



® Light Engineered Displays, Inc.

Graphic Annunciators * Water Leak Detection
Fireman's Smoke Control Panels * ARA Systems

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Frequently
Asked Questions

MNS
SERIES

MASS NOTIFICATION SYSTEM SERIES

READ THIS PRIOR TO INSTALLATION

1. What is the maximum distance for RS-485 communications ??

a. *Maximum distance will depend on using only the specified wire and the correct wiring techniques. For the MNS Series, use a 24 gauge, stranded, twisted pair with shield and drain, low capacitance, 120 ohms @ 1000 ft. With the default setting of 9600 baud, the maximum will distance will be 4000' and 30 signs to a data line.*

NOTE: An optional RS-485 repeater is available to increase the above limitations.

2. Can the data cable from multiple signs be home-run to the controller ??

a. *NO. The data cable must be routed in a "daisy-chain" manner. Individual home runs, T-taps and parallel connections will cause problems that result from reflected signals canceling active signals - thus some signs fail to activate and/or fail to keep correct time.*

3. How are the signs powered ??

a. *Different models have different requirements. Some signs are powered locally at each sign with 115 VAC, 60 Hz. Use an EXIT sign branch for power as this is usually a protected circuit and often connected to the building emergency power system. If the sign uses a plug-in transformer, install an outlet near each sign location. The transformer must be plugged-in to the AC outlet and the transformer cable must be plugged in to the jack on the back of the sign. If AC terminal blocks are provided inside the sign, then hard-wire the AC power as per local codes.*

b. *Some models require 24vdc power. This may be provided from the FACP 24v power, or other auxiliary power supply featuring battery backup sufficient for sign system needs. Check the product literature for current consumption. Make sure to use wiring of sufficient gauge to insure there is no loss of voltage all the way to the last sign connected.*

4. What is the current draw of each sign ??

a. *Check the sign product literature for voltage requirements and current consumption.*

5. What is the voltage requirement and current draw of the contact interface panel?

- a. *Standard 8 message controller operates from 24vdc and can be connected to the auxilliary power on your Fire alarm panel or Voice Evac panel.*
- b. *Powerup: 200 ma.*
- c. *Standby: 82 ma.*
- d. *Each Activated Alarm adds 6 ma.*

NOTE: When programming a system, do NOT enter "configuration mode" on the controller.