



For Immediate Release

IDEC Bus Coupler Module Facilitates Flexible Control Signal Connectivity

The compact SX8R Bus Coupler bridges a wide range of proven I/O modules with major industrial networks—such as EtherNet/IP, Modbus TCP, and CC-Link—supporting adaptable automation designs

IDEC Corporation, Sunnyvale, CA, July 11, 2024 — IDEC Corporation announces the new SX8R Bus Coupler module, which empowers users to easily deploy I/O modules throughout equipment and systems. This supports the industry design trend of using smaller, decentralized control panels to simplify installations and reduce wiring complexity, resulting in overall cost efficiency.

The IDEC SX8R Bus Coupler is an ideal way to design distributed remote I/O systems, or to expand the I/O count for controllers with limited base unit I/O points. For example, the SX8R works natively with IDEC PLC FC6A I/O modules, which are available in over 40 models encompassing a variety of discrete and analog signal types and counts. Each SX8R supports up to 7 I/O modules on the base unit, and up to 8 additional modules with the use of an expansion power supply, for a total of up to 15 I/O modules. A single SX8R can therefore support up to 480 discrete points (input and/or output), 120 analog inputs, and/or 60 analog outputs, depending on the configuration. The maximum number of SX8R nodes possible on a network is dependent on the host unit and the protocol—for instance, this means 255 nodes for Modbus TCP, 32 nodes for EtherNet/IP when using an IDEC FC6A Plus PLC, and 16 or 8 nodes for CC-Link when using specific Mitsubishi PLC models.

Universal compatibility

Engineered for reliability and performance, the SX8R Bus Coupler Module supports major open networks, including EtherNet/IP, Modbus TCP, and CC-Link IE Field Basic, ensuring seamless integration with existing systems. This means the SX8R works well with a current setup without the need to replace other PLC makes/models, if the host device supports these major open networks. Whether upgrading existing systems or building new installations, the SX8R provides the connectivity and flexibility users need.

The SX8R features one Ethernet port for the uplink connection to the host network, and a second local Ethernet port for configuration purposes. Unlike some other bus couplers, the SX8R supports multiple protocols simultaneously.

Compact and convenient form factor

A compact form factor and direct or DIN rail mounting ensures the SX8R consumes minimal installation space, and I/O modules and the expansion power supply simply click together to save installation time. The 24V DC power connector block is detachable, and users can choose a push-in or screw terminals. With a wide operating temperature range of -25 to +65 C, the SX8R is suitable for installation in the most challenging environments, and it is backed by a three-year warranty.

Free and easy-to-use PC-based SX8R Configurator software provides a convenient way for users to make operational settings, manage project files, perform system software updates, and monitor I/O and

bus coupler status. User-friendly navigation and drag-and-drop functionality aids configuration, and settings can readily be copied and re-used on projects to reduce development time and effort. Status LEDs on the SX8R, and self-diagnostics available through the SX8R Configurator software, guides users so they can rapidly detect and correct any errors.

Reliability and performance

Remote I/O systems enhance efficiency and reliability in factory automation design. For small- to medium-sized applications in industries such as food production, packaging, material handling, machine tools, agriculture, water treatment, oil and gas, and many more, the IDEC SX8R Bus Coupler offers a powerful way to integrate trusted I/O signaling hardware with host systems using standard industrial Ethernet.

As with all its products, IDEC offers free tech support for the SX8R Bus Coupler, with no service or support contract required. For complete specifications or additional information, please contact IDEC Corporation at 800-262-IDEC (4332), or visit us online at <https://lp.idec.com/SX8R>.

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About IDEC: *IDEC Corporation is a global supplier that has provided innovative and reliable industrial automation and control products since 1945. Covering a broad range of market needs, these feature-rich and value-driven products include PLCs, human machine interfaces (HMIs), safety products and other industrial automation components. By delivering world-class products backed by personalized service and highly-rated technical support, IDEC enables design engineers to create lean, cost-effective and safe solutions to optimize their automation applications. With the acquisition of ez-Wheel, as well as the acquisition of APEM, one of the world's leading manufacturers of operator interface panels and related components, IDEC continues to enhance our customers' ability to create high-quality solutions. For additional information, visit www.IDEC.com/usa*

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