

UNIVERSAL LINK (Ulink)

Part Number: 23944

DESCRIPTION:

This interface is designed to support communications between the COMMANDseries Dispatch System and Command Alkon Batching Systems. The interface can also be used by third-party dispatch systems that communicate with Command Alkon Batching Systems, as well as for communications between the COMMANDseries Dispatch System and other batching systems that implement this protocol.

Typical information sent includes batching instructions, ticket printing information, or mix designs. The interface is also capable of supporting the return of each batch's actual weights to the dispatch system for analysis and inventory control. All transmissions are imbedded in the BISYNC protocol.

OPERATION:

Automatic

Each morning, the dispatch computer sends a WAKEUP message to each BCC (Batch Control Computer). The BCC's respond with an ACK (Acknowledgement) message. A date/time synchronization message is also sent at this time. Once a Success message is received from a BCC, the dispatching computer sends an IDLE message to put the BCC back to sleep.

Throughout the day, the dispatch system transmits information required to batch a load and print a ticket. Before sending a ticket, the dispatch computer requests batch results from the previous load.

Manual

If the dispatch system detects that a BCC is down, the dispatch system alters its ticket format for direct printing by the ticket printer, and the batch operator batches loads manually.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS:

- TCP/IP or Serial connection between the Dispatch System and each BCC.

IMPLEMENTATION:

- The interface can be implemented in two parts: (1) a one-way interface to support ticket download only; and (2) a two-way interface to support ticket and mix design downloads, as well as batch weights uploads.

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