

# STYSTEM CONTROLLER / COMMS - NOTES

## MCP23017 Notes

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Note the Boron may be fully powered off to save power for a week or more. This is the reason that CTL\_BAT1 etc. are connected to the MCP23017 which keeps these control lines biased while using very little standby power.

The MCP23017 power is maintained by the use of a backup battery. This is essential to preserve output states and so that its interrupt lines are powered and can re-awaken the Boron when it receives the Alarm signal from the RTC.

MCP23017 should have interrupt Mirror bit set to 1 so that INTA and INTB are logically OR'd. For this reason only INTA need be connected to the Boron.

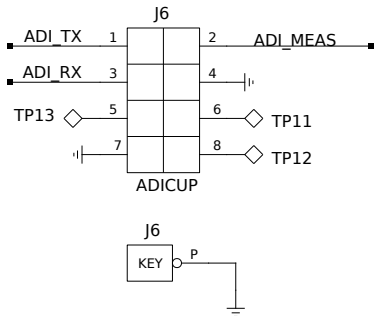
**SERIES RESISTORS:**  
These limit current in case of a fault which could include a programming error during testing.

The nominal 2k2 may need to be changed. For example a low value may need to be fitted if there is a weak pull-up at the device end.

**IMPORTANT:**  
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Before powering off a sensor make sure the relevant CS line is changed to highZ otherwise it could be drawing high power through the input protection diodes.

Before powering down the Boron make sure the DEBUG\_LED lines are changed to highZ so that they are not drawing power from the MCP backup battery. Same applies to other lines.



## XC8107\_SW Notes

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This power switch is connected by 100k Pull-up to LiPo battery V+.

If it is pulled low it disables the 3V3 regulator which supplies the Boron.

MCP\_INTA should be programmed to High when the RTC\_Alarm signal is active or the user presses the external button. This is achieved by programming the MCP23017 registers.

BOR\_EN\_OUT: When the Boron has a power on reset it can be programmed to set this output High. It then holds itself powered on regardless of the MCP\_INTA signal level.

BORON power off. The Boron sleep current in the best case is ~ 1400 uA. This drains the battery over the course of 1 year mostly in standby. It can set a new Alarm for say 1 weeks time then prepare to power off and set BOR\_EN\_OUT Low. In effect it shuts itself down completely and will power back up when the alarm goes off or if the user presses the external button.

For testing a jumper can be removed so that the Boron stays powered up always. This will be useful during program development to ensure a programming error does not cause an unintended power off.

## ADICUP

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There are just a few signals connecting the comms board to the ADICUP360 board.

Instead of stacking the comms board on top of the current sense board it may be preferred to place the comms board further away.

The header J6 provides for interconnection using an 8-way Micromatch cable.

A few cable lines are uncommitted to facilitate future developments.

## POWER\_SW

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This is connected to SPDT rotary switch on the enclosure. It is implemented as a soft power switch.

The reason for the soft switch is that we want the Boron to set the valves to a safe position, complete ongoing transmits or writing to the SD card etc. In summary a controlled shutdown is preferred.

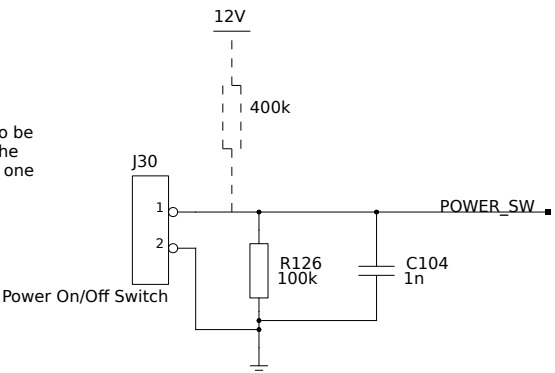
The pull-up for the power switch is to VBAT (12V). This is because the pull-up needs to be permanently powered. Had it been connected to the CR2477 3V it would deplete 25% of its capacity in one year. This would be acceptable but it would be preferred not to burden this backup battery. The amount consumed from the 12V battery is negligible compared to self-discharge.

The POWER\_SW level is under 3V3 at all times based on the resistive divider.

The MCP23017 pin will have an interrupt on change configured. This will activate INTA which will enable power through the XC8107 power switch to the Boron if it is off. The Boron can read the MCP23017 port pins and figure out the interrupt source and respond accordingly.

If the power switch is turned off the Boron will receive an interrupt through INTA. It can perform a controlled shutdown before turning its own power off.

The power switch will have a wired 400k resistor pull-up to the primary battery (12V).



This board controls the following:

### High Priority (Must Have)

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- Turning on/off the SMPS module and selecting between the two batteries. Managing energy consumption to provide for up to 12 month run-time.
  - Logging data to SD card
  - Showing system status on exterior LEDs after user presses external button
  - Reading from Real Time Clock
  - Reading RH/Temp/VOC from external GSFET module
  - Sending data to the cloud over CAT-M1 (when signal strength is adequate)

### Medium Priority (Preferred though not critical)

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- Reading data from Electrochemical Sensor
  - Turning off draining of batteries before they are fully depleted e.g. 40% SOC

### Low Priority (Nice to Have but not part of specification - possibly include footprints for later stage integration)

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- Optionally showing status on small OLED display (with user interaction buttons)
  - Optionally sending data out to BLE serial terminal
  - Optionally reading data from dry chamber BME680 (Temp/RH/VOC)

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