Manual

PC Card 1 x Centronics

W&T

Type 12100
Release C

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1. PC Card 1 x Centronics

The W&T PC card1x Centronics, Type 12100, provides an additional Centronics interface for your PC..

1.1 Function

The card allows you to connect a unidirectional parallel printer to a PC having ISA bus card slots. All the card functions are set using DIL switches on the card itself. The complte PC address bus width (16 address bits) is decoded to prevent collissions with other plug-in cards.

1.2 Modes

The PC card has in addition to the standard „High Speed“ mode for connecting fast printers located in close proximity to the PC a „Long Distance“ mode. In this mode you can, depending on the local environment, bridge distances of often more than 100m between computer and printer.

In this mode the signals are amplified and the transmission speed reduced to around 20,000 characters per second. By correcting the data signals and limiting the signal rise-time speed, cross-talk on the long transmission line is reduced.

The print speed is hardly diminished by this procedure, since in text mode even the fastest printer seldom can receive more characters per second.

Since the card does not have any galvanic isolation, you must always ensure that the printers and PC are provided with power from the same sub-distributor and that there no ground potential differences occur between PC and printer.

If such problems do arise, we recommend use of the galvanically isolated Centronics Line Driver Set, Model 20001. Here the isolation with an electric strength of 500 volts prevents formation of compensating currents over the data line.

1.3 Configuring the card

The functions of the PC card are configured using DIL switches. The meaning of the individual DIL switches is shown in the following table:

DIP Switch 1

Base address	SW1	SW2	SW3	SW4
0378H	off	off		
0278H	ON	off		
03BCH	off	ON		
PC Card OFF	ON	ON		
Function				
High Speed			off	
Long Distance			ON	
Unidirectional				off
Bidirectional				ON
IRQ#	**SW5**	**SW6**	**SW7**	**SW8**
7	ON	off	off	off
5	off	ON	off	off
4	off	off	ON	off
3	off	off	off	ON

1.4 Pinouts for the parallel interface

The parallel interface on the PC card is configured as a 25-pin SUB-D socket. The connector pinout is shown in the following table:

Pinout

pin#	function
1	strobe
2..9	data 0..7
10	ack
11	busy
12	paper empty
13	select
14	auto line feed
15	error
16	init
17	select in
18..25	signal GND

1.5 Technical Specifications

Base addresses:	03BCH, 0378H, 0278H
Interrupts:	wahlweise IRQ 3,4,5,7
Bus system:	ISA
Modes:	High-Speed Standard Mode Long-Distance Mode
Galvanic isolation:	None
ESD resistance:	up to 15kV per IEC 801-2, Level 4
Supply voltage:	5V DC
Idle current consumption:	approx. 170 mA
Centronics terminal:	25-pin SUB-D female
Ambient temperature:	Storage: -40..+70°C Operation: 0..+60°C
Dimensions:	135 x 106 mm
Weight:	110 g
Included:	1 PC Card 1x Centronics