

Q-lite MLN Protocol v1.8

This document explains how the MLN Protocol can be used to control MLN displays over a serial connection (RS232 or RS485/422) or Ethernet connection.

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Legend

Byte ¹ ^ Byte ²	means XOR.
word ^L , word ^H	means Low and High Byte of a 2-Byte (Word) value.
00h	means a Hexadecimal value.
00000000b	means a Binary value.
[Parameter]	means a parameter consisting of several Bytes.

General Understanding

A Function Code (FC) is used to send, request, or receive data to/from a display. This can include sending Command Codes.

A Command Code (CC) represents content such as text, counters, and page effects.

Methods to show content

FC allow writing CC to the Insert Segment, Initial Segment, or one of 256 Segments. Segments can be activated by a schedule or continue-table, as illustrated below. All methods sorted by their respective priority:

Method	Prio.	Use	Related Function Codes
Insert	1	Insert content that must go live immediately, highest priority.	FC 05h (Send to Insert Segment)
Schedule	2	Schedule content shown (in a loop) during predefined time slots.	FC 04h (Send schedule-table) FC 02h (Send to Segment)
Continue	3	Continual content shown (in a loop) at any time.	FC 03h (Send continue-table) FC 02h (Send to Segment)
Initial	4	Initial content shown, lowest priority.	FC 00h (Send to Initial Segment)

So when the Insert method has no data, it tries Schedule, then Continue, then Initial. If no method has data the display will show “Waiting...” on the first line.

The sender (your software) can use any method or a combination thereof.

Data communication

For your convenience, the default communication configuration is:

Serial baud rate	9600 bps
Serial framing	8N1 (8 data bits, no parity bits, 1 stop bit)
Receiver ID	0
TCP port	9100

Depending on your display model and configuration this configuration may differ (except for serial framing).

As always, a serial bus (even if transported over a TCP/IP network) does not allow crosstalk. If you request a reply from multiple displays make sure to do so sequentially and wait for each respective response before sending so data does not collide.

Message Format

A message (packet) consists of Message Header, Message Body, and Ending:

Message Header								
Protocol ID		Sender ID		Receiver ID		Message Length		Header Checksum
AAh	BBh	SID ^{HI}	SID ^{LO}	RID ^{HI}	RID ^{LO}	Length ^{HI}	Length ^{LO}	LRC

Message Body				Ending
Function Code	Message Bytes			Checksum
FC	[Data1	Data2, ...	Data n]	CS

Specification

1. Protocol ID always is AAh BBh.
2. SID is the Sender ID number.
3. RID is the Receiver ID number. Valid values / ranges are as follows:

RID ^{HI}	RID ^{LO}	Transmission type
FFh	FFh	Broadcast to all displays.
00..FEh	FFh	Broadcast to group of matching RID ^{HI} .
00..FEh	00..FEh	Send to display with matching 16-bit ID.

Other values / ranges are reserved.

4. Length is the total number of Bytes in Message Body (from FC to Data n), not including CS. Note that a Message Body can not exceed 64KByte.
5. LRC is the checksum of the Message Header, which is

$$LRC = SID^{HI} \wedge SID^{LO} \wedge RID^{HI} \wedge RID^{LO} \wedge Length^{HI} \wedge Length^{LO}$$

6. When sending big packets, allow the time to write the data into the flash memory and prevent the receiving queue (4KByte) from overflow. Some FC use RAM only and are significantly faster. Append FC 21h (Request for display transmission result) to determine when the queue is processed.
7. Function Codes (FC) are the commands sent to the display(s). Message Bytes are FC parameters. See the chapter Function Codes.
8. CS is the checksum of the Message Body, which is the XOR of the Message Body:

$$CR = FC \wedge MessageByte_1 \wedge MessageByte_2 \wedge \dots \wedge MessageByte_n$$

Note that for any FC that has no parameters (thus is 1 Byte long) the CS value = FC value.

Function Codes

If you are unfamiliar with FC usage, see General Understanding first.

Covered in this document are:

<u>FC 00h (Send to Initial Segment)</u>	5
<u>FC 01h (Set clock)</u>	5
<u>FC 02h (Send to Segment)</u>	5
<u>FC 03h (Send continue-table)</u>	6
<u>FC 04h (Send schedule-table)</u>	6
<u>FC 05h (Send to Insert Segment)</u>	7
<u>FC 06h (Set worktime)</u>	7
<u>FC 07h (Clear all)</u>	7
<u>FC 09h (Send dimmer-table)</u>	8
<u>FC 0Ah (Send heater threshold)</u>	8
<u>FC 0Bh (Handle leading zeroes)</u>	8
<u>FC 18h (Set parallel-out)</u>	8
<u>FC 1Dh (Set display XY unit)</u>	8
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<u>FC 20h (Send ping)</u>	9
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<u>FC 22h (Request for display status)</u>	10
<u>FC 23h (Request for display Initial Segment data)</u>	10
<u>FC 24h (Request for display Segment data)</u>	10
<u>FC 25h (Request for display continue-table data)</u>	10
<u>FC 26h (Request for display schedule-table data)</u>	10
<u>FC 2Bh (Request for display scanbuffer data)</u>	10
<u>FC 2Ch (Request for counter/variable data)</u>	11
<u>FC 2Fh (Request for display pixeltest data)</u>	11
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<u>FC 35h (Response from display with continue-table data)</u>	13
<u>FC 36h (Response from display with schedule-table data)</u>	14
<u>FC 3Bh (Response from display with scanbuffer)</u>	14
<u>FC 3Ch (Response from display with counter/variable data)</u>	14
<u>FC 3Fh (Response from display with pixeltest data)</u>	14
<u>FC 40h (Set variable)</u>	15
<u>FC 41h (Set counter)</u>	15
<u>FC F0h (Reboot display)</u>	15

FC 00h (Send to Initial Segment)

The Initial Segment is shown when no Insert is shown, and no segments are active (either not set in the continue-table, or scheduled, or empty).

The message body is as follows:

00h, [DisplayData_1], [DisplayData_2], .. [DisplayData_n]

DisplayData	Command Codes and their associated parameters or data if any.
-------------	---

FC 01h (Set clock)

The message body is as follows

01h, Year, Month, Day, DayOfWeek, Hour, Minute, Second

Year	The years since 2000 (where value 01h is the year 2001).
Month	The month.
Day	The day.
DayOfWeek	Valid values are as follows: 00h Sunday 01h Monday 02h Tuesday 03h Wednesday 04h Thursday 05h Friday 06h Saturday
Hour	The hour.
Minute	The minute.
Second	The second.

FC 02h (Send to Segment)

Segments are used by the Schedule-table and Continue-table to hold content.

The message body is as follows:

02h, Segment, [CommandCode_1], [CommandCode_2], .. [CommandCode_n]

Segment	The program segment to receive the program. Valid values are in range 0 .. 255.
CommandCode	See Command Codes.

FC 03h (Send continue-table)

The continue table loops through its segments shows these when no Insert is shown, and no segments are active (either scheduled, or empty).

The message body is as follows:

03h, Segment_1, Segment_2, Segment_3, .. Segment_256

Segment The display segment to receive the program.
Valid values are in range 0 .. 255.

Any parameter count up and including 256 is valid. A parameter count of 0 clears the table.

FC 04h (Send schedule-table)

The schedule table shows the time slotted segments when no Insert is shown.

The message body is as follows:

04h, [Timeslot_1], [Timeslot_2], .. [Timeslot_128]

Timeslot The scheduled time slots, as outlined below.

Any parameter count up to 128 is valid. A parameter count of 0 clears the table.

The Timeslot format is as follows:

ST_Y, ST_M, ST_D, ST_T^{LO}, ST_T^{HI},
EN_Y, EN_M, EN_D, EN_T^{LO}, EN_T^{HI},
WeekdaySwitch, SegmentCount, Segments_1, .. Segments_12

ST_Y	Schedule starting year (where 00h = the year 1900)
ST_M	Schedule starting month
ST_D	Schedule starting date
ST_T ^{LO}	Program starting time, low byte
ST_T ^{HI}	Program starting time, high byte
EN_Y	Schedule ending year (where 00h = the year 1900)
EN_M	Schedule ending month
EN_D	Schedule ending date
EN_T ^{LO}	Program ending time, low byte
EN_T ^{HI}	Program ending time, high byte
WeekdaySwitch	Weekday scheduling flags, is a bitmask: 0xxxxxx1b Sunday (bit 0) 0xxxxx1xb Monday (bit 1) 0xxxx1xxb Tuesday (bit 2) 0xxx1xxxb Wednesday (bit 3) 0xx1xxxxb Thursday (bit 4) 0x1xxxxxb Friday (bit 5) 01xxxxxxb Saturday (bit 6)
SegmentCount	Number of segments to be included in the list that follow.
Segments	Twelve segment numbers. Valid values are in range 0..255.

Fill unused slots with 0.

The Time (ST_T and EN_T) values are as follows:

$$\text{Time} = \text{Hours} \times 60 + \text{Minutes}$$

The scheduled message is shown if:

```
( ST_T <= CurrentTime <= EN_T ) AND
(
  ( ST_Y / ST_M / ST_D <= CurrentDate <= EN_Y / EN_M / EN_D ) AND
  (
    ( DayOfWeek = Sunday      AND weekdaySwitch = 0xxxxxx1 ) OR
    ( DayOfWeek = Monday      AND weekdaySwitch = 0xxxxx1x ) OR
    ( DayOfWeek = Tuesday     AND weekdaySwitch = 0xxxx1xx ) OR
    ( DayOfWeek = Wednesday   AND weekdaySwitch = 0xxx1xxx ) OR
    ( DayOfWeek = Thursday    AND weekdaySwitch = 0xx1xxxx ) OR
    ( DayOfWeek = Friday      AND weekdaySwitch = 0x1xxxxx ) OR
    ( DayOfWeek = Saturday    AND weekdaySwitch = 01xxxxxx )
  )
)
```

FC 05h (Send to Insert Segment)

The Insert Segment interrupts the regularly scheduled display sequences and is only shown for the duration of Delaytime. This Insert Segment is not saved in flash memory and will be lost after a powerdown.

The message body is as follows:

05h, Delaytime, [DisplayData_1], [DisplayData_2], ..[DisplayData_n]

Delaytime	The amount of minutes that insert will be shown.
DisplayData	As in FC 00h (Send to Initial Segment).

FC 06h (Set worktime)

The message body is as follows:

06h, worktime_On^{LO}, worktime_On^{HI}, worktime_Off^{LO}, worktime_Off^{HO}

The Time (Worktime_On and Worktime_Off) values are as follows:

$$\text{Time} = \text{Hours} \times 60 + \text{Minutes}$$

Example: operation from 6:00 to 23:30 is 06h 0168h 0582h E8h

FC 07h (Clear all)

Display will clear all segments, initial segment, insert segment, the continue table, and the schedule table. It now shows “Waiting...” in the first line of the display, also see Methods to show content.

No data field is required. (Note that Checksum = 07h, as pointed out in General Understanding)

FC 09h (Send dimmer-table)

Configure the dimmer table and threshold. This can be used to switch external devices.
The message body is as follows:

09h, Table_1, Table_2, .. Table_256, RelayThreshold

Table	Dimmer table data.
RelayThreshold	Relay is engaged when (the highest) light measurement is lower.

FC 0Ah (Send heater threshold)

The message body is as follows:

1Fh, Humidity, HighTemperature, LowTemperature

Humidity	Byte value resembling humidity value.
HighTemperature	Temperature in degrees Celsius.
LowTemperature	Temperature in degrees Celsius.

The heater will be enabled if:

- InternalTemperature is below Low, or is below zero, or
- InternalTemperature is between Low and High, and InternalHumidity is above Humidity.
(note for stability there is an extra 5% threshold on Humidity before enabling/disabling)

FC 0Bh (Handle leading zeroes)

This applies to how Counters are formatted when shown.

The message body is as follows:

0Bh, LeadingChar

LeadingChar	Valid values are as follows:
00h	Padded with “0” (digit zero)
01h	Padded with “ ” (space)

FC 18h (Set parallel-out)

Output a value via the parallel output. This can be used to toggle external devices.

The message body is as follows:

18h, value

value	The data (8 bit binary) to be set on the parallel output port.
-------	--

FC 1Dh (Set display XY unit)

Tell the display how to interpret X Y coordinates, either in Pixel or Character units.

The message body is as follows:

1Dh, Switch

Switch Valid values are as follows:
 00h Characters as unit (in current active font)
 NOT 00h Pixels as unit

FC 1Eh (Send bitmap)

The message body is as follows:

1Eh, Index, width, Height,
[BitmapR_0, BitmapR_1, .. BitmapR_n],
[BitmapG_0, BitmapG_1, .. BitmapG_n],
[BitmapB_0, BitmapB_1, .. BitmapB_n]

Index	Index referring to that bitmap. Valid values are in range 0..255.
width	Width of the bitmap in pixels.
Height	Height of the bitmap in pixels.
BitmapR	Every bit is one Red pixel.
BitmapG	Every bit is one Green pixel. *
BitmapB	Every bit is one Blue pixel. *

*) Both BitmapG and BitmapB are optional.
See related CC 1Eh (Show bitmap).

FC 1Fh (Start pixeltest)

Starts a pixel test, after which data can be requested using FC 2Fh (Request for display pixeltest data). The display shows content again when the pixeltest is complete.

The message body is as follows:

1Fh, ColorChannel

ColorChannel	A bitmask, valid are:		
	00000xx1b	Red	(bit 0)
	00000x1xb	Green	(bit 1)
	000001xxb	Blue	(bit 2)

FC 20h (Send ping)

When the display receives this Ping message it will send this Ping message back to the transmitter.

No data field is required.

FC 21h (Request for display transmission result)

The sign will return the transmission result of the previous message.

The response from the display is FC 31h (Response from display with transmission result).

No data field is required.

FC 22h (Request for display status)

The sign will return its Status. This can be used to retrieve actual clock and temperature values. The response from the display is FC 32h (Response from display with status).

No data field is required.

FC 23h (Request for display Initial Segment data)

The response from the display is FC 33h (Response from display with Initial Segment data).

No data field is required.

FC 24h (Request for display Segment data)

The response from the display is FC 34h (Response from display with Segment data).

The message body is as follows:

24h, Segment

Segment Valid values are in range 0..255.

FC 25h (Request for display continue-table data)

The response from the display is FC 35h (Response from display with continue-table data).

No data field is required.

FC 26h (Request for display schedule-table data)

The response from the display is FC 36h (Response from display with schedule-table data).

No data field is required.

FC 2Bh (Request for display scanbuffer data)

Retrieves a screenshot of the display. The response from the display is FC 3Bh (Response from display with scanbuffer).

The message body is as follows:

2Bh, Buffer

Buffer Valid values are:

00h	Red
01h	Green
02h	Blue

FC 2Ch (Request for counter/variable data)

Retrieves current display counter and variable values. The response from the display is FC 3Ch (Response from display with counter/variable data). See related FC 40h (Set variable), FC 41h (Set counter).

No data field is required.

FC 2Fh (Request for display pixeltest data)

Retrieves the latest pixel test data. See related FC 1Fh (Start pixeltest), which should be send prior.

The response from the display is FC 3Fh (Response from display with pixeltest data).

The message body is as follows:

2Fh, CoLoRChanne1

CoLoRChanne1

Valid values are:

00000001b	Red	(bit 0)
00000010b	Green	(bit 1)
00000100b	Blue	(bit 2)

FC 30h (Response from display for ping without encryption)

This FC is sent in response to FC 20h (Send ping) when display requires encryption.

FC 31h (Response from display with transmission result)

The message format is described in General Understanding. In this case the sender is the display and the receiver is the controller such as a PC. This FC is send in response to FC 21h (Request for display transmission result).

The return message body is as follows:

31h, Comm_status

Comm_status

Valid values are as follows:

60h	Normal
61h	Timeout error
62h	Checksum error
63h	Overflow error
64h	Functioncode error
65h	Parameter error
66h	LRC error
67h	Decrypt error

FC 32h (Response from display with status)

The message format is described in the General Understanding. In this case the sender is the display and the receiver is the controller such as a PC. This FC is sent in response to FC 22h (Request for display status).

The return message body is in the following format:

```
ColumnsLO, ColumnsHI,
Scanheight, Rows,
FPGA_Scanheight, FPGA_Rows,
Gap_width,
RefreshLO, RefreshHI,
Flashrate,
[Userdata_1, Userdata_2, .. Userdata_128],
FirmwareTypeLO, FirmwareTypeHI,
FirmwareVersionLO, FirmwareVersionHI,
[Description_1, Description_2, .. Description_16],
HardwareVersionLO, HardwareVersionHI,
Worktime_OnLO, Worktime_OnHI,
Worktime_OffLO, Worktime_OffHI,
InternalTemp_Value, InternalTemp_Available,
ExternalTemp_Value, ExternalTemp_Available,
ADC0_Value, ADC1_Value, ADC2_Value, ADC3_Value,
DimmerValue,
Hours, Minutes, Seconds,
Day, Month, Year,
DayOfWeek,
ColorChannel0, ColorChannel1, ColorChannel2,
OptionByte,
ExternalParallelInput, InternalParallelInput
```

All relevant value formats are equal to their respective FC, others are explained below.

FirmwareType	Valid values are: 0000h MLN 0001h QLG 0002h QLM 0003h QLG SMD
FirmwareVersion	The HI and LO bytes respectively denote the major and minor version.
HardwareVersion	Highest four bits of value are a bitmask for hardware type: 0000xxxxb Multiline 0001xxxxb Graphic 0010xxxxb Zone 30 0011xxxxb Graphics SMD 0100xxxxb MLN Pixeltest Num 1111xxxxb STORM keypad The remaining HI bits and LO byte respectively denote the major and minor version.
Userdata..	128 ASCII characters.
Description..	16 ASCII characters, often the display serial number.
Worktime..	See FC 06h (Set worktime).
..Temp_Available	Valid values are:.

	00h	Available
	NOT 00h	Not available
..Temp_Value	Signed Byte value in degrees Celsius.	
Hours .. Year	See FC 01h (Set clock).	
DayOfWeek	Valid values are: (differs from FC 01h (Set clock))	
	01h	Sunday
	02h	Monday
	03h	Tuesday
	04h	Wednesday
	05h	Thursday
	06h	Friday
	07h	Saturday
ColorChannel	Valid values are:	
	00h	None
	01h	Red
	02h	Green
	03h	Blue
	04h	Yellow
	05h	White
OptionByte	Value is a bitmask:	
	xxxxxxx1b	Display has a physical fontgap (bit 0)
..ParallelInput	Read the internal/external parallel input ports, 8 bits each.	
	This can be used to read external devices/states.	

FC 33h (Response from display with Initial Segment data)

The message format is described in the General Understanding. The sender is the display and the receiver is the controller such as a PC. This FC is send in response to FC 23h (Request for display Initial Segment data).

The return message body is the same as in FC 00h (Send to Initial Segment).

FC 34h (Response from display with Segment data)

The message format is described in the General Understanding. The sender is the display and the receiver is the controller such as a PC. This FC is send in response to FC 24h (Request for display Segment data).

The return message body is the same as in FC 02h (Send to Segment).

FC 35h (Response from display with continue-table data)

This FC is send in response to FC 25h (Request for display continue-table data).

The message body is as follows:

35h, Segment_1, Segment_2, Segment_3, .. Segment_n

Segment The display segment in the continue table.

Valid values are in range 0 .. 255.

FC 36h (Response from display with schedule-table data)

This FC is send in response to FC 26h (Request for display schedule-table data).

The message body is as follows:

36h, [Timeslot_1], [Timeslot_2], .. [Timeslot_128]

Timeslot As in FC 04h (Send schedule-table).

FC 3Bh (Response from display with scanbuffer)

This FC is send in response to FC 2Bh (Request for display scanbuffer data).

The message body is as follows:

3Bh, PixelByte_1, PixelByte_2, .. PixelByte_8193

PixelByte Every bit is one pixel.

This response always includes 65544 pixels.

FC 3Ch (Response from display with counter/variable data)

This FC is send in response to FC 2Ch (Request for counter/variable data).

The message body is as follows:

3Ch, [Count1_1, Count1_2, Count1_3, Count1_4],
 [Count2_1, Count2_2, Count2_3, Count2_4],
 [Count32_1, Count32_2, Count32_3, Count32_4],
 [Reserved1, Reserved2, .. Reserved128],
 [Var1_1, Var1_2, .. Var1_31, Var1_32],
 [Var2_1, Var2_2, .. Var2_31, Var2_32],
 [Var16_1, Var16_2, .. Var16_31, Var16_32]

Count.. 16 down- and 16 up-counters respectively, 4 ASCII bytes each.
Reserved.. 128 reserved bytes / garbage data.
Var.. 16 variables, 32 ASCII bytes each.

FC 3Fh (Response from display with pixeltest data)

The message body is as follows:

3Fh, Columns^{HI}, Columns^{LO}, Rows, Scanheight, Gap_width, Font_width,
 [PixColumn^{HI}, PixColumn^{LO}, PixRow],
 [PixColumn^{HI}, PixColumn^{LO}, PixRow]

Columns Width in pixels.

ROWS	Height in pixels.
Gap_width	Width of the gap in pixels.
Font_width	Width of the Font (at index 0).
PixColumn	Column of a defect pixel.
PiXROW	Row of a defect pixel.

FC 40h (Set variable)

Set a variable in the display. See related CC 0Ch (Show variable).

The format is as follows:

40h, Index, Chars_1, Chars_2, Chars_3, .. Chars_n

Index	The variable to store. Valid values are in range 00h .. 0Fh. (0..15)
Chars	String of 1 up to 32 ASCII characters.

FC 41h (Set counter)

Set a variable in the display. See related CC 0Dh (Show counter).

Counters are updated at 0:00 hours (midnight). Index 0..15 is incremented, 16..31 is decremented.

The format is as follows:

41h, Index, Digits_1, Digits_2, Digits_3, Digits_4

Index	The counter to store. Valid values are in range 00h .. 1Fh. (0..31)
Digits	Four ASCII values. Valid values are in range 30h .. 39h.

FC F0h (Reboot display)

No data field is required.

Command Codes

If you are unfamiliar with CC usage, see Function Codes first.

Most Command Codes operate on a buffer, which is displayed by CC 07h. The buffer is not cleared automatically, so one needs to issue CC 01h first.

Covered in this document are:

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CC 01h (Clear buffer)	17
CC 03h (Show text string)	17
CC 04h (Show current time)	17
CC 05h (Show current date)	18
CC 06h (Delay)	18
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CC 08h (Show text immediately)	19
CC 09h (Show countdown to date)	19
CC 0Ah (Show countdown to date and time)	20
CC 0Bh (Show temperature)	20
CC 0Ch (Show variable)	20
CC 0Dh (Show counter)	21
CC 0Eh (Loop a CC block / start)	21
CC 0Fh (Loop a CC block / end)	21
CC 1Eh (Show bitmap)	21
CC 1Dh (Freeze display)	22
CC 1Fh (End of segment data)	22

Popular Parameters

Some parameters are not unique to a specific CC, and only require a detailed explanation here.

Values may depend on your display model and configuration, as outlined here.

Font	Font to use, default is 00h. Value 01h usually is a bold font. Note: values can vary per display model.
Fcolor	Foreground color. Valid values are: 00h Black 01h Red 02h Green 03h Yellow Note: values can vary per display model. Also see related FC 32h (Response from display with status).
Bcolor	Background color. See Fcolor above.
X, Y	The position of the character, where Y is the line (vertical). Note: Units can be Characters or Pixels. Characters are calculated using the current Font: X range = 0 to n-1 (where n is display width in characters) Y range = 0 to n-1 (where n is display height in characters) Value 0,0 is top left. Also see related FC 1Dh (Set display XY unit).

CC 01h (Clear buffer)

Clears the display contents.

The format is as follows:

01h

No parameters.

CC 03h (Show text string)

The display data are as follows.

03h, Font, Fcolor, Bcolor, X, Y, Text_String, 00h

Text_String

The ASCII text string.

Accepts the following inline special modifier codes

~Cn; Change the foreground color, where n is:

 "0" Black

 "1" Red

 "2" Green

 "3" Yellow

~Bn; Change the background color, n see above.

~R; Reverse foreground and background colors.

~F; Flash the following characters.

~N; Do not flash the following characters.

~I; Revert back to initial Fcolor and Bcolor value.

~Pn; Change the parallel output value, where n is a 1 to 3-digit ASCII value*.

 See FC 18h (Set parallel-out).

~An; Change font, where n is a 1-digit ASCII value.

~Dn; Outputs 8 bits over 8 columns (used for dots / arrows), where n is a 1 to 3-digit ASCII value*.

*) Valid values are in range "0" .. "255".

This text should not contain a Byte equal to 00h.

00h

String terminator.

Parameters missing in this list are detailed in Popular Parameters.

Known issue: certain modifier codes wont work when they appear at the end of a text.

CC 04h (Show current time)

The display data format is as follows:

04h, Type, Font, Fcolor, Bcolor, X, Y

Type

Format of the shown time. Valid values are:

00h "HH:MM:SS AM" 12-hour, with AM/PM

01h "HH:MM:SS" 24-hour

02h "HH:MM" 24-hour, short

Re-purposing the here affected pixels must be preceded by issuing CC 01h (Clear buffer).
Parameters missing in this list are detailed in Popular Parameters.

CC 05h (Show current date)

The display data format is as follows:

05h, Type, Font, Fcolor, Bcolor, X, Y			
Type	Format of the shown date. Valid values are:		
	00h	"MM/DD/YYYY"	(09/30/1998)
	01h	"MMM. DD, YYYY"	(SEP. 30, 1998)
	02h	"DD MMM. YYYY"	(30 SEP. 1998)
	03h	"DD/MM/YYYY"	
	04h	"DD/MM/YY"	
	05h	"DD/MM"	
	06h	"DD"	
	07h	"MM"	
	08h	"YY"	
Note support of 01h and 02h and its locale/language may vary per display model.			

Re-purposing the here affected pixels must be preceded by issuing CC 01h (Clear buffer).
Parameters missing in this list are detailed in Popular Parameters.

CC 06h (Delay)

Delay during which time and counters are not updated.

The message body format is as follows:

06h Delaytime ^{LO} , Delaytime ^{HI}	
Delaytime	How much time in milliseconds to wait.

CC 07h (Display the buffer)

The message body format is as follows:

07h, Delaytime ^{LO} , Delaytime ^{HI} , Mode, Speed	
Delaytime	How much time in milliseconds to wait.
Mode	The effect to show the display content. Valid values are:
	00h Instant
	01h Scan Right
	02h Scan Left
	03h Scan Down
	04h Scan Up
	05h Shift Right

06h	Shift Left
07h	Push Down
08h	Push Up
09h	Flow
0Ah	Cover Right
0Bh	Cover Left
0Ch	Cover Down
0Dh	Cover Up
0Eh	Scan Open
0Fh	Scan Close
10h	Push Open
11h	Push Close
12h	Cover Open
13h	Cover Close
14h	Sparkle

Speed Speed of effect. Valid value range is 00h (slow) to 09h (fast).

CC 08h (Show text immediately)

Show a string as a scroll-text, while all other lines remain static.

The display data format is as follows:

08h, Mode, Speed, Font, Fcolor, Bcolor, X, Y, Text_String, 00h

Mode Valid values are:

00h	Instant
05h	Shift Right
06h	Shift Left

Speed Speed of scroll. Valid value range is 00h (slow) to 09h (fast).

Parameters missing in this list are identical to CC 03h (Show text string).

Usage:

For a scrolling text use Mode=06h.

If you do not want to see the preexisting line contents scroll out of view, you can first issue a Mode=00h (with enough space characters as Text_String) to clear the line instantly.

Do not issue CC 07h (Display the buffer) after CC 08h (Show text immediately) without having issued CC 01h (Clear buffer) first. Or more precisely: having drawn to all pixels which can also be accomplished using others like CC 03h (Show text string).

CC 09h (Show countdown to date)

Shows a countdown to a specified date. Days are shown 4 characters width, prefixed with spaces. Behaves like CC 0Ah (Show countdown to date and time) where Hour=0, Minute=0.

The display data format is as follows:

09h, Type, Font, Fcolor, Bcolor, X, Y, Year^{LO}, Year^{HI}, Month, Day

Type Format of the shown countdown. Valid values are:

	00h	"DDDD"	(show days only)
	01h	"DDDD HH:MM:SS"	(includes time)
Year	Count down to year (where value 07D0h is the year 2000).		
Month	Count down to month.		
Day	Count down to day.		

Re-purposing the here affected pixels must be preceded by issuing CC 01h (Clear buffer).
Parameters missing in this list are detailed in Popular Parameters.

CC 0Ah (Show countdown to date and time)

Shows a countdown to a specified date and time. Days are shown 4 characters width, prefixed with spaces.

The display data format is as follows:

0Ah, Type, Font, Fcolor, Bcolor, X, Y, Year^{LO}, Year^{HI}, Month, Day, Hour, Minute

Type	Format of the shown countdown. Valid values are:		
	00h	"DDDD"	(show days only)
	01h	"DDDD HH:MM:SS"	(includes time)
Year	Count down to year (where value 07D0h is the year 2000).		
Month	Count down to month.		
Day	Count down to day.		
Hour	Count down to hour.		
Minute	Count down to minute.		

Re-purposing the here affected pixels must be preceded by issuing CC 01h (Clear buffer).
Parameters missing in this list are detailed in Popular Parameters.

CC 0Bh (Show temperature)

The display temperature format is as follows:

0Bh, Type, Font, Fcolor, Bcolor, X, Y

Type	Format of the shown temperature.		
	00h	"+XX °C"	External, in Celcius.
	03h	"+XX °C"	Internal, in Celcius.

Parameters missing in this list are detailed in Popular Parameters.

CC 0Ch (Show variable)

Show the variable, which is a string of upto 32 characters. See related FC 40h (Set variable).

The format is as follows:

0Ch, Index, Font, Fcolor, Bcolor, X, Y

CC 1Dh (Freeze display)

Shows the buffer instantly and freezes CC execution. Shown time / counters will be updated. The current display contents will be shown indefinitely until a new message (with new Command Codes) is received.

See related CC 07h (Display the buffer), which allows a maximum of FFFFh msec delay.

The format is as follows:

1Dh

No parameters.

CC 1Fh (End of segment data)

Signifies the end of segment data.

The format is as follows:

1Fh

No parameters.

Appendix A: Examples

Example 1: Send a text message

Here is a full example (including header and checksums) to send a text message to a display.

AAh BBh	Protocol identifier	(General Message Format)
00h 00h	Sender ID	
00h 00h	Receiver ID (the display)	
00h 13h	Length of the Message Body (13h = 19)	
13h	LRC of header (00h^00h^00h^00h^00h^13h)	
00h	Send to Initial Segment	(FC 00h)
01h	Clear display	(CC 01h)
03h	Draw a text string	(CC 03h)
00h	Use font 0	
03h	Foreground color (3 = Yellow)	
00h	Background color (0 = Black)	
00h	X = 0	
00h	Y = 0	
54h 45h 58h 54h	String "TEXT" represented in ASCII	
00h	String terminator	
07h	Show the data on the display	(CC 07h)
E8h	Delay ^{LO}	
03h	Delay ^{HI} (03E8h = 1000 msec)	
00h	Mode 00h = Instant	
09h	Speed 09h = fastest	
1Fh	End of display data	(CC 1Fh)
E6h	Ending checksum	(General Message Format)

To check if the display has processed the frame already you can send a FC 21h (Request for display transmission result) to the display. When the display sends back its response FC 31h (Response from display with transmission result) it is finished processing this frame.

If a transmission error has occurred (the status Byte will indicate this) then you could act on it by resending the frame, for example.

Example 2: Send a text message with two lines

Here is example 1 with addition of displaying a 2nd line, illustrating that more Bytes are affected by (even simple) changes in a message.

AAh BBh	Protocol identifier (General Message Format)	
00h 00h	Sender ID	
00h 00h	Receiver ID (the display)	
00h 1Dh	Length of the Message Body (1Dh = 29)	
1Dh	LRC of header (00h^00h^00h^00h^00h^1Dh)	
00h	Send to Initial Segment	(FC 00h)
01h	Clear display	(CC 01h)
03h	Draw a text string	(CC 03h)
00h	Use font 0	
03h	Foreground color (3 = Yellow)	
00h	Background color (0 = Black)	
00h	X = 0	
00h	Y = 0	
54h 45h 58h 54h	String "TEXT" represented in ASCII	
00h	String terminator	
03h	Draw a text string, on the 2nd line	(CC 03h)
00h	Use font 0	
01h	Foreground color (1 = Red)	
00h	Background color	
00h	X = 0	
01h	Y = 1	
31h 32h 33h	String "123" represented in ASCII	
00h	String terminator	
07h	Show the data on the display	(CC 07h)
E8h	Delay ^{LO}	
03h	Delay ^{HI} (03E8h = 1000 msec)	
00h	Mode 00h = Instant	
09h	Speed 09h = fastest	
1Fh	End of display data	(CC 1Fh)
D5h	Ending checksum (General Message Format)	

Notice how the addition of 10 Bytes (Command Code 03h showing "123") affects more bytes:

Length of the Message Body	due to addition of CC 03h.
Message Header Checksum	due to above mutation in Message Header.
Ending Checksum	due to addition of CC 03h.

Example 3: Send a scrolling text

Below you will find some small example snippets on how to add scrolling text functionality to a program.

These snippets can be merged together with existing programs (so first show some static text and then let some text line scroll), or you can simply use these as is.

Normally we first clear the line where the scrolling text will be displayed:

08h	Show text string immediately	(CC 08h)
00h	Mode 00h = Instant	
09h	Speed 09h = fastest	
00h	Use font 0	
03h	Foreground color (3 = Yellow)	
00h	Background color (0 = Black)	
00h	X = 0	
00h	Y = 0	
20h 20h .. 20h	String represented in ASCII	
	“	
	(enough spaces to clear the line)	
00h	String terminator	

Now we show the text which must be scrolling from right to left:

08h	Show text string immediately	(CC 08h)
06h	Mode 06h = Push Left	
09h	Speed 09h = fastest	
00h	Use font 0	
03h	Foreground color (3 = Yellow)	
00h	Background color (0 = Black)	
00h	X = 0	
00h	Y = 0	
54h 45h 58h 54h 20h		
54h 45h 58h 54h 20h		
54h 45h 58h 54h 20h		
54h 45h 58h 54h	String represented in ASCII	
	“TEXT TEXT TEXT TEXT”	
00h	String terminator	

When the scrolling text is done we normally want to wait a little:

06h	wait	(CC 06h)
E8h	Delay ^{LO}	
03h	Delay ^{HI} (03E8h = 1000 msec)	

Now we can continue with other texts as shown in the previous example.

Example 4: Using bitmaps

Here is a full example (including header and checksums) to send a bitmap (referred to with index 0) to the display.

AAh BBh	Protocol identifier	
00h 00h	Sender ID	
00h 00h	Receiver ID (the display)	
00h 44h	Length of the message body (16x2x2+4=68=44h)	
44h	LRC of header (00^00^00^00^00^44)	
1Eh	Send Bitmap to display	(FC 1Eh)
00h	Index	
10h	width (10h = 16)	
10h	Height (10h = 16)	
87h E1h 48h 12h ..	Bitmap data for 1st color (red)	
.. 04h 12h 07h E1h		
87h E1h 48h 12h ..	Bitmap data for 2nd color (green)	
.. 04h 12h 07h E1h		
66h	Ending checksum	

Here is a full example (including header and checksums) to show a bitmap referred to with index 0 on the display.

AAh BBh	Protocol identifier	
00h 00h	Sender ID	
00h 00h	Receiver ID (the display)	
00h 0Eh	Length of the message body (0Eh = 14)	
0Eh	LRC of header (00^00^00^00^00^0E)	
02h	Send segment to display	
00h	Segment 0	
01h	Clear display	
1Eh	Draw a bitmap (at 0,0)	(CC 1Eh)
00h	Bitmap X LOW byte	
00h	Bitmap X HIGH byte	
00h	Bitmap Y	
00h	Bitmap Index	
07h	Show the data on the display	(CC 07h)
E8h	Delay LOW byte	
03h	Delay HIGH byte (03E8h = 1000 msec)	
00h	Mode 00h = Instant	
09h	Speed 09h = fastest	
1Fh	End of display data	(CC 1Fh)
E7h	Ending checksum	

Example 5: Send a text message with two pages

Here is an example that illustrates how to apply page effects in a segment.

AAh BBh	Protocol identifier	(General Message Format)
FDh E8h	Sender ID	
00h 00h	Receiver ID (the display)	
00h 23h	Length of the Message Body	
36h	LRC of header	
02h 00h	Send to Segment index 0	(FC 02h)
01h	Clear display	(CC 01h)
03h	Draw a text string	(CC 03h)
00h	Font	
01h	Foreground color (red)	
00h	Background color (black)	
00h	X	
00h	Y	
46h 6Fh 6Fh	String "Foo" represented in ASCII	
00h	String terminator	
07h	Page effect	(CC 07h)
D0h 07h	Delay (07D0h = 2 seconds)	
05h	Mode (Shift Right)	
09h	Speed (fastest)	
01h	Clear display	(CC 01h)
03h	Draw a text string	(CC 03h)
00h	Font	
02h	Foreground color (green)	
00h	Background color	
00h	X	
00h	Y	
42h 61h 71h	String "Bar" represented in ASCII	
00h	String terminator	
07h	Show the data on the display	(CC 07h)
D0h 07h	Delay	
06h	Mode (Shift Left)	
09h	Speed	
1Fh	End of display data	(CC 1Fh)
09h	Ending checksum	(General Message Format)

Notice how this example used FC 02h (Send to Segment) although this is not required, and there is a repeating sequence of CC per page that starts with 01h and ends with 07h.

Appendix B: Default character set

The character set for font 0 (Western 5x7 Ansi) is shown here.

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	A	B	C	D	E	F
0_h	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
1_h	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
2_h		!	"	#	\$	%	&	'	()	*	+	,	-	.	/
3_h	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	:	;	<	=	>	?
4_h	@	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
5_h	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	[\]	^	_
6_h	`	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m	n	o
7_h	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z	{		}	~	■
8_h	€	■	,	f	~	...	†	‡	^	÷	£	<	œ	□	□	□
9_h	□	`	`	˘	˘	■	-	-	~	□	£	>	œ	□	□	ÿ
A_h	U	i	¢	£	¤	¥	¦	§	¨	□	²	³	´	µ	¶	¯
B_h	°	±	²	³	´	µ	¶	·	¸	¹	º	»	¼	½	¾	¿
C_h	À	Á	Â	Ã	Ä	Å	Æ	Ç	È	É	Ê	Ë	Ì	Í	Î	Ï
D_h	Ð	Ñ	Ò	Ó	Ô	Õ	Ö	×	Ø	Ù	Ú	Û	Ü	Ý	Þ	ß
E_h	à	á	â	ã	ä	å	æ	ç	è	é	ê	ë	ì	í	î	ï
F_h	ø	ñ	ò	ó	ô	õ	ö	÷	ø	ù	ú	û	ü	ý	þ	ÿ