

## **ALPS FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

### **1 How do I communicate with the relay using the front port?**

To successfully communicate with an ALPS or an LPS-D relay you must use ALPS-Link. LPS-O Link should be used only when communicating with an LPS-O relay. Please also insure the following steps.

a) The serial cable needs to be a null modem cable (see manual for wiring configuration).

b) Confirm the comm. port to which the cable is connected to, on your PC.

c) Confirm your VIEW password by using the MMI (keypad). Press the INF key, then press the down arrow key until the display reads Comm passwords and press enter. The screen will now show the decrypted VIEW password. You can decrypt the password by using the table in the manual in chapter eight. This password is for the PC program.

d) Record the value of the unit ID (to get to this setpoint press the "SET" key, then enter either the MMI setpoint passcode or the master passcode, arrow down to "GEN Settings", press enter, arrow down to "Configure" and press enter (record the "UNITID" number).

e) Record the value of the baud rate and the parity in the relay (to get to these setpoints press the "SET" key, then enter either the MMI setpoint passcode or the master passcode, arrow down to "GEN Settings", press enter, arrow down to "COMMPORTS", and press enter. Record the information beside "COMMPORT1").

e) Next open the PC program and go to Support Func, then select Host Setup, and click on Ports. Select the comm port you are using and then click okay.

f) Next click on Device, then select the Device Name you are going to use, then click on modify. Set the unit ID, baud rate and parity to that of the unit.

Then click on Device and then connect. Enter either the VIEW password from Step c. or the SETTING or MASTER passwords.

### **2 Can I use the default passwords for the front keypad to change setpoints when I first install my ALPS/LPS-D/LPS-O?**

No. When you first install your relay you will need to change the passwords from the default to another value. To do this press the "ACT" key and press enter. Then arrow down to "Change password" and press the enter key. Next use the default passwords to change the password (i.e. "789." is the default master password).

### **3 Which do I download first: Xpression Builder configurable logic or protection and general settings?**

First, download protection and general settings using the ALPS-Link Program. Second, download the configurable logic into the relay. The order of these two steps is important because downloading configurable logic or settings change the inputs and outputs of the relay. The last settings downloaded are saved in the relay.

**4 What should I do if the display on my ALPS reads "EEPROM CONENT ERROR"?**

To clear this message, connect to the ALPS using ALPS-Link and click on "Settings", and then click on "Recalculate CRC".

**5 How can I get the latest firmware to upgrade my relay?**

The fastest method for getting firmware to upgrade an ALPS is from the GE Power Management website [www.ge.com/indsys/pm/software/alps](http://www.ge.com/indsys/pm/software/alps). Go to the software section for the ALPS and you can place an on-line request to have the firmware emailed to you, within 24 hours.

**6 In which format should I save Xpression Builder configurable logic?**

When configurable logic is created with Xpression Builder, it must be saved with a .BIN extension. The BIN file is a binary formatted file which is downloaded to the relay. A user should ALSO save the logic with a .EXP extension. The EXP file saves the graphical layout of the logic. When both formats are saved, the logic uploaded from the relay can be matched to the graphical layout saved for the configurable logic file. If an EXP file is not created, Xpression Builder will give the relay logic a graphical layout which is logically correct, but may have a poor layout.

**7 What are the differences between LPS-D and LPS-O?**

The main difference between an ALPS and an LPS-D is that the ALPS has both Out of Step tripping and Out of Step Blocking, where as the LPS-D only has Out of Step blocking. The second difference is that ALPS can be used in applications with Series Capacitors.

**8 How do I communicate with the relay using the front port?**

To successfully communicate with an ALPS or an LPS-D relay you must use ALPS-Link. LPS-O Link should be used only when communicating with an LPS-O relay. Please also insure the following steps.

- a) The serial cable needs to be a null modem cable (see manual for wiring configuration).
- b) Confirm the comm. port to which the cable is connected to, on your PC.
- c) Confirm your VIEW password by using the MMI (keypad). Press the "INF" key, then press the down arrow key until the display reads "Comm passwords" and press enter. The screen will now show the decrypted VIEW password. You can decrypt the password by using the table in the manual in chapter eight. This password is for the PC program.
- d) Record the value of the unit ID (to get to this setpoint press the "SET" key, then enter either the MMI setpoint passcode or the master passcode, arrow down to "GEN Settings", press enter, arrow down to "Configure" and press enter (record the "UNITID" number).
- e) Record the value of the baud rate and the parity in the relay (to get to these setpoints press the "SET" key, then enter either the MMI setpoint passcode or the master passcode, arrow down to "GEN Settings", press enter, arrow down to "COMMPORTS", and press enter. Record the information beside "COMMPORT1").
- f) Next open the PC program and go to "Support Func", then select "Host Setup", and click on "Ports". Select the comm. port you are using and then click "okay".
- g) Next click on "Device", then select the Device Name you are going to use, then click on "modify". Set the unit ID, baud rate and parity to that of the unit.
- h) Then click on "Device" and then connect. Enter either the VIEW password from Step c. or the SETTING or MASTER passwords.

## **9 What are the LUI and remote factory setting passwords?**

The LUI factory passwords for the different privilege levels are: 789. (master), 456. (actions), 123. (settings). (Note: The period is part of password). The LUI passwords stored in the relay may be viewed, in encoded format, via remote communications. The remote factory passwords for the different privilege levels are: master! (master), actions! (actions), setting! (settings), view! (view). The remote passwords stored in the relay may be viewed, in encoded format, via the LUI.

## **10 What would I do if the ALPS gives a red LED status indication?**

If the ALPS relay displays a red LED status, prompt the relay for the failure messages. Press the information key (INF) and select Status. Scroll down the list and write the failure messages of the relay. Protection is not active when the Status LED is red. This condition could indicate a critical failure. Contact GE.