

Versatile DL Card Can Simplify LIC Panel Ordering and Installation

Multi-function card provides connectivity, network power and tracks group code states

Topic: DL Card Option for LIC24 and LIC48

Issue: # TB184

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An optional multi-function DL dataline power supply card for 24 and 48 relay Lighting Integrator Complete Control (LIC) panels provides new flexibility, and can sometimes replace other network hardware. DL card functionality includes:

- Serial port connection for direct PC connectivity to network of LIC panels
- Power for LIC network global dataline
- Automatically tracks the state of group codes for accurate pilot light display on all dataline switch buttons

The LIC8 eight relay panel cannot accommodate a DL card.

Serial port connectivity to LIC network

A DL card includes a serial port that provides connectivity not just to one panel, but to an entire LIC panel network through the host panel in which it is installed. As long as the host panel is close enough that a PC running WinControl software can be connected with an HCABLE-C cable, the DL card eliminates the need for an HLINKCC Data Communications Link. The HLINKCC was previously the simplest way to provide PC access to an entire network.

If the network includes a WebLink Network Appliance, the WebLink may be connected directly to a DL card.

Each DL card supports one PC or WebLink connection, so if the network requires access from multiple locations or devices, multiple cards will be needed.

DL power supply for dataline

The DL card also provides DC power for the LIC global dataline, eliminating the need for a DP dataline power supply card. When multiple DL cards are used within a network, the installer can disable the power supply function on selected cards with an integral switch.

Group code tracking

Finally, each DL card keeps track of Group Code states for an entire LIC network and sends updates to specially programmed dataline switch button pilot lights, or other devices that use Group Codes. Note that the maximum number of Group Codes is dependent on how many panels host the codes. The sum of individual codes times the number of panels hosting each code cannot exceed 2000.

The standard function of a Group Code in an LIC system is to control a group of relays with a single network message. Group Codes are often used when a large number of relays need to change state in response to a scheduled event, such as turning off all lighting at the end of the work day. Group Codes are also useful in applications where one button must control multiple relays. Sometimes one button controls relays in more than one panel, and several buttons control the same relay(s). Regardless of how the buttons operate, the pilot lights on all the buttons must accurately indicate the state of the group at any time. The DL card automatically sends the correct signal to the pilot lights.

