

Description

Beck Optronic Solutions offers a variety of high performance, non-ITAR controlled, ruggedized zoom lens suitable for applications including long range surveillance, border security and remote weapon stations.

This document details the interface and control requirements of the integrated control electronics.

Beck zoom lenses use DC brushed motors, with potentiometer feedback or microswitches to control the following functions:-

- Main Zoom (Variator)
- Slave Zoom (Compensator)
- Focus
- Iris (if fitted)
- Filter Wheel (if fitted)
- Extender Changeover Mechanism (if fitted)

All zoom lens models are fitted with a common Smart Control Card which has an arrangement of PIC + FPGA, where a PIC is used to perform the Zoom Program calculation and handle communications with PC Software leaving an FPGA to perform the closed loop algorithm where a fast response time is critical. DC Motor drives are made by 3 Dual Pulse Width Modulation Controllers.

Communications between the Smart Control Card and the Host PC are made via a USB or RS422 interface. The Smart Control Card accepts commands simultaneously from either without the need to make a selection or fit jumpers.

RS422 Interface – The Smart Control Card accepts messages and transmits replies over this interface on Rx and Tx circuits. Data should be 7-bit ASCII with optional parity bit and 1 stop bit at a Baud Rate of 38400.

USB Interface – This is a “COM port” style interface provided in the form of a standard USB mini connection, using a readily available device driver. With this installed the USB connection will appear to be the “COMn” device where ‘n’ is the port number assigned by the plug and play driver.

Irrespective of which interface is chosen, the protocol for communicating with the Smart Control Card remains the same; a simple command/response always initiated by the host. Every complete command generates a single response and if the Smart Control Card fails to parse a command (e.g. due to incorrect formatting or data corruption), it will return an error response.

The protocol allows customers to easily develop software for the host system that can control lens functions and read lens status (such as Position and Travel Limits). With some straightforward message translation, customers can use Standard Device Utility Software such as Pelco-D Protocol. Beck Optronic Solutions provides control software which allows the operation of the Zoom Lens functions by an on-screen Control Panel from a host Windows PC.

About Beck Optronic Solutions

Beck has a reputation for excellence in design and manufacture of precision optics that can be traced back over 175 years. Based near London, UK, Beck delivers complex, integrated electro-optic systems for defence and commercial use across the electromagnetic spectrum from UV to LWIR. **For pricing or further information please contact us at:**

t: +44 (0) 1442 255755 | **e:** info@beckoptronic.com | **w:** beckoptronic.com

Beck Optronic Solutions Limited | Registered in England No 09072729 | VAT No GB 196 4396 58
Registered office: Focus 31 – West Wing, Mark Road, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire HP2 7BW United Kingdom



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