

Alphanumeric Pager Interface

API-8/232ME



Overview

The API-8/232 is an interface between alarm and monitoring equipment and personal pager systems or PCS messaging services. Personnel can now be notified of status changes in key equipment, while they are mobile. Inputs into the interface can be RS-232 ASCII text or contact inputs. Paging systems can be interfaced via dial-up telephone line or directly using an RS-232 serial port. The API-8/232 supports paging industry standard TAP and PET protocols.

The API-8/232 works with both RS-232 text strings and contact input points. The unit can monitor an ASCII text string from a serial printer port for eight different event types. Each event type is defined by one or two programmable keywords up to 20 characters in length. When a valid keyword(s) is detected in an ASCII text string, the interface automatically delivers the entire text string to the paging system or message service for transmission. Each event type can be directed to a different pager or group of pagers. ASCII text strings that do not contain a keyword are ignored by the interface.

Text strings transmitted by the pager can be automatically edited to ignore more than two consecutive spaces in the data string. This eliminates excessive blank spaces in paged messages, which are typically caused by printer formatting requirements. Up to 20 characters can be "masked" or deleted from a text string. These characters will not be received on the pagers. Masked characters typically include those used to format text on a printed page. When the ASCII text strings exceed the number of characters allowed per message on the paging system, they are truncated into separate blocks for transmission to the pager(s). When multiple messages are received, the unit will buffer up to 100 different 80 character messages, which will be paged in the order they were received.

Standard Features

- RS-232 ASCII text input
- Eight dry or live (0-48 Vdc) contact inputs
- Alphanumeric messages
- Alarm escalation & repetition
- Compatibility with most systems
- Built in battery charger
- PC programmable

Application

Eight optically isolated contact inputs are available for interface with external equipment. Activation of an input causes one of eight pre-programmed messages (up to 80 characters in length) to be sent to the paging system. Each of the eight inputs can direct a page to a single pager or to a group of pagers. Should an alarm remain on the system for a pre-determined period of time, the alarm escalation feature can be set to re-page the alarm. Pages can be repeated two or three times, at the users option, to ensure a page is received. The system can be programmed to send a restoration page when the input returns to its normal state. All messages and paging groups and paging options are user programmable using the supplied Windows® compatible software.

The API-8/232 can be installed upstream or downstream of other telephone equipment on the telephone line. When installed upstream of all devices, it will seize the phone line and transmit the page. When installed with a fire or security panel, the paging interface should be installed downstream of these devices. The interface will sense when the upstream equipment is not in use before using the phone line.

Field Applications

Life Safety

- Fire Detection Equipment
- Panic Button Systems
- Physical Plant

Security

- Card Access
- CCTV
- Alarm Systems

Healthcare

- Nurse Call
- Gas Alarms
- Wandering Patient Alert

Physical Plant

- Hvac
- Building Management Systems
- Boilers

Manufacturing

- Plcs
- Process Controls
- Equipment Monitoring

Essential Business Systems

- Computer Networks
- Telephone Systems

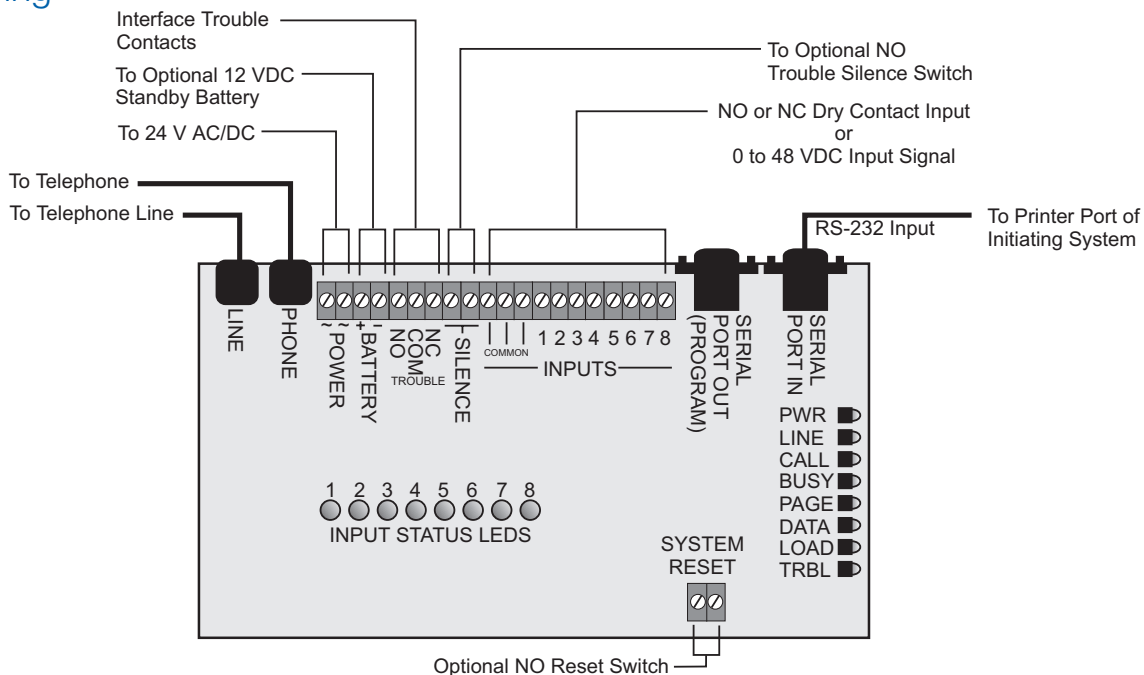
Mounting

The API-8/32 is supplied in a surface mounted enclosure. Optional battery backup power is available for 60 hours followed by one hour of operation. All telephone connections utilize RJ11 jacks, and DB-9F connectors for the RS-232 connections. The unit supervises AC power, the telephone line, and the paging system connection. A trouble relay is provided for connection to an external annunciator.

Engineering Specification

The <xx> system shall be equipped with a pocket pager interface. The interface shall be capable of receiving contact inputs or decoding messages from an ASCII text string from a standard RS-232 printer port and send this information to a radio paging or PCS messaging service. The pager interface shall be capable of RS-232 connectivity directly to a paging terminal or dial-up connectivity to a remote paging terminal or PCS messaging service. The pager interface shall be provided with 60 hours of battery backup followed by one hour of operation.

Typical Wiring



Specifications

Dimensions - API-8/232ME	10.0 L x 4.5 W x 2.0 H in (2541 L x 114 W x 51 H mm)
Operating Environment	32°F -158°F (0°C - 70°C)

Power Supply

Voltage	12 to 18 Vac; 8 to 35 Vdc
Consumption	200mA operating; 400 mA operating & charging battery
Battery	12V @ 4AH for 60 hours of standby followed by one hour of operation

Direct Connect Paging

Protocol	TAP (Telecator Alphanumeric Paging), PET (Paging Entry Terminal)
Baud Rate	1200 baud
Settings	E,7,1
Paging Retries	1-99, programmable
Trouble Supervision	Loss of power, phone line, or paging system connection. Form C trouble relay. Sounder with trouble silence terminals
LED Indicators	Power, Line, Call, Busy, Page, Load, Trouble, & eight input status
PC Requirements	Windows® 95, or NT required to program system

RS-232 Input Specifications

Connector	DB-9F
Incoming Data	RS-232, ASCII characters
Incoming Data Protocol	RS-232, TAP, COMP2
Incoming Data String	Max. 256 characters
Message Length	1-240 characters, programmable.
Incoming Data Baud Rate	600, 1200, 2400, 4800, or 9600
Incoming Data COM Settings	N,7,1 or E,7,1 or O,7,1 or N,8,1 (programmable)
Incoming Data Port	DB-9F
Event Type	Eight separate event types, programmable
Keyword Strings	Two keyword strings per event type, programmable
Keyword String Length	20 characters
Pager ID Numbers	Transmit messages to a single pager ID or different pager IDs based on keyword strings
Consecutive Spaces	Messages are packed by removing X consecutive spaces (programmable)
Character Masks	Up to 20 characters can be masked and not transmitted with the page, programmable
Header	Optional 20 character fixed message transmitted at the beginning of each page

Contact Input Specifications

Inputs	Eight, optically isolated
Input Configuration	Dry contact, or 0-48 Vdc
Input Activation	Normally Open or Normally Closed
Message Size	80 characters / condition / input
Escalation	Alarm re-paged if not acknowledged/reset within 1-60 minutes, programmable
Repetition	Messages can be re-paged two or three times consecutively, programmable

Telephone Interface

Connectors	RJ11
Line Seizure Relay	Line seizure effective on all down stream equipment
Paging system dial in number	Up to 25 characters, programmable
Paging System Access Password	Up to 20 characters, programmable
Dialing Protocol	DTMF
Paging System Baud Rate	300, 600, 1200, 2400, programmable
Paging System COM Settings	N,7,1 or E,7,1 or N,8,1; programmable
Paging System Protocol	TAP 1.8

Ordering Information

Catalog Number	Description	Ship Wt., lb (kg)
API-8/232ME	Paging System Interface with programming software, AC wall transformer, and surface mount enclosure.	11 (5)



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U.S.

T 888-378-2329

F 866-503-3996

Canada

Chubb Edwards

T 519 376 2430

F 519 376 7258

Southeast Asia

T : +65 6391 9300

F : +65 6391 9306

India

T : +91 80 4344 2000

F : +91 80 4344 2050

Australia

T +61 3 9239 1200

F +61 3 9239 1299

Europe

T +32 2 725 11 20

F +32 2 721 86 13

Latin America

T 305 593 4301

F 305 593 4300

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