be reset to zero using the front panel keys. At the end of the next sub period the peak will be set to the latest rolling average value. To reset the Peak rolling demands;

- Select the Peak Ampere, Voltage or kW Demand display page as required
- Press **V** and **P** keys together and Hold for 5 seconds.

## 2.7 Isolated Pulse Outputs

MultiRail meters incorporate two isolated pulse outputs. These outputs provide a simple interface to external systems such as building management centres etc.

Pulse outputs take the form of an isolated, normally-open, volt free contact pair. Each pulse is effectively a contact closure (low resistance) for a short period of time 't'.

Pulses occur at the end of every 'T' counts of the associated energy register. 'T' does not take into account the scaling (e.g. kWh) or decimal points of the register.

The pulse rate 'T' may be programmed independently for each output using the Modbus interface (ref section 5) or in programming mode (ref section 4). The actual energy associated with a single pulse depends on the user programmed CT and PT primary settings.

The Pulse ON time is scaled as 't' x 100ms and is factory set as 1 (100ms). This is recognised as the industry standard and is suitable for most external systems. If longer pulses are required 't' may be programmed using the Modbus interface (ref section 5). An example of a MultiRail set with 'T' = 5 and 't' = 1 and Energy scaled as 999999.9 kWh is shown below:

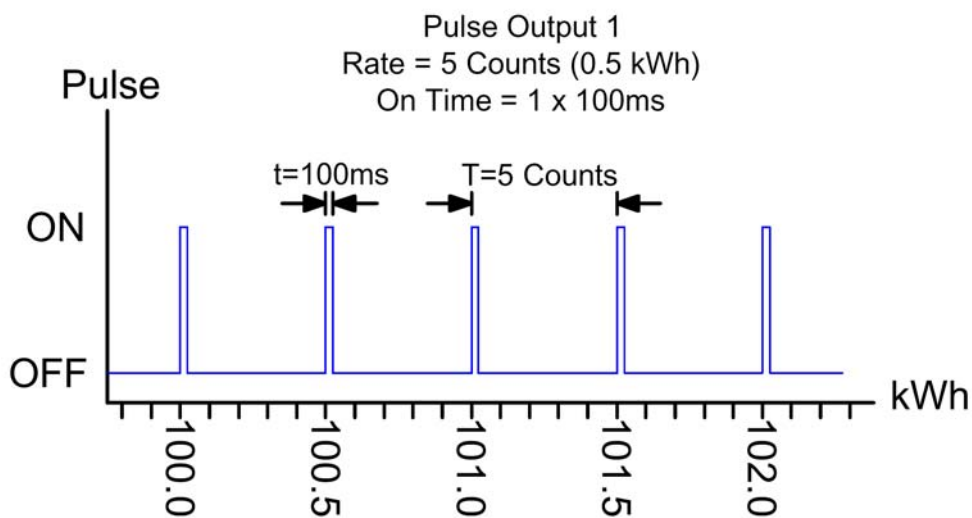


Figure 2.2 Example of Pulse Output scaling

## Meter Operation

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Connection of the Pulse outputs is shown in the diagram below. The switches shown are internal to the meter and are fully isolated at 2.5kV from the meters measurement circuit. The switches are isolated at 50V from each other.

External components, such as pull up resistors, may be required. For further information on connection refer to the documentation for the external system

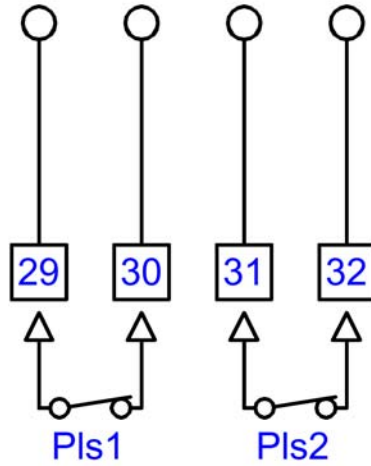


Figure 2.3 Pulse Output Connection

## 3. Installation

### 3.1 Rail Mounting

The MultiRail is housed in an enclosure conforming to DIN standard 43880, 6 Modules wide (106mm). The unit is therefore compatible with a number of standard DIN distribution systems with 45mm cut-outs. The unit may be mounted by itself or alongside other standard units such as timers, circuit breakers etc. The MultiRail should be mounted on a symmetric 35mm DIN rail of minimum length 106mm.

### 3.2 CT Connections (I1-I3)

The MultiRail is designed for use with current transformers (CTs). Recommended types should conform to Class 1 per IEC 185. The secondary of the CT should be specified to suit the input rating defined on the meter label. Cables used for the current circuit should have a maximum conductor size of  $4.0\text{mm}^2$  and should be kept as short as possible to reduce cable losses loading the CT secondary.

CT Inputs to the meter are isolated from each other and all other parts of the circuit. This allows use on a wide variety of systems including those requiring common and/or earthed CT secondaries.

**WARNING :**

**NEVER** leave the secondary of a current transformer open circuit while a primary current flows. In this condition dangerous voltages may be produced at the secondary terminals.

# Installation

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## 3.3 Voltage Connections (Vn, V1-V3)

Cables used for the voltage measurement circuit should be insulated to a minimum of 600V AC and have a minimum current rating of 250mA. The maximum conductor size is 4.0mm<sup>2</sup>.

External protection fuses are recommended for the voltage measurement inputs. These should be rated at 160mA maximum, Type F, and should be able to withstand voltages greater than the maximum input to the meter.

## 3.4 Auxiliary Mains Supply (L & N)

The MultiRail uses an isolated auxiliary mains supply separate from the voltage measurement inputs. This may be connected separately or in parallel with the measurement inputs providing the ratings detailed on the instrument label are not exceeded.

Separate connection of the auxiliary mains is required, for example, when :

- A suitable supply voltage is not available locally.
- Measurement voltages are expected to vary over a wide range
- A backup supply is required to maintain meter display

**WARNING :**

The auxiliary mains supply to one or more MultiRail units should incorporate appropriately rated safety fusing.

**External fusing** of the auxiliary supply is recommended, to protect the meter from damage during fault conditions. The fuse should be chosen to suit meter ratings as detailed on the instrument label. The fuse rupture current should be rated at 100mA for a single MultiRail. Type T fuses are recommended to prevent nuisance blowing during short term supply transients.

### 3.5 Connection Schematics

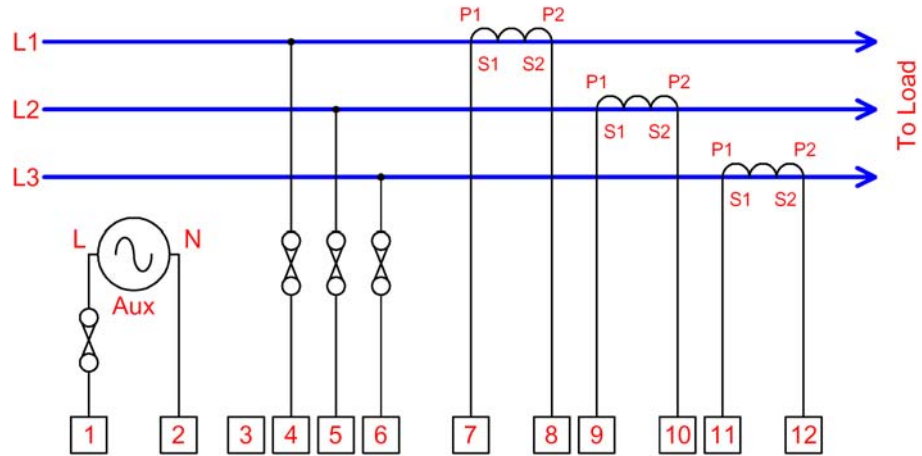


Figure 3-1 3-Phase 3-Wire (3CTs)

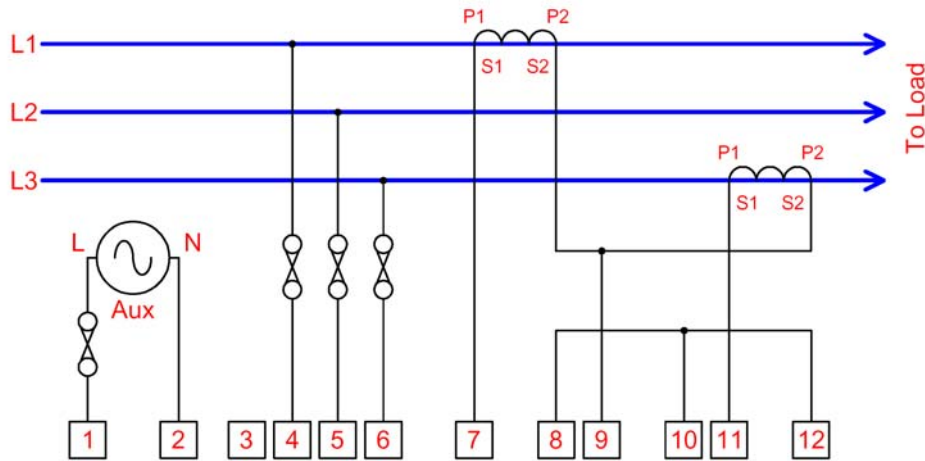


Figure 3-2 3-Phase 3-Wire (2CTs) <sup>1</sup>

**Note 1 :** 3-Phase 3-Wire (2CT) Connection is not suitable for Balance Current Measurements.

# Installation

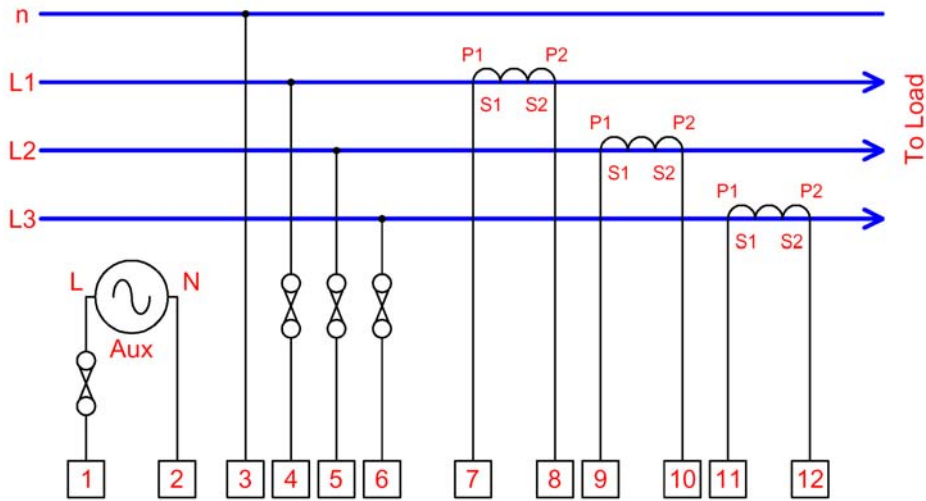


Figure 3-3 3-Phase 4-Wire

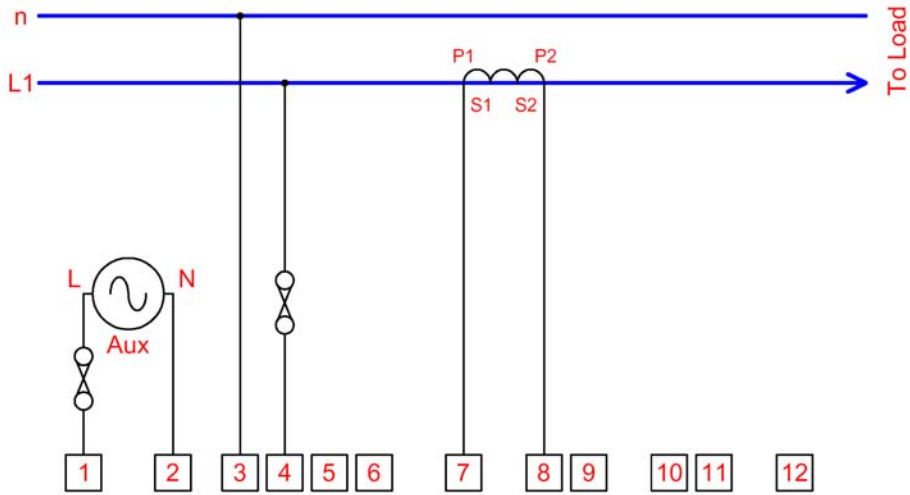


Figure 3-4 Single Phase



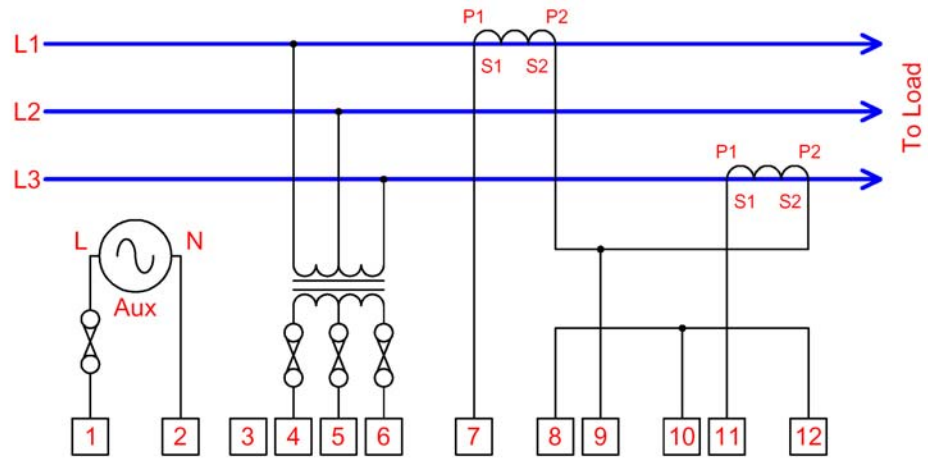


Figure 3-5 3 Phase 3 Wire Using Potential Transformers

## 4. Programming

### 4.1 Description

The MultiRail is designed for use in a wide variety of systems. A range of programmable features allow the unit to be set-up for a specific application. Programming is available using the front panel keypad and display while the unit is operational. Programming may also be performed using the RS485 Modbus serial interface (refer to section 5).

### 4.2 Entering and Exiting Programming Mode

To enter programming, Press **I** and **E** together and hold for 5 seconds.

When all user programmable settings are complete, Press **I** and **E** together and hold for 2 seconds to return to measurement mode.

### 4.3 Programming Keys

During programming mode the standard keys **V**, **P** and **E** have different functions. These are depicted by the symbols adjacent to each keys  $\Delta$ ,  $\nabla$  and  $\leftarrow$  respectively.

In general the  $\Delta$  key is used to increase a value. The speed of increase is greater if the key is held pressed for longer periods of time.

In general the  $\nabla$  key is used to decrease a value. The speed of decrease is greater if the key is held pressed for longer periods of time.

The  $\leftarrow$  key is used to confirm a displayed value. This functions similarly to the ENTER key on a PC keyboard.

The  $\leftarrow$  key must be released for 1 second after each single operation before it may be used again. This is to prevent unwanted entries due to key bounce or inadvertent double pressing.

## 4.4 Setting The CT Primary Current

The first item in the programming menu allows the user to set the CT Primary current, in the range 5A to 6500A, to match the primary of the current transformers connected to the meter inputs. The secondary of the CTs must match the nominal input current specified on the meter label. Once set, the constant acts as a multiplying factor in the internal calculation of relevant measurements.



Figure 4.1 Setting The CT Primary Constant

Press  $\uparrow$  to increase the CT Primary Constant in steps of 1 Amp.

Press  $\downarrow$  to decrease the CT Primary Constant in steps of 1 Amp.

Press  $\leftarrow$  when done to move to the next menu item.

# Programming

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## 4.5 Setting The PT Primary Voltage

The next item in the programming menu allows the user to set the PT Primary line-line voltage, in the range 60V to 50,000V, to match the primary of the potential transformers connected to the meter inputs. The secondary of the PTs must match the nominal line-line input voltage specified on the meter label. If no potential transformers are fitted the PT setting must match the nominal line-line input voltage specified on the meter label.



Figure 4.1 Setting The PT Primary Constant

Press  to increase the PT Primary Constant in steps of 1 Volt.

Press  to decrease the PT Primary Constant in steps of 1 Volt.

Press  when done to move to the next menu item.

## 4.6 Setting Pulse Output 1 Rate

Isolated pulse output #1 may be set to provide a single pulse at the end of every N (N=1-250) increments of the Wh register irrespective of display scaling and decimal point. This allows the unit to be configured to suit a wide variety of data logging, building management type applications.

During programming, the Pulse Output #1 Rate is displayed scaled as the Wh register for convenience. A display of *PL 1 10.0 kWh* indicates that a single pulse will occur, at output #1, at the end of each 10 kWh.



Figure 4.2 Setting The Pulse Output #1 Rate

Press  $\uparrow$  to increase the Pulse output rate steps of 1 register increment.

Press  $\downarrow$  to decrease the Pulse output rate steps of 1 register increment.

Press  $\leftarrow$  when done to move to the next menu item.

# Programming

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## 4.7 Setting Pulse Output 2 Rate

Isolated pulse output #2 may be set to provide a single pulse at the end of every N (N=1-250) increments of the varh register irrespective of display scaling and decimal point. This allows the unit to be configured to suit a wide variety of data logging, building management type applications.

During programming, the Pulse Output #2 Rate is displayed scaled as the varh register for convenience. A display of *PL 2 10.0 kvarh* indicates that a single pulse will occur, at output #2, at the end of each 10 kvarh.



Figure 4.3 Setting The Pulse Output #1 Rate

Press  $\uparrow$  to increase the Pulse output rate steps of 1 register increment.

Press  $\downarrow$  to decrease the Pulse output rate steps of 1 register increment.

Press  $\leftarrow$  when done to move to the next menu item.

## 4.8 Setting The Ampere/Voltage Demand Period

The averaging period used in calculation of Ampere and Voltage Rolling Demand (ref. Section 2.1.1.1) may be set in the range 10-2500 seconds (steps of 10s). This period may be selected to set a convenient filter for short term fluctuations in input power, as required.

During programming, the Average Period is displayed in seconds.



Figure 4.4 Setting Ampere/Voltage Demand Period

Press  $\uparrow$  to increase the Averaging Period by 10 seconds.

Press  $\downarrow$  to decrease the Averaging Period by 10 seconds.

Press  $\leftarrow$  when done to move to the next menu item.

# Programming

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## 4.9 Setting The kW Rolling Average Period

The averaging period used in calculation of kW Rolling Demand (ref. Section 2.1.1.1) may be set in the range 1-60 minutes. This period may be selected to match specific standards, or to set a convenient filter for short term fluctuations in input power, as required.

During programming, the Average Period is displayed in minutes.



Figure 4.5 Setting kW Rolling Demand Period

Press  to increase the Averaging Period by 1 minute.

Press  to decrease the Averaging Period by 1 minute.

Press  when done to move to the next menu item.




## 4.10 Setting Modbus Address

Each MultiRail on a single Modbus network must have a unique address (Modbus ID). The programming menu may be use to select an address in the range 1-247. For more information on the Modbus protocol refer to section 5.

During programming, the Modbus Address is displayed as shown.



Figure 4.6 Setting the Modbus Address

Press  to increase the Address by 1.

Press  to decrease the Address by 1.

Press  when done to move to the next menu item.

# Programming

---

## 4.11 Setting Modbus Baud Rate

Each MultiRail on a single Modbus network must be set to communicate at the same baud rate (data bits per second). The programming menu may be use to select a baud rate of 4800, 9600 or 19200 bits per second. For more information on serial communications refer to section 5.

During programming, the baud rate is displayed in bits per second as shown.



Figure 4.7 Setting the Baud Rate

Press  to increase the Address by 1.

Press  to decrease the Address by 1.

Press  when done to move to the next menu item.

## **5. Modbus Communication**

### **5.1 Description**

The MultiRail provides a two wire (half duplex) RS485 serial communications interface to external systems. This allows remote reading and programming of the meter by a host computer (e.g. PC).

The communication protocol used is a subset of Modicon's Modbus enabling use of standard 'off-the-shelf' software packages and connection to standard controllers.

#### **5.1.1 Communication Address**

Each MultiRail on a Modbus serial communication network must be assigned a unique address between 1 and 247. This is carried out in programming mode as described in Section 4. If two or more meters, connected in a multi-drop network have the same address, data on the network will be corrupted and communication will fail.

#### **5.1.2 Data Format**

The MultiRail uses a fixed data format for serial communications:

1 Start Bit	8 Data Bits	1 Stop Bit
-------------	-------------	------------

The 8 data bits are always transmitted least significant bit first. This data byte is binary coded.

The baud rate is programmable as **4800, 9600, or 19200 baud**. This is carried out in programming mode as described in Section 4.

# Communication

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## 5.2 RS485

RS485 communication on the MultiRail enables connection of up to 128 meters on a single pair of wires (247 with repeaters). This pair is used for transmission and reception with each meter (and the host) automatically switching data direction. The host should be fitted with an RS485 driver (or converter) capable of operation in two wire mode (half duplex).

PC operation in RS485 two-wire mode usually requires software control of the data direction. This controls the line drivers connected to the bus at the host serial port. This direction control requires high speed operation and may be problematic under certain multi-tasking operating systems such as Windows. It is advisable to check with the software vendor before selecting software direction control as the mode of operation. If software data direction control is not suitable, RS232-RS485 converters are available for standard PCs, which carry out automatic hardware direction control. For more information on these contact your distributor.

Each Modbus serial transaction is preceded by a device address allowing the host to temporarily communicate with a specific meter on the bus. Certain commands allow the host to communicate with all meters simultaneously. These commands are known as **broadcasts** and use address 0.

### 5.2.1 RS485 Connection

#### 5.2.1.1 Cable Selection

A dedicated, screened twisted pair cable is required to provide a basic RS485 connection. A second twisted pair may be used for 0V connection if required.

The cable should be chosen to suit the data rate and maximum length to be installed. The EIA RS-422/485-A standard provides curves that relate cable length to data rate for 24 AWG screened, twisted pair, telephone cable with a shunt capacitance of 50pf/m. For baud rates up to 19,200 the standard suggests a maximum length of 1200m for this type of cable. If other types of cable are to be used it is recommended that the cable supplier is consulted as to the suitability for use with RS485 to 19,200 baud.

## 5.2.1.2 Signal 0V and Cable Shield

A signal 0V termination is provided on each meter. Although RS485 does not strictly require a signal 0V, it is recommended this be connected as shown in the diagram below. This creates a known reference for the isolated RS485 system thereby reducing potential common mode errors in the meter's driver circuit.

A cable shield is used to attenuate noise picked up from external sources. This should be continuous, and cover as much of the signal pairs as possible. It is recommended that the shield should be connected to ground at the host only.

## 5.2.1.3 Terminating Resistors

In order to minimise signal errors due to noise over long cable lengths, terminating resistors may be fitted. These match the RS485 device impedance to that of the cable. Two 120 ohm resistors, one at the host port terminals and the other at the most remote meter terminals are recommended for this purpose.

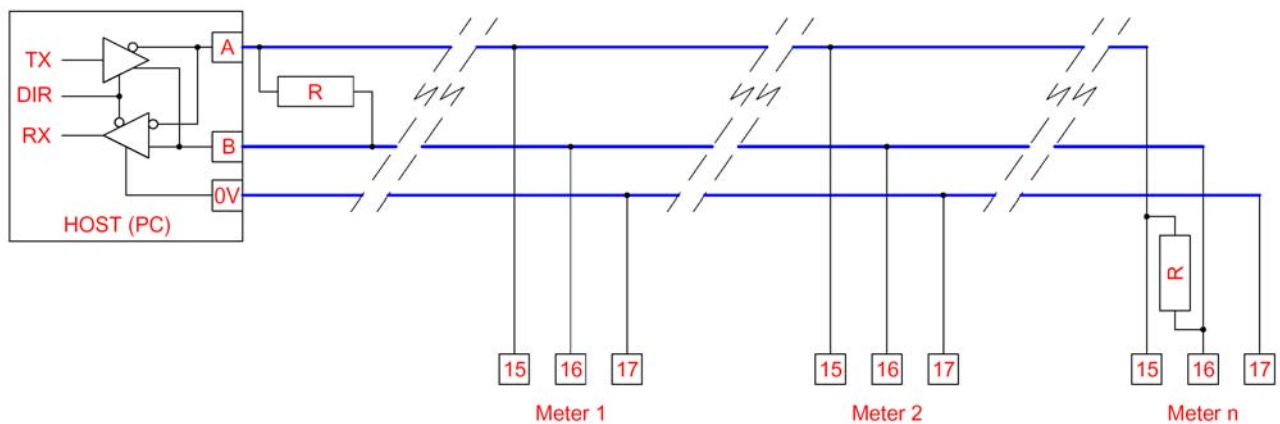


Figure 5-1 Basic RS485 Connection

## 5.2.1.4 Connection To Meters

The bus should be taken to meters at each location for termination, using the meter terminals as a loop in-out connection. The use of spurs should be avoided wherever possible.

# Communication

## 5.2.1.5 Biasing the RS485 System

When an RS485 system is not communicating all outstations are in high impedance listen mode. In this state no active drivers are present and the bus floats to an unknown state. The logic levels at the output stage of each meter's RS485 circuit will remain at the level of the last bit received. Recommended practice for RS485 networks suggests biasing of the two wires to ensure a known idle state for the networks receivers. Although biasing is not essential it can often provide a solution to a problematic system.

Biasing normally consists of a pull up (usually to an isolated 5V dc supply) and a pull down resistor. The MultiRail has no internal biasing and so connections should be made externally at a single convenient point in the network. A 5V dc external supply with 470Ω resistors is adequate.

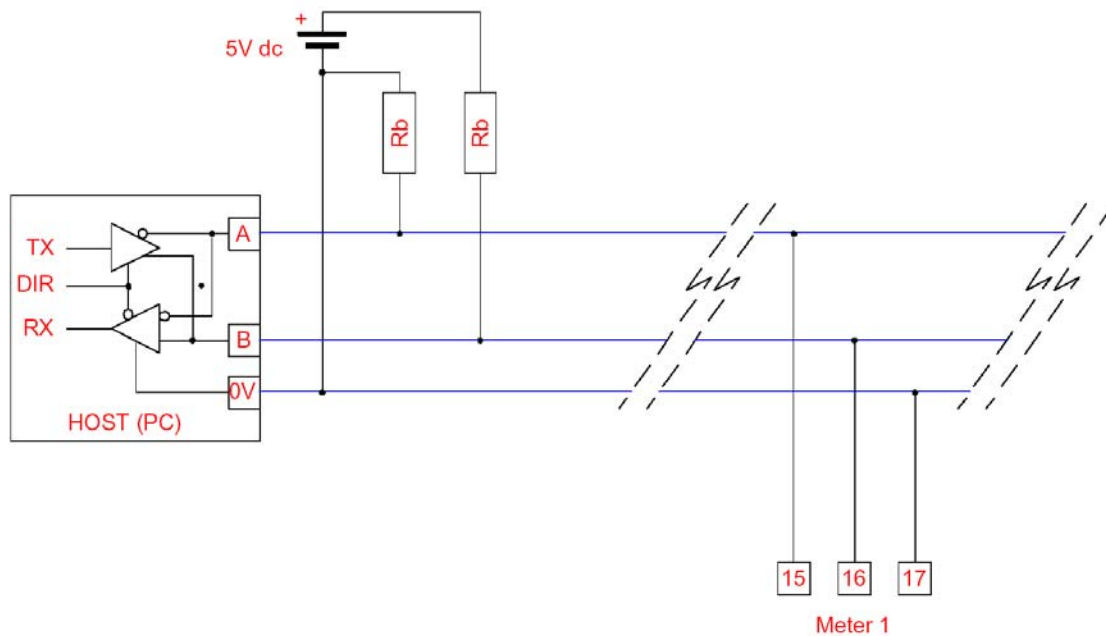


Figure 5-2 RS485 Biasing Connection

## 5.3 Modbus Protocol

### 5.3.1 An Introduction To Modbus

A communication protocol defines a set of commands and data formats which will be recognised by all compatible equipment connected on a system. The protocol effectively forms a communication language.

The MultiRail utilises a subset of Modicon's 'Modbus' standard protocol. This protocol was originally developed for use by programmable logic controllers (PLCs). It defines a set of commands for reading and/or writing data to devices connected on the bus.

Modbus is a master-slave protocol with all transactions initiated by a single host (e.g. a PC). A single transaction commences with the host transmission of a command packet followed by a slave (MultiRail) reply after a short delay for processing the command.

Command packets consist of an address, a command identifier, data and a checksum for error detection. Each slave device continually monitors the bus looking for activity. Command packets are detected by all slaves but may be acted upon only by the device whose address matches that transmitted.

The host may transmit a **broadcast command**, which uses address 0 to contact all devices on the network. In this instance all slaves act on the command but none of them may reply. This type of command may be useful, for example, in synchronising energy register reset on all meters.

The full Modbus protocol consists of many commands and modes of operation to suit a variety of controllers and applications. The MultiRail utilises only a few commands and a single transmission mode to perform many functions relevant to metering.

# Communication

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## 5.3.2 RTU. Transmission Mode

The RTU (Remote Terminal Unit) mode is utilised by the MultiRail because it provides the most efficient throughput of data at any particular baud rate.

In RTU mode, the start and end of each message is marked by a silent period of at least 3.5 character periods (Approx. 3.5ms @ 9600 baud). This is shown in the RTU message frame in Figure 5-3 below.

START	ADDRESS	FUNCTION	DATA	CRC	END
SILENT PERIOD	8 BITS	8 BITS	n x 8 BITS	16 BITS	SILENT PERIOD

**Figure 5-3 RTU Framing**

The host (PC) initiates all transactions. Slave devices continuously monitor the network, looking for messages framed by silent periods. The first character detected, after a silent period, is assumed to be an address byte and is compared to the meters internal address (zero for broadcasts). An addressed slave reads the remainder of the message and acts upon it as required.

A slave tests the message to determine it's validity and uses the transmitted checksum (CRC) to detect communication errors. A slave will only act on valid messages, received without error, specifically addressed to it.



## ADDRESS

Modbus defines a full set of slave addresses in the range 0-247. MultiRail devices may be assigned addresses in the range 1-247. Address 0 is retained for broadcast commands which are handled by all slaves. When a slave responds to a command it places its own address in the reply message.

## FUNCTION

The function code is a single byte telling the device what type of operation to perform. Valid Modbus codes are in the range 1-255 decimal but the MultiRail handles a subset of these as summarised below.

Function code	Operation	Broadcast
03	Read Multiple Registers	No
04	Read Multiple Registers	No
06	Preset A Single Register	Yes
08	Loop Back Diagnostic	No
16	Preset Multiple Registers	Yes

Figure 5-4 Function Code Summary

## DATA FIELD

Data from the host contains additional information for the remote device specific to the command. For example the data field may specify which meter readings are required or new values for energy registers. Data from a slave may contain meter readings or other information requested by the host.

The size of the data field varies depending on command type and usage. The data format may also vary from one command to another to suit the application.

Instantaneous readings for example are transmitted as 2-byte Integers, whereas energy readings are formatted as 4-byte Long Integers. Data is always transmitted with the most significant byte first. Data formatting is described in more detail in the following sections.

# Communication

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## 5.3.3 CRC ERROR CHECKING

A 16 bit CRC (*Cyclic Redundancy Check*) field is tagged on to the end of all messages. This field is the result of a CRC calculation performed on the message contents. The CRC field is used by the host and receiving devices alike to determine the validity of the entire message string. A receiving device recalculates the CRC and compares it to the value contained in the message. A slave device ignores a message if the two values do not match.

### Note

Use of the CRC is essential when communicating in noisy environments to reduce the effects of erroneous bit errors. The meter will not reply to commands with a CRC in error and the host should re-transmit the command after a pre-determined time-out period. If the host receives a string with a CRC in error the transaction should be re-initiated.

The CRC is calculated on all bytes of a message from the address to the last data byte inclusively. Each bit of the message is processed through the CRC calculation starting with the first bit of the address. The Modbus standard method of CRC calculation requires reversal of the data bytes as they are fed serially through the bit processing routines. A simpler method involves swapping the low and high order bytes of the CRC integer at the end of the calculation. This is shown in the following routine.

The calculation is performed as follows:

1. Load a 16 Bit register (“CRC Register”) with FFFF Hex. (All 1’s).
2. Exclusive-OR the first 8 Bits of the message with the low-order byte of the CRC register. Put the result in the CRC register.
3. Shift the CRC register one bit to the right (divide by 2), filling the MSB with a zero.
4. If the bit shifted out in 3 is a 1, Exclusive-OR the CRC register with the value A001 Hex.
5. Repeat steps 3 and 4 until 8 shifts have been performed and the bits tested. A single byte has thus been processed.
6. Repeat steps 2 to 5 using the next 8 bit byte of the message until all bytes have been processed.
7. The final contents of the CRC register is tagged on to the end of the message with the most significant byte first.
8. Swap the low and high order bytes of the integer result

An implementation of the CRC calculation in C code is shown below :

# Communication

---

```
unsigned int check_sum(unsigned char *buff, char start, char bytes)
{
    char byte_cnt, bit_cnt;          /* loop counters */
    unsigned int crc_reg;           /* Result register */
    unsigned int CRCHi, CRCLO; /*Low and high order bytes of the crc*/

    crc_reg = 0xFFFF;              /* Set the CRC register to all 1's */

    /* Repeat for each byte of sub string */
    for(byte_cnt=start; byte_cnt<(bytes+start); byte_cnt++)
    {
        crc_reg = crc_reg ^ (unsigned int)buff[byte_cnt]; /*EXOR CRC & Next Byte*/

        /* Test each bit of the CRC */
        for(bit_cnt=0; bit_cnt<8; bit_cnt++)
        {
            if(crc_reg & 0x0001)
            {
                crc_reg = crc_reg >> 1; /* IF LSB=1 EXOR CRC with A001H */
                crc_reg = crc_reg ^ 0xA001; /* Then shift CRC toward LSB */
            }
            else crc_reg = crc_reg >> 1; /* ELSE Shift CRC towards LSB */
        }
    }
    CRCLO=crc_reg>>8; /*Swap the low and high order bytes of the crc result*/
    CRCHi=crc_reg<<8;
    crc_reg = CRCLO+CRCHi;
    return crc_reg;                /* Final CRC register Result */
}
```

## 5.4 MultiRail Data Tables

Data in the MultiRail is arranged in several tables for convenience. Individual tables contain like information. Table data may be read only (e.g. instantaneous readings) or read/write access (e.g. CT primary).

Data in each table is pointed to in a Modbus command by two consecutive data address bytes. The first byte defines the table number and the second byte the offset of the data in the table. For example, 'address 2 , 1' would access Table 2, Entry 1 (3-Phase kWh ). The Modbus standard defines data addresses using a 16-bit integer. In the case of the MultiRail the high byte of this integer is represents the table number and the low byte the offset. A Modbus integer address may be calculated as:

$$\text{Modbus Data Address} = (256 \times \text{Table No}) + \text{Table Offset}$$

### SIGNED INTEGER

Signed Integers are 16 bit values transmitted as two 8 bit bytes. The most significant byte is always transmitted first. These values vary in the range -32767 to +32767 although some registers have a limited range of acceptable values. The most significant bit defines the sign: 0=positive; 1=negative.

### UNSIGNED INTEGER

Unsigned Integers are 16 bit values transmitted as two 8 bit bytes. The most significant byte is always transmitted first. These values vary in the range 0 to 65535 although some registers have a limited range of acceptable values.

### UNSIGNED LONG INTEGERS (Unsigned Long)

Unsigned long integers are 32 bit values transmitted as four 8-bit bytes. The most significant byte is always transmitted first. These values vary in the range 0 to 4294967295 although energy registers in the MultiRail have a limited range, 0-9999999.

# Communication

---

## 5.4.1 Table 2 Accumulated Energy Readings

Offset	Address	Contents	Format	Bytes	Words	Access
0	512	Energy Scale Hi	Unsigned Long	4	2	Read Only
1	513	Energy Scale Lo				
2	514	kWh Hi	Unsigned Long	4	2	Read/Write
3	515	kWh Lo				
4	516	kVAh Hi	Unsigned Long	4	2	Read/Write
5	517	kVAh Lo				
6	518	kvarh (Ind) Hi	Unsigned Long	4	2	Read/Write
7	519	kvarh (Ind) Lo				
8	520	kvarh (Cap) Hi	Unsigned Long	4	2	Read/Write
9	521	kvarh (Cap) Lo				

### 5.4.1.1 Energy Registers

Energy registers in a MultiRail are stored in Modbus Table 2 as unsigned long integers.

### 5.4.1.2 Writing to Energy Registers

Function 6 or 16 may be used to write to the energy registers in Table 2. Function 6 allows access to the upper and lower integers of the 4-byte long individually. Upper integers have a maximum write value of 0x0F preventing out of range data being sent to the MultiRail.

Function 16 may be used to access a number of long integers using a single command. This is most useful for setting all registers to 0 simultaneously. Valid commands must send an even number of integers (2 integers per long) starting at an even address in Table 2 (Start of a register). Failure to follow these basic rules will result in an exception response (ref. Section 5.4.13).

## 5.4.1.3 Energy Scaling

Energy readings from the MultiRail are stored as unsigned long integer values with no decimal point or legend (e.g. kWh or MWh). A single scaling factor is provided to enable conversion of the raw data to real numbers in basic unit form (Wh, VAh or varh). The scaling factor is a constant value calculated in the MultiRail as a function of CT and PT Primary programming. To convert raw data to real numbers:

$$E = L \times 10^{(K-3)}$$

**Where:**

- L** = Long Integer number
- K** = Energy Scaling Factor
- E** = Scaled Energy Result

### Example:

If the meter is programmed with CT Primary = 50 Amps and PT Primary = 415V:

The Energy Scaling Factor would be transmitted as: K=5

Energy Registers would be transmitted as: 9999999

Wh would be calculated as  $9999999 \times 10^{(5-3)} = 9999999 \times 100 = 999999900$  Wh

VAh would be calculated as  $9999999 \times 10^{(5-3)} = 9999999 \times 100 = 999999900$  VAh

varh would be calculated as  $9999999 \times 10^{(5-3)} = 9999999 \times 100 = 999999900$  varh

# Communication

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## 5.4.2 Table 11 Instantaneous Meter Values

Offset	Address	Contents	Format	Bytes	Words	Access
0	2816	kW 3-Ph	Signed Integer	2	1	Read Only <sup>4</sup>
1	2817	kVA 3-Ph	Signed Integer	2	1	Read Only <sup>4</sup>
2	2818	kvar 3-Ph	Signed Integer	2	1	Read Only <sup>4</sup>
3	2819	PF 3-Ph	Signed Integer	2	1	Read Only
4	2820	Frequency	Signed Integer	2	1	Read Only
5	2821	Phase 1 Volts	Signed Integer	2	1	Read Only <sup>2</sup>
6	2822	Phase 1 Amps	Signed Integer	2	1	Read Only <sup>1</sup>
7	2823	Phase 1 kW	Signed Integer	2	1	Read Only <sup>4</sup>
8	2824	Phase 2 Volts	Signed Integer	2	1	Read Only <sup>2</sup>
9	2825	Phase 2 Amps	Signed Integer	2	1	Read Only <sup>1</sup>
10	2826	Phase 2 kW	Signed Integer	2	1	Read Only <sup>4</sup>
11	2827	Phase 3 Volts	Signed Integer	2	1	Read Only <sup>2</sup>
12	2828	Phase 3 Amps	Signed Integer	2	1	Read Only <sup>1</sup>
13	2829	Phase 3 kW	Signed Integer	2	1	Read Only <sup>4</sup>
14	2830	Phase 1 PF	Signed Integer	2	1	Read Only
15	2831	Phase 2 PF	Signed Integer	2	1	Read Only
16	2832	Phase 3 PF	Signed Integer	2	1	Read Only
17	2833	Ph1-Ph2 Volts	Signed Integer	2	1	Read Only <sup>3</sup>
18	2834	Ph2-Ph3 Volts	Signed Integer	2	1	Read Only <sup>3</sup>
19	2835	Ph3-Ph1 Volts	Signed Integer	2	1	Read Only <sup>3</sup>
20	2836	Neutral Current	Signed Integer	2	1	Read Only <sup>1</sup>
21	2837	Amps Scale	Signed Integer	2	1	Read Only
22	2838	Ph Volts Scale	Signed Integer	2	1	Read Only
23	2839	Ln Volts Scale	Signed Integer	2	1	Read Only
24	2840	Power Scale	Signed Integer	2	1	Read Only

- Notes:**
1. Use 'Amps Scale' at Address 2837 to convert to real Amps.
  2. Use 'Ph Volts Scale' at Address 2838 to convert to real Volts.
  3. Use 'Ln Volts Scale' at Address 2839 to convert to real Volts.
  4. Use 'Power Scale' at Address 2840 to convert to real W, VA or var.



### 5.4.3 Table 12 Additional Instantaneous Values

Offset	Address	Contents	Format	Bytes	Words	Access
0	3072	Phase 1 kVA	Signed Int	2	1	Read <sup>4</sup>
1	3073	Phase 2 kVA	Signed Int	2	1	Read <sup>4</sup>
2	3074	Phase 3 kVA	Signed Int	2	1	Read <sup>4</sup>
3	3075	Phase 1 kvar	Signed Int	2	1	Read <sup>4</sup>
4	3076	Phase 2 kvar	Signed Int	2	1	Read <sup>4</sup>
5	3077	Phase 3 kvar	Signed Int	2	1	Read <sup>4</sup>

**Notes:** 4. Use 'Power Scale' at Address 2840 to convert to real W, VA or var.

### 5.4.4 Table 13 Peak Values

Offset	Address	Contents	Format	Bytes	Words	Access
0	3328	PK Hold I1	Signed Int	2	1	Read/Write <sup>5</sup>
1	3329	PK Hold I2	Signed Int	2	1	Read/Write <sup>5</sup>
2	3330	PK Hold I3	Signed Int	2	1	Read/Write <sup>5</sup>
3	3331	PK Hold V1	Signed Int	2	1	Read/Write <sup>6</sup>
4	3332	PK Hold V2	Signed Int	2	1	Read/Write <sup>6</sup>
5	3333	PK Hold V3	Signed Int	2	1	Read/Write <sup>6</sup>
6	3334	Peak kW MD	Signed Int	2	1	Read/Write <sup>7</sup>
7	3335	MD Period	Signed Int	2	1	Read/Write
8	3336	kW MD	Signed Int	2	1	Read Only <sup>7</sup>

**Notes:** 5. Use 'Amps Scale' at Addr 2837 to convert to real peak hold Amps.

6. Use 'Ph Volts Scale' at Addr 2838 to convert to real peak hold V.

7. Peak kW MD & MD are scaled as 3-Phase kW/10

# Communication

---

## 5.4.4.1 Instantaneous/Peak Values

Instantaneous and peak measurements in a MultiRail are stored in Modbus Tables 11-13 as Signed integers. Negative values are used for per phase/system kvar and PF readings to represent capacitive loads. All other values will be returned as positive integers.

## 5.4.4.2 Scaling Instantaneous/Peak Values

Instantaneous readings from the MultiRail are provided as signed integer values with no decimal point or legend (e.g. kW or MW). Scaling factors are provided to enable conversion of the raw data to real numbers in basic unit form (amps, volts, watts, VA, or var). These scaling factors are constant values calculated in the MultiRail as a function of CT and PT Primary programming.

To convert raw data to real numbers:

$$R = I \times 10^{(K-3)}$$

**Where:**

- I** = Integer number
- K** = Relevant Scaling Factor
- R** = Real number result

### Example:

If the meter is programmed with CT Primary = 50Amps and PT Primary = 415V:

Scaling factors would be as: I Scale=1, Vph Scale=2, VLL Scale=2, P Scale=4

Integer Values would be transmitted as: 5000, 2400, 4157 and 3600

Amps would be calculated as  $5000 \times 10^{(1-3)} = 5000/100 = 50.00A$

Phase Volts would be calculated as  $2400 \times 10^{(2-3)} = 2400/10 = 240.0V$

Line Volts would be calculated as  $4157 \times 10^{(2-3)} = 4157/10 = 415.7V$

3-Ph Power would be calculated as  $3600 \times 10^{(4-3)} = 3600 \times 10 = 36000W$

Power factors are transmitted from the meter in the range -1000 to 1000 representing PF magnitudes of 0.0 to 1.000 with negative values indicating a capacitive load.

Frequency is transmitted from the meter scaled by a factor of 10. For example a measured frequency of 50.0 would be transmitted as 500.

## 5.4.5 Table 14 Meter Set-up

Offset	Address	Contents	Format	Bytes	Words	Access
0	3584	CT Primary	unsigned Int	2	1	Read/Write
1	3585	PT Primary	unsigned Int	2	1	Read/Write
2	3586	Pulse 1 Rate	unsigned Int	2	1	Read/Write
3	3587	Pulse 2 Rate	unsigned Int	2	1	Read/Write
4	3588	Baud Rate	unsigned Int	2	1	Read/Write
5	3589	Modbus ID	unsigned Int	2	1	Read/Write
6	3590	Meter Model	unsigned Int	2	1	Read Only
7	3591	Meter Type	unsigned Int	2	1	Read Only
8	3592	Meter Software	unsigned Int	2	1	Read Only
9	3593	V/I MD Period	unsigned Int	2	1	Read/Write <sup>8</sup>
10	3594	Pulse Period	unsigned Int	2	1	Read/Write <sup>8</sup>

**Notes:** 8. V/I MD Period and Pulse Period may not be written using Function 16

### 5.4.5.1 Meter Set-up Values

Information regarding the MultiRail's configuration is available in Table 14 as unsigned integers.

- **CT Primary.** (5A - 6500A) CT Primary used to scale Amps and Power values
- **PT Primary.** (60V - 50000V) PT Primary used to scale Volts and Power values
- **Pulse 1 Rate.** (1 - 255) No. of counts of kWh register per pulse (if fitted).
- **Pulse 2 Rate.** (1 - 255) No. of counts of kvarh register per pulse (if fitted).
- **Baud Rate.** (48, 96 or 192) RS485 baud rates of 4800, 9600 or 19200.
- **Modbus ID** (1 – 247). Modbus Meter Address.
- **Meter Model** A constant identifying the product range (MultiRail=150).
- **Meter Type** (=4). Used for compatibility with MultiCube. (Equivalent to type 4)
- **Meter Software** MultiRail version (e.g. 0x0014 = Version 01.04).
- **V/I MD Period** (1-255) Time period (seconds/10) for Current and Voltage Demand. Eg. A value of 6 corresponds to a demand period of 60 seconds.
- **Pulse Period** Pulse On Time x100ms for Pulse outputs 1 and 2. Eg 3 = 300ms

# Communication

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## 5.4.6 Table 15 Peak Current and Voltage Demand

Offset	Address	Contents	Format	Bytes	Words	Access
0	3840	Peak I1 MD	unsigned Int	2	1	Read/Write <sup>5</sup>
1	3841	Peak I2 MD	unsigned Int	2	1	Read/Write <sup>5</sup>
2	3842	Peak I3 MD	unsigned Int	2	1	Read/Write <sup>5</sup>
3	3843	Peak V1 MD	unsigned Int	2	1	Read/Write <sup>6</sup>
4	3844	Peak V2 MD	unsigned Int	2	1	Read/Write <sup>6</sup>
5	3845	Peak V3 MD	unsigned Int	2	1	Read/Write <sup>6</sup>

**Notes:** 5. Use 'Amps Scale' at Addr 2837 to convert to real Peak Amp Demand.

6. Use 'Ph Volts Scale' at Addr 2838 to convert to real Peak Volts Demand.

The peak values of rolling demand averages of currents and voltages are available in Table 15 as unsigned integers.

## 5.4.7 Table 16 Current and Voltage Demand

Offset	Address	Contents	Format	Bytes	Words	Access
0	4096	I1 Demand	unsigned Int	2	1	Read Only <sup>5</sup>
1	4097	I2 Demand	unsigned Int	2	1	Read Only <sup>5</sup>
2	4098	I3 Demand	unsigned Int	2	1	Read Only <sup>5</sup>
3	4099	V1 Demand	unsigned Int	2	1	Read Only <sup>6</sup>
4	4100	V2 Demand	unsigned Int	2	1	Read Only <sup>6</sup>
5	4101	V3 Demand	unsigned Int	2	1	Read Only <sup>6</sup>

**Notes:** 5. Use 'Amps Scale' at Addr 2837 to convert to real Amp Demand.

6. Use 'Ph Volts Scale' at Addr 2838 to convert to real Volts Demand.

The rolling demand averages of currents and voltages are available in Table 16 as unsigned integers.

## 5.4.8 Table 17 Current and Voltage Distortion

Offset	Address	Contents	Format	Bytes	Words	Access
0	4352	V1 % THD	unsigned Int	2	1	Read Only <sup>9</sup>
1	4353	V2 % THD	unsigned Int	2	1	Read Only <sup>9</sup>
2	4354	V3 % THD	unsigned Int	2	1	Read Only <sup>9</sup>
3	4355	I1 % THD	unsigned Int	2	1	Read Only <sup>9</sup>
4	4356	I2 % THD	unsigned Int	2	1	Read Only <sup>9</sup>
5	4357	I3 % THD	unsigned Int	2	1	Read Only <sup>9</sup>

**Notes:** 9. % THD readings are scaled x10. A value of 1000 represents 100.0%

# Communication

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## RTU Commands

### 5.4.9 Function 04 (or 03) Read Multiple Registers

#### Description

This function allows a number of registers from a meter table to be read in a single operation. This command is commonly used to obtain instantaneous, energy or set-up data from the meter. This command is not available as a *broadcast* command as it requires a return data packet from the meter.

#### Host Request

	BYTE	EXAMPLE
METER ADDRESS	1	19H
FUNCTION	2	04H
TABLE NUMBER (Address High Byte)	3	0BH
TABLE OFFSET (Address Low Byte)	4	00H
No. OF WORDS (N) (High Byte)	5	00H
No. OF WORDS (N) (Low Byte)	6	03H
CHECKSUM (High Byte)	7	B1H
CHECKSUM (Low Byte)	8	F7H

The example above shows a read of 3 consecutive Integers from the Instantaneous Data Table 11(0BH), offset 0. The meter accessed has a Modbus ID of 25 (19H).

## Meter Response

	BYTE	EXAMPLE
METER ADDRESS	1	19H
FUNCTION	2	04H
NUMBER OF BYTES (2N)	3	06H
DATA REGISTER 1 (High Byte)	4	02H
DATA REGISTER 1 (Low Byte)	5	3AH
DATA REGISTER 2 (High Byte)	6	07H
DATA REGISTER 2 (Low Byte)	7	5CH
DATA REGISTER N (High Byte)	8	07H
DATA REGISTER N (Low Byte)	9	02H
CHECKSUM (High Byte)	10	51H
CHECKSUM (Low Byte)	11	E3H

The example shows a reply of 6 bytes (3 Integers) as:

3-Ph kW = 570 (02 3A Hex)  
3-Ph kVA = 1884 (07 5C Hex)  
3-Ph kvar = 1794 (07 02 Hex)

# Communication

---

## 5.4.10 Function 06 Preset a Single Register

### Description

This function allows a single integer register in a meter table to be changed by the host. This command is commonly used to program meter parameters or to reset energy registers to zero. When broadcast (address=0) all meters on the network are addressed together but none reply.

### Host Request

	BYTE	EXAMPLE
METER ADDRESS	1	19 H
FUNCTION	2	06 H
TABLE NUMBER (Address High Byte)	3	0E H
TABLE OFFSET (Address Low Byte)	4	00 H
DATA VALUE (High Byte)	5	00 H
DATA VALUE (Low Byte)	6	C8 H
CHECKSUM (High Byte)	7	89 H
CHECKSUM (Low Byte)	8	6C H

The example above shows a value of 200 (00H C8H) written to the CT Primary register (Data Table 14, offset 0). The meter accessed has a Modbus ID of 25 (19H).



## Meter Response

	BYTE	EXAMPLE
METER ADDRESS	1	19 H
FUNCTION	2	06 H
TABLE NUMBER (Address High Byte)	3	0E H
TABLE OFFSET (Address Low Byte)	4	00 H
DATA VALUE (High Byte)	5	00 H
DATA VALUE (Low Byte)	6	C8 H
CHECKSUM (High Byte)	7	89 H
CHECKSUM (Low Byte)	8	6C H

The reply format is a copy of the command confirming its validity:

**NOTE:** This Modbus command is limited to writing 2-byte data only. Long Integer registers may be written but the meter automatically sets the upper bytes to zero.

# Communication

---

## 5.4.11 Function 08 Loop Back Diagnostic

### Description

This function provides a simple means of testing the communication network and detecting if a particular meter is present. This command is not available as a *broadcast* command as it requires a return data packet from the meter.

### Host Request

	BYTE	EXAMPLE
METER ADDRESS	1	19 H
FUNCTION	2	08 H
DIAGNOSTIC CODE (High Byte)	3	00 H
DIAGNOSTIC CODE (Low Byte)	4	00 H
DIAGNOSTIC DATA (High Byte)	5	03 H
DIAGNOSTIC DATA (Low Byte)	6	E8 H
CHECKSUM (High Byte)	7	E3 H
CHECKSUM (Low Byte)	8	6D H

The example above shows a command with a Loop Back Code of 0 and Diagnostic Data of 1000 (03H E8H). The meter accessed has a Modbus ID of 25 (19H).

## Meter Response

	BYTE	EXAMPLE
METER ADDRESS	1	19 H
FUNCTION	2	08 H
DIAGNOSTIC CODE (High Byte)	3	00 H
DIAGNOSTIC CODE (Low Byte)	4	00 H
DIAGNOSTIC DATA (High Byte)	5	03 H
DIAGNOSTIC DATA (Low Byte)	6	E8 H
CHECKSUM (High Byte)	7	E3 H
CHECKSUM (Low Byte)	8	6D H

The reply format is a copy of the command confirming its validity:

# Communication

---

## 5.4.12 Function 16 Preset Multiple Registers

### Description

This function allows a number of registers in a meter table to be set, by the host, in a single operation. When broadcast (address=0) all meters on the network are addressed together but none reply.

### Host Request

	BYTE	EXAMPLE
METER ADDRESS	1	19 H
FUNCTION	2	10 H
TABLE NUMBER (Address High Byte)	3	0D H
TABLE OFFSET (Address Low Byte)	4	03 H
NUMBER OF DATA WORDS (N) (High Byte)	5	00 H
NUMBER OF DATA WORDS (N) (Low Byte)	6	03 H
NUMBER OF DATA BYTES (2N)	7	06 H
DATA BYTE 1	8	00 H
DATA BYTE 2	9	00 H
DATA BYTE 3	10	00 H
DATA BYTE 4	11	00 H
DATA BYTE 5	12	00 H
DATA BYTE 6	13	00 H
CHECKSUM (High Byte)	14	0C
CHECKSUM (Low Byte)	15	FB

The example above simultaneously writes 00 to all three peak hold voltage registers (V1 Peak Hold = Table 13, Offset 3). The meter accessed has a Modbus ID of 25 (19H).

## Meter Response

	BYTE	EXAMPLE
METER ADDRESS	1	19 H
FUNCTION	2	10 H
TABLE NUMBER (Address High Byte)	3	0D H
TABLE OFFSET (Address Low Byte)	4	03 H
NUMBER OF DATA WORDS (High Byte)	5	00 H
NUMBER OF DATA WORDS (Low Byte)	6	03 H
CHECKSUM (High Byte)	7	71 H
CHECKSUM (Low Byte)	8	7C H

The reply confirms the data address and amount of data received.

# Communication

---

## 5.4.13 Exception Responses

When a host sends a query to an individual meter on the network it expects a normal response. In fact one of four possible events may occur as a result of the query:

- ◇ If the MultiRail receives the message with no communication errors, and can handle the query it will reply with a normal response.
- ◇ If the MultiRail does not receive the message due to a communication failure, no response will be returned and the host will eventually time-out.
- ◇ If the MultiRail receives the message but detects a communication error via its CRC, no response will be returned and the host will time-out.
- ◇ If the MultiRail receives the query with no communication errors but cannot handle the query (out of range data or address) the response will be an **Exception Response** informing the host of the nature of the error.

An Exception Response differs from a normal response in its Function Code and Data Fields.

### Exception Response

	BYTE	EXAMPLE
METER ADDRESS	1	19 H
FUNCTION	2	84 H
EXCEPTION CODE	3	02 H
CHECKSUM (High Byte)	4	42 H
CHECKSUM (Low Byte)	5	C6H

## EXCEPTION FUNCTION CODE

All normal function types have a most significant bit of 0 (< 80 Hex). In an Exception Response the meter sets the MSB to 1 (adds 80H to the received Function Type). The Function can therefore be used by the host to detect an Exception Response.

## DATA FIELD

In an Exception Response the data field is used only to return the type of error that occurred (**Exception Code**).

The MultiRail utilises the following Exception Codes:

Code	Meaning
1	Data out of range
2	Table and/or offset out of range for this function
3	Odd number of Integers written to Long Integer registers
9	Internal Error

## 6. Specification

<b>Inputs</b>	
<b>System</b>	3-Phase 3 or 4 Wire Unbalanced Load
<b>Voltage</b>	Vb. 230 / 400 Volt. 3-Phase 3 or 4 Wire Vb. 63 / 110 Volt optional Vb. 120 / 208 Volt optional Vb. 277 / 480 Volt optional
<b>Current</b>	Ib 5 Amp from external current transformers (CTs) Ib 1 Amp optional Fully Isolated (2.5kV each phase)
<b>Measurement Range</b> <b>Voltage</b> <b>Current</b> <b>Energy Registers</b>	20% to 120% 0.5% to 120% 0 – 9999999 (7 digits)
<b>Frequency Range</b> <b>Fundamental</b> <b>Harmonics</b>	45 to 65Hz Up to 20th harmonic
<b>Input Loading</b> <b>Voltage</b> <b>Current</b>	Less than 0.1 VA per phase Less than 0.1 VA per phase
<b>Overloads</b> <b>Voltage</b> <b>Current</b>	x2 for 2 seconds maximum x40 for 1.0 seconds maximum

<b>Auxiliary Supply</b>	
<b>Standard</b>	230 Volt $\pm$ 15%. 45-65Hz
<b>Options</b>	115 Volt $\pm$ 15%. 45-65Hz. (Others to order)
<b>Load</b>	5 VA Maximum



<b>Accuracy</b>	
<b>Phase Current</b>	0.2% Ib (1.0% Rdg. 0.05 Ib ≤ I <sub>ph</sub> ≤ 1.2 Ib) ±1 digit.
<b>Neutral Current</b>	0.6% Ib (2.0% Rdg. 0.05 Ib ≤ I <sub>n</sub> ≤ 1.2 Ib) ±1 digit.
<b>Phase Voltage</b>	0.2% Vb (1.0% Rdg. 0.2 Vb ≤ V <sub>ph</sub> ≤ 1.2 Vb) ±1 digit.
<b>Line-Line Voltage</b>	0.3% Vb (1.0% Rdg. 0.2 Vb ≤ V <sub>LL</sub> ≤ 1.2 Vb) ±1 digit.
<b>Phase Watts</b>	0.4% FS (1.0% Rdg. 0.05FS ≤ P ≤ 1.2FS) ±1 digit.
<b>Phase VA</b>	0.6% FS (1.5% Rdg. 0.05FS ≤ Q ≤ 1.2FS) ±1 digit.
<b>Phase var</b>	0.8% FS (2.0% Rdg. 0.05FS ≤ S ≤ 1.2FS) ±1 digit.
<b>Phase PF</b>	± 0.2 Degrees
<b>System Watts</b>	0.6% FS (1.0% Rdg. 0.05FS ≤ P ≤ 1.2FS) ±1 digit.
<b>System VA</b>	1.0% FS (1.5% Rdg. 0.05FS ≤ Q ≤ 1.2FS) ±1 digit.
<b>System var</b>	1.5% FS (2.0% Rdg. 0.05FS ≤ S ≤ 1.2FS) ±1 digit.
<b>System PF</b>	± 0.2 Degrees
<b>Frequency</b>	±0.05Hz. 45Hz ≤ F ≤ 65Hz
<b>% THD Amps</b>	± 0.5% THD 0.05 Ib ≤ I <sub>ph</sub> ≤ 1.2 Ib
<b>% THD Volts</b>	± 0.5% THD 0.2 Vb ≤ V <sub>ph</sub> ≤ 1.2 Vb
<b>Wh Register</b>	Class 1.0 EN 61036
<b>VAh Register</b>	Class 2.0
<b>varh Registers</b>	Class 2.0 IEC 1268
<b>Timebase</b>	Better than 100ppm/ deg C

# Specification

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Display	
<b>Display Type</b>	Custom stn LCD with LED backlight
<b>Data Retention</b>	10 years minimum Stores energy registers, user settings, and peaks
<b>Display Format</b>	2 Lines, 7.0mm digits + 2.5mm custom legends
<b>Display Update</b>	1 second for instantaneous readings

Serial Communications	
<b>Bus</b>	RS485 2 Wire (+ Common Recommended)
<b>RX Loading</b>	1/8 Unit load per meter (up to 247 Meters per bus)
<b>TX Drive</b>	Up to 32 Unit Loads
<b>Protocol</b>	Modbus RTU wit 16 bit CRC. (JBUS Compatible)
<b>Baud Rate</b>	User programmable 4800, 9600 or 19200.
<b>Modbus ID</b>	User programmable 1-247
<b>Latency</b>	Maximum time to reply 200ms (90% of replies in 100ms)
<b>Max Data Packet</b>	Any complete table of data (or part thereof)
<b>Command Rate</b>	New command accepted within 5ms of replying to previous

Digital (Pulse) Outputs	
<b>Function</b>	1 pulse / energy unit (Output #1=N Wh, Output #2=N varh)
<b>Scaling</b>	Settable 1-250 counts of associated register
<b>Pulse Period</b>	100ms. (2ms Rise, 2ms Fall) Programmable 100ms – 25.0s using Modbus Interface
<b>Type</b>	N/O Volt free contact. Optically isolated BIFET
<b>Contacts</b>	100mA AC/DC max, 100V AC/DC max
<b>Isolation</b>	2.5kV (50V #1 to #2)

## General

<b>Temperature</b>	
<b>Operating</b>	-10 deg C to +65 deg C
<b>Storage</b>	-25 deg C to +70 deg C
<b>Environment</b>	IP40
<b>Humidity</b>	<75% non-condensing

## Mechanical

<b>Enclosure</b>	DIN 42880 x 6 Modules ULV94-V-O
<b>Dimensions</b>	106mm x 90mm x 58mm (6 Modules wide)
<b>Weight</b>	Approx. 400g
<b>DIN Rail</b>	DIN EN 50022 106mm min. x 35mm (Symmetrical Top Hat)
<b>Terminals</b>	Rising Cage. 4.0mm <sup>2</sup> cable max









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