Bi-directional control device offers one-way wireless links

Leading wireless solutions specialist Radiometrix, has released the BL118 bi-directional control device, the latest addition to the company’s exciting new easy-to-install Control product range. Unlike the existing CTA88 family of control products which offer one-way wireless links, the new BL118 uses a half duplex radio transceiver to establish a two-way wireless link for remote control applications, with a minimum of effort and no software input. The radio link operates continuously, providing a valid communication link indication.

The BL118 boards are used in pairs, a master/initiator and a slave/responder. The relays are activated when the state of the input on one board changes and vice versa. Compatible with any Radiometrix BiM-pinout wireless module, the best power vs range performance with the BL118 is achieved using the VHF BiM1 module. With a 10mW BiM1-173.225-10 module fitted, the average current consumption is only 1mA (relay off), achieving an open-field range which exceeds 500m. This allows for a 2 year operating life from D cells with a continuous data link.

The basic BL118 has a single logic input (diode protected, with pull-up) and an 8A 240V mains rated SPCO relay for NO/NC output. A 4 percent duty cycle communication interchange occurs every 2 seconds.

Each unit consists of a 76 x 62mm board, mounted radio module, output, input, and support circuits, LED indicators and the BL118 chip itself. System address is set on an 8 way DIP switch and an SMA/MCX connector is provided for the antenna. I/O and power connections use 3.81mm pitch two part terminal blocks. 5V and 12V versions are available, differing in the relay type fitted, and the basic board is easily further customised for specific applications.

The BL118 boards are ideally suited to high integrity wireless applications including security and fire alarm systems, RF remote control systems, industrial controls and long range telecontrol with Narrow Band FM radios.

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