Verify that you have the most current version of this document from www.hvacpartners.com or your local Carrier office.

Important changes are listed in Document revision history at the end of this document.
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An i-Vu® Control System is a network of communicating, microprocessor-based controls for heating, ventilating, and cooling (HVAC) equipment. The system can consist of:

- Open PICs (Product Integrated Controllers)
- Open field-installed controllers (i.e., Universal Controllers)
- i-Vu® routers
- i-Vu® XT routers
- The i-Vu® application

Carrier Open controllers speak the native BACnet MS/TP or ARCNET protocol and can be networked together.

**NOTE** This document does not apply to a CCN network.

Individual BACnet MS/TP or ARCNET segments can be networked together using routers and a common IP backbone. BACnet/IP routers in an i-Vu® Control System can be i-Vu® Open or i-Vu® XT routers, or the i-Vu® web server which contains an integrated router. Routers reside on the IP and MS/TP or ARCNET networks and communicate over a common BACnet/IP backbone.

A thin client PC can access the i-Vu® application using a web browser and network connection. Once the i-Vu® application is installed, the system becomes an i-Vu® Control System.
Using an MS/TP controller network

A Carrier Open controller network can use the BACnet MS/TP (Master-Slave/Token-Passing) protocol for communications. This section in the document contains Carrier's recommendations for configuring and wiring an MS/TP network that will provide the best network performance with Carrier controllers. However, Carrier controllers will work on any BACnet-compliant MS/TP network.

Controllers can communicate on an MS/TP network at 9600 bps, 19.2 kbps, 38.4 kbps, or 76.8 kbps.

**NOTE** i-Vu® XT routers also support 57.6 kbps and 115.2 kbps.

**MS/TP network engineering guidelines**

MS/TP is a token-passing network and each device on the network can communicate only when it has the token. The time needed for the token to cycle through the network is dependent on many factors, such as baud rate, the number of controllers, and quality of communication. Ancillary devices such as repeaters, terminators, and network protection boards are often required to ensure optimum network performance. For this reason, carefully observe each of the following network wiring guidelines.

**Number of controllers**

Each MS/TP network can support up to 60 Open controllers at a speed of 76.8 kbps. Slower networks will support less controllers (see table below). Systems in excess of 60 controllers require i-Vu® Open or -Vu® XT routers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Baud Rate</th>
<th>Recommended maximum number of controllers per network</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>76.8 kbps</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38.4 kbps</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19.2 kbps/9600 bps</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Controller Addressing**

Each Open controller on the MS/TP network must have a unique BACnet MS/TP MAC address, which is set by the controller’s rotary address switches. Valid addresses are 1-99.

**Repeaters**

A REP485 repeater must be installed after every 31 controllers, after 2000 feet, or at each branch of a hybrid network. Each repeater begins a new network segment. See REP485 (page 30).
NOTES

- A repeater counts as the last device in one segment and the first device in the next segment.

```
    C  C  C  C  C  C  R  C  C  C  C  C  R  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  R  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C
   1  2  3  4  ...  29 30  31  32  1  2  3  4  ...  29 30  31  32  1  2  3  4  ...
```

- A communication packet from one controller to another cannot pass through more than 4 repeaters.

### MS/TP network configurations

An MS/TP network can be in a daisy-chain or hybrid configuration if repeaters are used as described in MS/TP network requirements (page 5). Each network segment must be in a daisy-chain configuration. See Network segment requirements (page 13, page 5).

#### Sample daisy-chain configuration:

```
    C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C
    T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T
```

```
    C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C
    T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T
```

```
    C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C  C
    T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T  T
```

C Controller ☐ REP485

PROT485 Earth Ground ☐ REP485 ☐ Termination
Sample hybrid configurations:

MS/TP network requirements

An entire MS/TP network must have:

- Open or i-Vu® XT firmware and driver for each controller
- A unique MAC address for each controller on the network
- A REP485 repeater after every 31 devices or after 2000 feet (whichever is reached first), and at each branch of a hybrid network.

NOTES

- Each repeater begins a new network segment. See Network segment requirements (page 13, page 5). A repeater counts as the last device in one segment and the first device in the next segment.

- A communication packet from one controller to another cannot pass through more than 4 repeaters.
- A PROT485 for surge protection at each place wire enters or exits the building and within 250 feet (76 meters) of every controller. For maximum protection, place a PROT485 within 6 feet (1.8 meters) of each controller.
MS/TP network segment requirements

An MS/TP network can consist of multiple network segments. See MS/TP network configuration (page 3). Each segment of an MS/TP network must:

- Be wired in a daisy-chain configuration
- Be no longer than 2000 feet (610 meters)
- Have 32 or fewer devices (controllers and repeaters)
- Have one of the following:
  - The End of Net switch set to Yes on the Open controller that is at the end of the network segment. This adds bias and prevent signal distortions.
  - A BT485 at each end (unless the segment is less than 10 feet [3 meters] long) to add bias and prevent signal distortions due to echoing. See BT485 (page 24).
  - A 1/2 watt, 120 Ohm terminator at each end to prevent signal distortions.

NOTES

- To attach a 120 Ohm terminator, turn off the controller's power, then attach the terminator to the Net + and Net – terminals.
- If the network segment contains a third-party device that applies bias to the network, you must do one of the following:
  - Set the third-party device so that it does not apply bias
  - Replace BT485's with 120 Ohm terminators.
- If a third-party device has its own termination resistance located at one end of the network segment, do not install a BT485 or 120 Ohm terminator at that end of the network segment.

MS/TP communications wiring

Avoiding noise

Avoid running communication wires or sensor input wires next to AC power wires or the controller's relay output wires. These can be sources of noise that can affect signal quality.

Common sources of noise are:

- Spark igniters
- Radio transmitters
- Variable speed drives
- Electric motors (> 1hp)
- Generators
- Relays
- Transformers

- Induction heaters
- Large contactors (i.e., motor starters)
- Video display devices
- Lamp dimmers
- Fluorescent lights
- Parallel runs with power lines
- Other electronic modules

If noise is a problem and you cannot move the wiring, use ferrite clamp-on chokes on the cabling to improve signal quality.
**MS/TP wiring specifications**

Below are Carrier’s recommendations for MS/TP wiring. The wire jacket and UL temperature rating specifications list two acceptable alternatives. Halar has a higher temperature rating and a tougher outer jacket than SmokeGard, and it is appropriate for use in applications where you are concerned about abrasion. Halar is also less likely to crack in extremely low temperatures.

**NOTE** Use the specified type of wire and cable for maximum signal integrity.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Single twisted pair, low capacitance, CL2P, 22 AWG (7x30), TC foam FEP, plenum rated cable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conductor</td>
<td>22 or 24 AWG stranded copper (tin plated)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insulation</td>
<td>Foamed FEP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0.015 in. (0.381 mm) wall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0.060 in. (1.524 mm) O.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Color code</td>
<td>Black/White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twist lay</td>
<td>2 in. (50.8 mm) lay on pair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6 twists/foot (20 twists/meter) nominal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shielding</td>
<td>Aluminum/Mylar shield with 24 AWG TC drain wire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacket</td>
<td>SmokeGard (SmokeGard PVC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0.021 in. (0.5334 mm) wall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0.175 in. (4.445 mm) O.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Halar (E-CTFE)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0.010 in. (0.254 mm) wall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0.144 in. (3.6576 mm) O.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DC resistance</td>
<td>15.2 Ohms/1000 feet (50 Ohms/km) nominal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capacitance</td>
<td>12.5 pF/ft (41 pF/meter) nominal conductor to conductor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Characteristic impedance</td>
<td>100 Ohms nominal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weight</td>
<td>12 lb/1000 feet (17.9 kg/km)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UL temperature rating</td>
<td>SmokeGard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>167°F (75°C)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Halar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-40 to 302°F (-40 to 150°C)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Voltage</td>
<td>300 Vac, power limited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Listing</td>
<td>UL: NEC CL2P, or better</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See MS/TP and ARCNET wiring specifications and recommended vendors (page 34).
To wire the communication cable

1. Partially cut, then bend and pull off 1" of the outer jacket of the cable(s). Do not nick the inner insulation.

![Diagram of cable components: Outer jacket, Inner insulation, Foil, Shield]

2. Strip about 0.25 inch (0.6 cm) of the inner insulation from each wire.

3. If wiring two cables to the controller, twist together the shield wires from both cables.

4. Insert the wires into the appropriate terminal block. Take care that the drain wire is electrically isolated, where exposed.

![Diagram of terminal block with wires inserted]

**CAUTIONS**

- Do not allow more than .125 inch (.3 cm) bare communication wire to protrude.

![Diagram showing correct and incorrect insertion of wires]
If bare communication wire contacts the cable's foil shield, shield wire, or a metal surface other than the terminal block, communications may fail.

**NOTE** Do not ground the shield to earth ground or to the controller’s power ground. The PROT485 and the individual controllers allow the shield to float a limited amount so that there are no ground loops. If the voltage on the shield becomes too great, relative to the earth ground, then the excess voltage is bled off with protective devices on the PROT485 or on the controllers.

---

### To optimize MS/TP network performance in the i-Vu® application

If you feel the network is running slow, you can adjust the controller driver properties described below for every controller on the MS/TP network.

1. In the i-Vu® navigation menu, right-click on the applicable controller and select **Driver Properties**.
2. Select **Device** from the list.
3. Adjust the fields described below.
4. Click **OK**.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Max Masters   | Set this to the highest MAC address (99 for i-Vu® Open controllers and 127 for third party controllers) on the MS/TP network.  
  **NOTE** If you later add a device with a higher address, you must change this field to that new address. |
| Max Info Frames | This property specifies the maximum number of information messages a controller may transmit before it must pass the token to the next controller.  
  **CAUTION** Increasing this value allows the controller to transmit more messages while it has the token, but it also increases the overall time it takes for the token to pass through the network. We recommend you leave this value at its default setting (10).  
  • For a router, set this value to a high number such as 200.  
  • In non-router controller, use the following formula to calculate this value:  
    \[
    \frac{[2 - (\text{devices} \times 0.002 + (80/\text{baud}))]}{[600/\text{baud} \times \text{devices}]} = \text{Max Info Frames}
    \]  
  For example, if the network has 30 devices at 38400 baud, Max Info Frames would be 4.  
  **NOTE** You may need to increase the result of the formula for controllers that need to communicate many values to other devices. |
Troubleshooting an MS/TP network

If you do not receive signals from a controller on an MS/TP network:

- Verify that the entire segment uses the recommended cable. See MS/TP wiring recommendations.
- Verify the following aspects of wiring. See Communications wiring (page 5).
  - The shields on all controllers are connected properly. The shield must not touch the metal housing or tie to earth ground.
  - The cable's outer jacket is not stripped more than one inch. If so, the wires may have become untwisted, causing signal reflections.
  - The wires are connected correctly to the terminal blocks.
    - White wire to Net+ (typically, terminal 1 on a controller)
    - Black wire to Net- (typically, terminal 2 on a controller)
    - Shield wire to Shield (typically, terminal 3 on a controller)
  - No other communication signal is causing noise or interference. See Avoiding noise.
- Verify that your network meets the MS/TP network requirements and the Network segment requirements.
- Check for a controller damaged by an electrical surge.

Locating the problem network segment

The network segment most likely to cause a problem is the segment that:

- Contains the most controllers
- Covers the longest distance
- Contains a variable speed controller, spark igniter, or other major noise source

To isolate the problem, divide the questionable segment in half, and add termination at both ends of each segment using a BT485, a 120 Ohm terminator, or the i-Vu® XT’s End of Net switch set to Yes. If the problems appear on one of the new segments, split this segment in half and repeat this test. Keep splitting the problem segment in half until you identify the cause.

Using an oscilloscope to troubleshoot the network

To help diagnose problems with the MS/TP network, use an oscilloscope that has the following features:

- 1MHz or greater bandwidth
- At least 5 megasamples per second sampling rate
- Battery powered (To eliminate oscilloscope's possible connection to ground.)
When capturing waveforms, use the following settings:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Recommended setting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Differential mode connections</td>
<td>The scope probe's ground is connected to the Net- connector and the probe's tip is</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>connected to the Net+ connector</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vertical scaling</td>
<td>1–2 volts/division</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horizontal scaling</td>
<td>Varies per speed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coupling mode</td>
<td>DC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trigger level</td>
<td>0.5–1 volt (can be adjusted based on amplitude)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trigger slope</td>
<td>Positive or rising edge to view transition from idle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Negative or falling edge to view transition to idle.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

When troubleshooting, view a waveform capture from a trouble-free network segment, then compare it with the normal examples below. Look at several frames of the problem segment. Use the figures and descriptions below to discover a possible cause.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Waveform</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Normal character waveform</strong></td>
<td>• A normal waveform has sharp vertical transitions at change of bit levels.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>with short cable and 2 BT485’s</td>
<td>• The corners of the waveforms have near-90° transitions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approx. 160-200 mV of bias</td>
<td>• For differential connections, the signal is symmetrical above and below the 0-volt line.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1V/div vertically</td>
<td>• For differential connections, the signal swings from 1–2 volts. If signal swings are &lt;0.75 volt, check for too many terminators on the</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>segment. If the signal swings are &gt;2.5 volts, the segment may not have 2 terminators.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waveform</td>
<td>Notes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Normal character waveform</strong> with long cable and 2 BT485's</td>
<td>Approx. 150-200 mV of bias</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1v/div vertically</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Normal packet waveform</strong> with long cable and 2 BT485's</td>
<td>Data packet from distant module</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Data packet from near module</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1v/div vertically</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Excessive capacitance

- The waveform has slow, curving transitions at the change of bit levels. This indicates that the cable may be too long or may not be the recommended type, or a non-Carrier protection device may be on the segment.
- Each negative transition should go at least 0.5 volt below the 0-volt line. With too much capacitance, this will not happen with all negative transitions.
- For differential connections, the waveform is not symmetrical above and below the 0-volt line.

### Excessive bias current

- For differential connections, bias level is incorrectly greater than 0.350 volt.
Using an ARCNET controller network

For communications on an Open controller network, Carrier can use the ARCNET (Attached Resource Computer Network) protocol which runs at 156K bps over an RS-485 cable.

ARCNET network configurations and requirements

ARCNET network configurations

An ARCNET network can be in a daisy-chain or hybrid configuration if repeaters are used as described in ARCNET network requirements. Each network segment must be in a daisy-chain configuration. See ARCNET Network segment requirements (page 15).

Sample daisy-chain configuration:

```
  C  C  C  C  P  C  C  C  C  P  C  C  C  C  T  R  S
  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
  C  C  C  C  P  C  C  C  C  P  C  C  C  C  T  C

C Controller  P PROT485 Earth Ground  R REP485  I Termination
```
Sample hybrid configurations:

ARCNET network requirements

An entire ARCNET network must have:

- v6.02.xxx or later firmware and driver for each controller
- No more than 99 controllers, excluding repeaters
- A unique MAC address for each controller on the network
- A REP485 repeater after every 31 devices or after 2000 feet (whichever is reached first), and at each branch of a hybrid network.

NOTES

- Each repeater begins a new network segment. See Network segment requirements (page 13, page 5). A repeater counts as the last device in one segment and the first device in the next segment.

- A communication packet from one controller to another cannot pass through more than 4 repeaters.

- A PROT485 for surge protection at each place wire enters or exits the building and within 250 feet (76 meters) of every controller. For maximum protection, place a PROT485 within 6 feet (1.8 meters) of each controller.
ARCNET network segment requirements

An ARCNET network can consist of multiple network segments. See the samples in ARCNET network configurations (page 13). Each segment of an ARCNET network must:

- Be wired in a daisy-chain configuration.
- Be no longer than 2000 feet (610 meters).
- Have 32 or fewer devices (controllers and repeaters).
- Have one of the following:
  - The End of Net switch set to Yes on the i-Vu® XT that is at the end of the network segment. This adds bias and prevent signal distortions due to echoing.
  - A BT485 at each end (unless the segment is less than 10 feet [3 meters] long) to add bias and prevent signal distortions due to echoing. See What is the BT485? (page 24).

NOTE To attach a 120 Ohm terminator, turn off the controller’s power, then attach the terminator to the Net + and Net – terminals.

ARCNET communications wiring

Carrier controllers with the appropriate firmware and drivers can communicate on a high-speed 156 kbps controller network.

Avoiding noise

Avoid running communication wires or sensor input wires next to AC power wires or the controller's relay output wires. These can be sources of noise that can affect signal quality.

Common sources of noise are:

- Spark igniters
- Radio transmitters
- Variable speed drives
- Electric motors (> 1hp)
- Generators
- Relays
- Transformers
- Induction heaters
- Large contactors (i.e., motor starters)
- Video display devices
- Lamp dimmers
- Fluorescent lights
- Parallel runs with power lines
- Other electronic modules

If noise is a problem and you cannot move the wiring, use ferrite clamp-on chokes on the cabling to improve signal quality.
**ARCNET wiring specifications**

Below are the specifications for ARCNET wiring. The wire jacket and UL temperature rating specifications list two acceptable alternatives. Halar has a higher temperature rating and a tougher outer jacket than SmokeGard, and it is appropriate for use in applications where you are concerned about abrasion. Halar is also less likely to crack in extremely low temperatures.

**NOTE** Use the specified type of wire and cable for maximum signal integrity.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Single twisted pair, low capacitance (12pF), CL2P, 22 AWG (7x30), TC foam FEP, plenum rated cable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conductor</td>
<td>22 AWG (7x30) stranded copper (tin plated) 0.030 in. (0.762 mm) O.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>NOTE</strong> 24 AWG can be used for segments &lt;200 ft. (6.7 m).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insulation</td>
<td>Foamed FEP 0.015 in. (0.381 mm) wall 0.060 in. (1.524 mm) O.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Color code</td>
<td>Black/white</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twist lay</td>
<td>2 in. (50.8 mm) lay on pair 6 twists/foot (20 twists/meter) nominal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shielding</td>
<td>Aluminum/Mylar shield with 24 AWG (7x32) TC drain wire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacket</td>
<td><strong>SmokeGard</strong> (SmokeGard PVC) 0.021 in. (0.5334 mm) wall 0.175 in. (4.445 mm) O.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Halar</strong> (E-CTFE) 0.010 in. (0.254 mm) wall 0.144 in. (3.6576 mm) O.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DC resistance</td>
<td>15.2 Ohms/1000 feet (50 Ohms/km) nominal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capacitance</td>
<td>12.5 pF/ft (41 pF/meter) nominal conductor to conductor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Characteristic impedance</td>
<td>100 Ohms nominal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weight</td>
<td>12 lb/1000 feet (17.9 kg/km)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UL temperature rating</td>
<td><strong>SmokeGard</strong> 167°F (75°C)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Halar</strong> -40 to 302°F (-40 to 150°C)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Voltage</td>
<td>300 Vac, power limited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Listing</td>
<td>UL: NEC CL2P, or better</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See *MS/TP and ARCNET wiring specifications and recommended vendors* (page 34).
To wire the communication cable

1  Partially cut, then bend and pull off 1" of the outer jacket of the cable(s). Do not nick the inner insulation.

   ! CAUTIONS
   ○ Do not allow more than .125 inch (.3 cm) bare communication wire to protrude.

2  Strip about 0.25 inch (0.6 cm) of the inner insulation from each wire.

3  If wiring two cables to the controller, twist together the shield wires from both cables.

4  Insert the wires into the terminal block.
Using an ARCNET controller network

- If bare communication wire contacts the cable's foil shield, shield wire, or a metal surface other than the terminal block, communications may fail.

**NOTE** Do not ground the shield to earth ground or to the controller's power ground. The PROT485 and the individual controllers allow the shield to float a limited amount so that there are no ground loops. If the voltage on the shield becomes too great relative to the earth ground, then the excess voltage is bled off with protective devices on the PROT485 or on the controllers.

### Token passing on an ARCNET network

On an ARCNET network, each controller's ARCNET coprocessor controls the token passing scheme. The token passes rapidly from controller to controller without intervention. Because the token passes only to controllers that exist on the network, controllers do not need to be sequentially addressed.

If a controller does not respond to its token, the controller drops from the loop and does not receive its token again until the network is reconfigured. A network reconfiguration allows controllers that were not participating in the token passing to enter their address into the token passing loop. This process takes about 3 seconds. If a controller has just been powered up or has not received the token for about 13 seconds, the controller initiates a network reconfiguration.

Each controller can send only one data packet each time it gets the token, then the controller passes the token. No controller can keep the token. The longest time a controller typically waits for its token is 0.5 seconds.

Workstations can communicate with the ARCNET network without stopping the token. The controllers can continue to communicate global points, colors, alarms, and heat/cool requests even while a workstation transfers memory to a controller.

### Troubleshooting an ARCNET network

If the i-Vu® application cannot communicate with one or more controllers on an ARCNET network or if the network continually reconfigures, you have a network problem and must determine if the problem is caused by:

- The network wiring
- The network configuration
- A particular controller
- The network's environment

### ARCNET reconfigurations

An ARCNET network normally reconfigures itself when a controller is added to or taken off the network. For example, turning a controller's power off or on. If communication with controllers is intermittent or downloads are excessively slow, see if the network is continually reconfiguring. To do this, check any controller's:

- Transmit and Receive LED's. These turn off for 1 second each time the network reconfigures.

- Modstat to see if an unexpected number appears in the Total field shown below.

ARC156 reconfigurations during the last hour (cleared upon reset):

Total . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 15
Locating the problem

**NOTE** If the network was working correctly and then began to have problems, consider any recent changes to the network as a possible source of the problem.

Follow the steps below until you locate the problem.

1. Verify that the ARCNET network uses the recommended cable. See *ARCNET wiring specifications* (page 15).

2. Check drawings of the completed network to verify that it meets the *ARCNET network requirements* (page 14) and the *ARCNET network segment requirements* (page 15).

3. Try to obtain a modstat for each controller.
   - If the **Initiated by this node** field shows a number, check the network wiring connection for that controller, the controller with the next lower MAC address, and all controllers located between these two controllers.

   
   ARC156 reconfigurations during the last hour (cleared upon reset):
   
   Total . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 15
   
   Initiated by this node. . . . . . . . 15

   - If you cannot obtain a modstat for a controller, check the controller's LEDs to see if it is running correctly. (See the controller's *Installation and Start-up Guide* for a description of its LEDs.)

   If the controller's LEDs do not indicate a problem with the controller, check the controller's network wiring connection.

4. To check a controller's network wiring connection, verify that:
   
   a) The shield wire is connected properly. The shield must not touch the metal housing or tie to earth ground.
   
   b) The cable's outer jacket is not stripped more than one inch. If so, the wires may have become untwisted, causing noise.
   
   c) The wires are connected correctly to the terminal blocks.

   Black wire to **Net -**

   White wire to **Net +**

   Shield wire to **Shield**

   d) No external source is causing noise or interference. See *Avoiding noise* (page 5).

4. Isolate the problem network segment.
   
   a) If the network has a repeater, disconnect it, then check the Transmit and Receive LED's or a modstat of a controller on each network segment to determine which segment is reconfiguring. If the network has multiple repeaters, perform this step for one repeater at a time.

   b) Divide the questionable segment in half, and add termination at both ends of each segment using a BT485, a 120 Ohm terminator, or the XT controller's **End of Net** switch set to **Yes**.

   c) Determine which of the new segments has the problem, then repeat step a. on that segment.

   d) Continue splitting each problem segment in half until you identify the cause.
Using an oscilloscope to troubleshoot the ARCNET network

To help diagnose problems with the ARCNET network, use an oscilloscope that has the following features:

- 1MHz or greater bandwidth
- 5 megasamples per second sampling rate
- Battery power (not 120VAC)

When capturing waveforms, use the following guidelines:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Recommended setting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Differential mode connections</td>
<td>The scope probe's ground is connected to the Net- connector and the probe's tip is connected to the Net+ connector</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vertical scaling</td>
<td>1–2 Volts/division</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horizontal scaling</td>
<td>&gt;1 µs/division to view transition to idle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1–5 µs/division to view shape of waveform</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20–50 µs/division to view bias level and larger portion of signal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coupling mode</td>
<td>DC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trigger level</td>
<td>0.5–1V (can be adjusted based on amplitude)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trigger slope</td>
<td>Positive or rising edge to view transition from idle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Negative or falling edge to view transition to idle</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
When troubleshooting, view a waveform capture from a trouble-free network segment, then compare it with the normal examples below. Look at several frames of the problem segment. Use the figures and descriptions below to discover a possible cause.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Waveform</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Normal character waveform with short cable and 2 BT485’s | • A normal waveform has sharp vertical transitions at change of bit levels.  
• The corners of the waveforms have near-90° transitions.  
• For differential connections, the signal is symmetrical above and below the 0-volt line.  
• For differential connections, the signal swings from 1–2 volts. If signal swings are <0.75 volt, check for too many terminators on the segment. If the signal swings are >2.5 volts, the segment may not have 2 terminators. |

![Waveform Diagram](image)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Waveform</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Normal character waveform</strong>&lt;br&gt;with long cable and 2 BT485's</td>
<td>Approx. 150-200 mV of bias&lt;br&gt;1V/div vertically</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image1.png" alt="Waveform Image" /></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Normal packet waveform</strong>&lt;br&gt;with long cable and 2 BT485's</td>
<td>Data packet from distant module&lt;br&gt;Data packet from near module&lt;br&gt;1V/div vertically</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image2.png" alt="Waveform Image" /></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Excessive capacitance

- The waveform has slow, curving transitions at the change of bit levels. This indicates that the cable may be too long or may not be the recommended type, or a non-Carrier protection device may be on the segment.
- Each negative transition should go at least 0.5 volt below the 0-volt line. With too much capacitance, this will not happen with all negative transitions.
- For differential connections, the waveform is not symmetrical above and below the 0-volt line.

![Waveform](image)

*Lost bit; negative swing is barely below 0-volt line*

1v/div vertically

### Excessive bias current

- For differential connections, bias level is incorrectly greater than 0.350 volt.

![Waveform](image)

*>250 mV of bias, negative swing is less than positive swing*

1v/div vertically

---

Using an ARCNET controller network

Open Controller Network
Wiring Guide

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23
What is the BT485?

The BT485 is a device that you attach to a controller at the beginning and end of a network segment to add bias and to terminate a network segment. The BT485 is a plug-in device and requires no special tools or wiring for installation.

Sample daisy-chain network configuration with BT485's:

![Diagram of network configuration with BT485s]

Specifications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Environmental operating range</th>
<th>Operating Temperature Range: -29 to 60.0 deg C; -20 to 140 deg F</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall dimensions</td>
<td>Width: 0.5 in. (1.2 cm) Height: 0.6 in. (1.5 cm)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
To Install a BT485

1. Push the BT485 onto the BT485 connector located near the BACnet connector.
   
   **NOTE** The BT485 has no polarity associated with it.

2. Verify the LED turns on.

To connect to an Open router:

To connect to a UPC Open:
What is a PROT485?

The PROT485 is a device that protects against large electrical surges on communication networks.

Recommended placements for a PROT485:

- At each place wire enters or exits the building
- Install at least one PROT485 within 250 feet (76 meters) of every controller. For maximum protection, place a PROT485 within 6 feet (1.8 meters) of each controller.

Sample daisy-chain controller network configuration:

![Daisy-chain network diagram]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>C</th>
<th>Controller</th>
<th>P</th>
<th>PROT485 Earth Ground</th>
<th>R</th>
<th>REP485</th>
<th>T</th>
<th>Termination</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Specifications

| Environmental operating range | -20 to 140°F (-29 to 60°C), 10–90% relative humidity, non-condensing |
| Protection | The PROT485 has two replaceable 0.5 A fuses protecting the **Fused** connection: |
| | F1, type 3AG, 250 Vac, 0.5 A, T (time-lag) |
| | F2, type 3AG, 250 Vac, 0.5 A, T (time-lag) |
| | The protection element is a SIDACtor, transient voltage suppression component. This solid-state component shunts energy to ground. |
| Overall dimensions | Width: 2.5 in. (6.35 cm) |
| | Height: 4 in. (10.16 cm) |
| Listed by | CE |
To mount a PROT485

**CAUTION** If the equipment is used in a manner not specified by the manufacturer, the protection provided by the equipment may be impaired. When you handle the PROT485:

- Do not contaminate the printed circuit board with fingerprints, moisture, or any foreign material.
- Do not touch components or leads.
- Handle the board by its edges.
- Isolate from high voltage or electrostatic discharge.
- Ensure that you are properly grounded.

Provide at least 1.5 in. (3.8 cm) clearance from each edge of the PROT485 for wiring.

1. Remove PROT485 from the included snap track.
2. Mount the snap track using self-drilling screws. Drill directly into the plastic near the edges of the snap track so that the screws will be visible when you install the PROT485. This prevents loose screws from shorting out the back of the board.
3. Mount the PROT485 on the snap track by pushing it firmly into the grooves.

To wire a PROT485 for communications

**WARNING** Do not apply line voltage (mains voltage) to this device's ports or terminals.

1. Check the communications wiring for shorts and grounds.
2. Connect the communication wires to the appropriate connectors as follows:
   - Use the **Shared** and **Unfused** connectors for wiring that leads to other controllers within a building.
What is a PROT485?

- Use the **Shared** and **Fused** connectors for wiring that leads outside a building. Two fuses on the **Fused** connector provide additional protection against repeated or long-term surges such as repeated lightning strikes or line voltage on the network.

**NOTE** You should not use the **Fused** connector for wiring within a building. The PROT485's provide sufficient protection without the fuses. Also, the effort to replace fuses throughout a building could greatly impact the time needed to bring the system back up after a major surge.

**NOTE** Use the same polarity throughout the network segment.

3 Verify communication with the network by viewing module status reports (modstats) in the i-Vu® application for controllers beyond the PROT485.
Grounding the controller network

Use 12 AWG grounding wire, no more than 6 feet (1.8 meters) long.

Connect grounding wire(s) to the PROT485's Earth Ground connectors with a 3M Corporation female spade connector part number FD114-250C or equivalent.

If the controller is within 6 feet (1.8 meters) of the PROT485, connect one ground wire to the controller and another ground wire to earth ground.

If the controller is more than 6 feet (1.8 meters) from the PROT485, connect a ground wire to earth ground.
The REP485 is a repeater that boosts communication signals over lengthy runs of wire. It has two bidirectional, optically isolated ports that can communicate at speeds from 1200 bps to 156 kbps. You can use the REP485 on any BACnet communications network using EIA-485, like MS/TP networks. A REP485 counts as two devices, one in each of its associated network segments.

Place a REP485 after every 31 controllers, after 2000 feet (whichever is reached first), and at each branch of a hybrid network. Each repeater begins a new network segment. You can wire a maximum of four REP485's in series. See Sample network configurations using REP485's.

### Specifications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Power</th>
<th>24 Vac ±10%, 250 mA (6.0 VA), 50–60 Hz</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ports</td>
<td>Net A and B are both EIA-485 (optically isolated)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental operating range</td>
<td>0 to 130 °F (-17.8 to 54.4 °C), 5–95% relative humidity, non-condensing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall dimensions</td>
<td>Width: 4 in. (10.16 cm), Height: 4 in. (10.16 cm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Listed by</td>
<td>UL-916 (PAZX), cUL-916 (PAZX7), CE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sample network configurations using MS/TP's

Daisy-chain network configuration:

To mount a REP485

⚠️ CAUTION If the equipment is used in a manner not specified by the manufacturer, the protection provided by the equipment may be impaired. When you handle the REP485:

- Do not contaminate the printed circuit board with fingerprints, moisture, or any foreign material.
- Do not touch components or leads.
- Handle the board by its edges.
- Isolate from high voltage or electrostatic discharge.
- Ensure that you are properly grounded.
What is a REP485?

Provide at least 1.5 in. (3.8 cm) clearance from each edge of the REP485 for wiring.

1. Remove REP485 from the included snap track.
2. Mount the snap track using self-drilling screws. Drill directly into the plastic near the edges of the snap track so that the screws will be visible when you install the REP485. This prevents loose screws from shorting out the back of the board.
3. Mount the REP485 on the snap track by pushing it firmly into the grooves.

To wire a REP485 for power

**CAUTIONS**

- The REP485 is powered by a Class 2 power source. Take appropriate isolation measures when mounting it in a control panel where non-Class 2 circuits are present.
- Carrier Open controllers can share a power supply as long as you:
  - Maintain the same polarity.
  - Use the power supply only for Carrier controllers.

1. Place the REP485's power jumper in the **Off** position.
2. Remove power from the 24 Vac transformer.
3. Pull the screw terminal connector from the REP485's power connector.
4. Connect the transformer wires to the screw terminal connector.
5. Apply power to the transformer.
6. Measure the voltage at the REP485's power input terminals to verify that the voltage is within the operating range of 21.6–26.4 Vac.
7. Connect the **Earth GND** terminal with a piece of 12AWG wire (no longer than 2 feet [0.6 m]) to a verified earth ground connection such as a nearby metal water pipe, metal building structure, or the panel. Use female spade connector part # FD114-250C (3M Corporation) or equivalent.
8. Insert the screw terminal connector into the REP485's power connector.
9. Place the REP485's power jumper in the **On** position. The **Power** LED lights when the REP485 has power.
To wire a REP485 for communications

⚠️ **WARNING** Do not apply line voltage (mains voltage) to this device’s ports or terminals.

**NOTE** If the REP485 begins or ends a network segment, add a BT485 to the side of the REP485 where the network is connected to terminate the network and add bias. See “T” on the sample network configurations (page 31).

1. Place the REP485’s power jumper in the **Off** position.
2. Check the communications wiring for shorts and grounds.
3. Connect the communications wiring to the REP485's Network A and Network B connectors.
   **NOTE** Use the same polarity throughout the network segment.
4. Place the REP485’s power jumper in the **On** position.
5. Verify communication with the network by viewing Module Status reports (Modstats) in the i-Vu® interface for controllers beyond the REP485. LED2 and LED3 blink when receiving data.

**REP485 LEDs**

The LED’s on the REP485 show the status of certain functions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If this LED is on...</th>
<th>Status is...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Power</strong></td>
<td>The board has power</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LED2</strong></td>
<td>Net A is receiving data.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LED3</strong></td>
<td>Net B is receiving data.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix: MS/TP and ARCNET wiring specifications and recommended vendors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wire type</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Connect Air International</th>
<th>Belden</th>
<th>Ramcorp</th>
<th>Contractors Wire &amp; Cable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MS/TP or ARCNET network (RS-485)</td>
<td>22 AWG, single twisted shielded pair, low capacitance, CL2P, TC foam FEP, plenum rated.</td>
<td>W221P-2227</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>25160PV</td>
<td>CLP0520LC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS/TP or ARCNET network (RS-485)</td>
<td>24 AWG, single twisted shielded pair, low capacitance, CL2P, TC foam FEP, plenum rated.</td>
<td>W241P-2000FB</td>
<td>82841</td>
<td>25120-OR</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rnet</td>
<td>4 conductor, unshielded, CMP, 18 AWG, plenum rated.</td>
<td>W184C-2099BLB</td>
<td>6302UE</td>
<td>21450</td>
<td>CLP0442</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Power - 24 Vac</td>
<td>2 conductor, CM, 18 AWG, unshielded.</td>
<td>W181P-2051</td>
<td>5300UE</td>
<td>21251</td>
<td>CLP0440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analog &amp; discrete sensor wiring &lt; 100 ft</td>
<td>Single twisted pair, unshielded, CM, 22AWG, plenum rated.</td>
<td>W221P-2005</td>
<td>6500UE</td>
<td>21281</td>
<td>CLP0410</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analog &amp; discrete sensor wiring 100–500 ft</td>
<td>Single twisted shielded pair, CM, 22AWG, plenum rated.</td>
<td>W221P-2044</td>
<td>6500FE</td>
<td>21280</td>
<td>CLP0520</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Document revision history

Important changes to this document are listed below. Minor changes such as typographical or formatting errors are not listed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Change description</th>
<th>Code*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11/9/18</td>
<td>What is a PROT485? &gt; Specifications</td>
<td>Changed Overall dimensions width to 2.5.</td>
<td>X-TS-JC-E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/23/17</td>
<td>To wire a REP485 for communications</td>
<td>Changed NOTE to say connect BT485s to REP485, not adjacent controllers.</td>
<td>X-O-F-TS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* For internal use only