

Uniflex Relay System Announcement

Three New Advancements:

1. The new network-centric Uniflex 3000 now runs under Windows 98.
2. The new parallel port board no longer requires the "brick" power supply.
3. We now have input and output boards for positive-common systems.

Windows 98 Support

We are happy to announce that the Uniflex 3000 system will now run on Windows 98 and Windows ME versions. Those customers upgrading from an earlier version of the Uniflex 2000 will be able to use their existing computer instead of purchasing a new computer running Windows XP or Vista. It is also possible that the Uniflex 3000 might even run on Windows 95 but that has not been verified since I do not have access to a Windows 95 machine to test on which to test it. Since support for networking is sketchy in Windows 95, there are doubts that it would run adequately.

The PC computer, no matter what version of Windows it is running, must have at least one wired CAT-5 (or CAT-6) Ethernet port to connect to the new microprocessor interfaces. If your existing computer does not have one already, there are many simple network cards that can be purchased for a reasonable price. A network router or switch will be required to connect all 3 devices (2 interfaces and the PC computer). For those customers that have one of several different types of touch panels in their console, this will allow those systems to be upgraded to the Uniflex 3000 without loss of touch functionality. Regrettably, the Uniflex 3000 system cannot run on the

very old ETS operating system. A minimal Windows 98 or newer operating system is required.

Updated Parallel-Port Interface

Our newly designed parallel port board is ready for shipment. The new board does not require the "brick" power supply. A power cable with a connector and standard 18 gauge red and black wires replaces the "brick" power supply. All of our newly designed boards, including the new 128 pin output boards, now require this same connector to connect to the standard 13.8-volt logic supply. The wiring tool is similar to the tool used to wire the 8-pin connectors but it has different pin spacing. If care is taken, the 18-gauge wires could be inserted into the connector using a flat-blade screwdriver.

Several customers have asked if the power could be taken from the 26-pin ribbon cable that connects the interface to the console and chamber input and output boards. The new design does not permit this since the console usually has a different logic supply than the chambers and cross-connecting these two supplies could have disastrous effects. So the new board will require a separate connection to the 13.8-volt logic supply using the new 2-pin connector and 18-gauge wires. The power demand for this new interface is 300 milliamps and there should be no problem with overloading the current logic supplies in use. In cases where the interface is remotely located from the console or chambers, a standard 12-volt 500-milliamp DC "wall-wart" power supply could be used to power the board.

The new parallel-port interface measures 5 inches high and 8 inches wide and mounts with the same screws that our input and output boards use. The board itself is \$350.00 and the necessary cables are \$50.00 if they are required. The cables include two conversion cables to convert the 25-pin DB25 connectors on the interface to the 26-pin ribbon cables that the current input and output boards use. There is also one 6-foot 25-pin male-

to-female cable that connects the interface to the computer's parallel printer port.

Support For Positive-Common Organs

We have redesigned the new 128-pin output board to support current-sinking common-positive stop magnets which many of the consoles have. The design is finished and production boards are expected by May 28th. Assembly and test should be completed by June 12th. These new output boards look like our current 128-pin current-sourcing negative-common boards but different driver chips will allow current sink of up to 500 milliamps per pin. Wiring plugs are the same and the layout is identical except for a heavy ground connection required to return the magnet current to the rectifier or battery supply.

We now offer 2 types of new 128-pin input boards and 2 types of new 128-pin output boards. These boards are all identical in size and all use the same 26-pin ribbon interconnecting cables that we have used for years (all the way back to the Devtronix systems). Any combination of old and new boards, positive or negative common or keying can be mixed in any configuration to suit your needs. The price is \$130 for either polarity input board and \$200 for either polarity output board.