9730 Series Pulse Generator Operating Manual

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Table of Contents

This manual is designed to familiarize you with the Quantum Composers 9730 series current waveform generator and is arranged so that you can easily find the information for which you are looking. Generally, each topic has its own section and no section assumes that you have read anything else in the manual.

Technical Support

For questions or comments about operating the 9730 our technical staff can be reached via one of the following methods:

- Phone: (406) 582-0227
- Fax: (406) 582-0237
- Online: www.quantumcomposers.com

Warranty

In addition to a 30-day money back guarantee, the 9730 has a one-year limited warranty from the date of delivery. This warranty covers defects in materials and workmanship. Quantum Composers will replace any defective unit. Contact us for information on obtaining warranty service.

Package Contents

The box you receive should contain the following:

- 9730 Pulse Generator
  - AC Power Cord
  - Accessories
    - Arm Switch Keys (qty 2)
    - 50 Ohm Interlock Shorting Jumper (BNC)
- Disc that includes
  - Operating Manual
  - Software Drivers
  - Communication Software

Contact Quantum Composers at 01-406-582-0227 if any parts are missing.

Normal use of equipment exposes users to a certain amount of danger from electrical shock because testing must be performed where exposed voltage is present. An electrical shock causing 10 milliamps of current to pass through the heart will stop most human heartbeats. Voltages as low as 35 V (DC or RMS AC) should also be considered dangerous and hazardous since they can produce a lethal current under certain conditions. Higher voltages pose an even greater threat because such voltage can more easily produce a lethal current. Your normal work habits should include all accepted practices that will prevent contact with exposed high voltage, and those that will steer current away from your heart in case of accidental contact with a high voltage. You will significantly reduce the risk factor if you know and observe the following safety precautions:

- If possible, familiarize yourself with the equipment being tested and the location of its high-voltage points. However, remember that high voltage may appear at unexpected points in defective equipment.
- Do not expose high voltage components needlessly. Remove housings and covers only when necessary. Turn off equipment while making test connections in high-voltage circuits. Discharge high-voltage capacitors after removing power.
- Use an insulated floor material or a large, insulated floor mat to stand on, and an insulated work surface on which to place equipment. Make certain such surfaces are not damp or wet.
- Use the time-proven “one hand in the pocket” technique while handling an instrument probe. Be particularly careful to avoid contacting a nearby metal object that could provide a good ground return path.
- When testing AC powered equipment, remember that AC line voltage is usually present on some power input circuits, such as the on-off switch, fuses, power transformer etc., and any time the equipment is connected to an AC outlet, even if the equipment is turned off.
- Never work alone. Someone should always be nearby to render aid if necessary. Training in CPR first aid is highly recommended.

The 9730 series combines a hi-resolution digital timing generator, a high capacity charge bank and precision output current control to produce precisely timed adjustable amplitude current pulses. The unit can generate precision current pulses: square, sawtooth and complex combinations. Specifically design to meet the requirements of USCAR-28 and AK-LV-16 pyrotechnic ignitor test procedures, the unit can be used for lab and production testing.

Key Features

- Up to 4 individual outputs with fully independent programming and control.
- Up to 6A output per channel (Standard Instrument).
- Current output waveforms include square, optional sawtooth (with programmable ramp rate) and complex combinations.
- Complete channel and system setup stored in memory. Provides 12 memory storage slots.
- Remote programmability – RS232, USB and Ethernet (optional).
- Front and rear external trigger inputs.

Advanced Features/Options

- Resistance measurement (4 wire) for each channel with pre and post pulse testing features.
- Isolated Current and voltage monitor outputs.
- Front and rear sync outputs.
- Safety features including remote interlock and removable keyed enable switch.

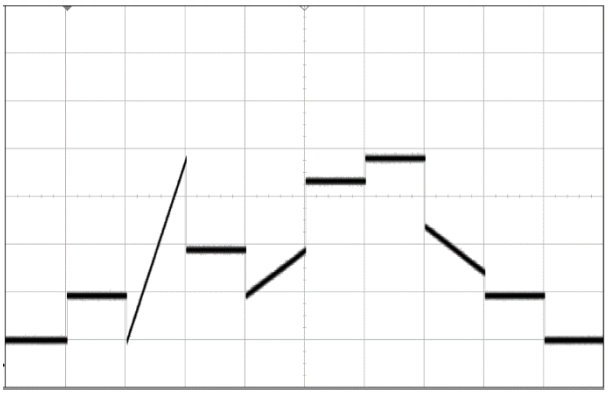


Figure 0-1 (Optional Complex Waveforms)

System Overview

System Timer

The system timer generates an internal T_0 pulse which is used to generate the channel start pulse. The T_0 pulse is generated in burst mode by the internal system counter or in single shot mode T_0 may be initiated by either pressing the **RUN/STOP**, by sending the software command. or receiving an external trigger.

Resistance Measurements

The 9730 includes an integrated 4-wire resistance measurement for each channel with pre and post testing features. Ability to generate a resistance fault error based on user defined upper/lower limits.

Current/Voltage Monitor

Current monitor – The current output from the unit is monitored and a voltage representation the waveform is presented at a front panel BNC connector.

Voltage monitor- The voltage across the load being driven is monitored and a voltage representation is present at a front panel BNC connector.

Channel Timer

Each channel has independent timers controlling the output pulse delay and pulsewidth. The channel timer will generate one delayed pulse for every channel start pulse received. Once the channel timer has started counting, additional start pulses will be ignored until the pulse has been completed (non-retriggerable). The channel start pulse for each channel is provided by the internal T_0 pulse.

Output pulses are either square pulses defined by their delay, pulsewidth and amplitude or defined by recipe with as many as eight segments. Each segment is defined as either a constant amplitude or a user defined slope. Whether or not a pulse is generated for each T_0 pulse is determined by the channel enable setting.

System Modes

Single Shot Mode

In single shot mode the system timer is bypassed and the T_0 pulse is generated directly from the system start pulse. Before a pulse can be generated, the active channels must be armed and ready. The start pulse may be generated by pressing the **RUN/STOP** or by sending the software command. The T_0 pulse is distributed to the channel start input of all of the channel timers.

Burst Mode

In the burst mode the system timer will produce pulses continuously at the specified rate until the highest channel burst count is reached. Before pulses can be generated, the active channels must be armed and ready. The start pulse may be generated by pressing the **RUN/STOP** key or by sending the software command. The T_0 pulse is distributed to the channel start input of all of the channel timers.

Recipe Mode (Optional) (channel A & B only)

The recipe mode is a special single shot mode that allows the user to define a complex current waveform with up to eight segments. Each segment can be either a constant current level for a specified amount of time or positive/negate ramp with defined starting current, ending current and ramp rate or duration. Before pulses can be generated, the active channels must be armed and ready. The start pulse may be generated by pressing the **RUN/STOP** key or by sending the software command. The T_0 pulse is distributed to the channel start input of all of the channel timers.

External Trigger Mode

The external trigger mode operates in single shot mode, with the system start pulse being generated by the external trigger input. Before pulses can be generated, the active channels must be armed and ready and the system timer must be armed. Arming the system timer is done by pressing the **RUN/STOP** key or by sending the software command. Subsequent external trigger pulses generate the T_0 pulses.

Channel Functions

Each channel has independent timers controlling the output pulse delay and pulse width. The channel timer will generate one delayed pulse for every channel start pulse received. Once the channel timer has started counting, additional start pulses will be ignored until the pulse has been

completed (non re-triggerable). The channel start pulse for each channel is provided by the internal T_0 pulse.

Outputs are either square pulses, defined by their delay, pulsewidth and amplitude or maybe defined as a recipe with as many as eight segments. Each segment is defined as either a constant amplitude or a user defined slope. Whether or not a pulse is generated for each T_0 pulse is determined by the channel enable setting.

Navigating the 9730 Front Panel

- **Selecting Menus**
  Parameters are grouped in menus, selectable using the function keys. To select the output channel parameters, press the letter key corresponding to the desired channel. To select other menus, including the channel test menus, press the **FUNC** key and then the key corresponding to the desired function.

  Menus may include a number of different pages, with each page containing up to four adjustable parameters or state variables. The status block in the upper-left corner of the display shows a vertical arrow if the current menu contains additional pages. To select the next page, press the channel button again or select the same menu pressing the **FUNC** key and the channel/menu key again.

- **Selecting Menu Items**
  Within a menu, the blinking cursor indicates the current menu item for editing. The **NEXT** key will select a different adjustable menu item.

- **Numeric Input Mode**
  When the current item is numeric, the system enters the Numeric Input Mode. In this mode data may be edited in one of two ways:
  - Arrow Keypad - The Left and Right arrow keys are used to select a digit to edit. The selected digit blinks to identify itself as the active digit. The Up and Down arrow keys are then used to increment or decrement this digit.
  - Numeric Keypad - Enter the number, including decimal point using the numeric keypad. Complete the number using the **ENTER** key. Errors may be corrected using the backspace key or to start over press the clear key (CLR). Pressing the **CLR** key a second time will exit the numeric keypad mode and restore the original number.

- **Entering Non-Numeric Parameters**
  When the current item is non-numeric, the Up and Down arrow keys are used to select among different options for the parameter.

- **Alphanumeric Input Mode**
  When the current item is alphanumeric, the system enters the Alphanumeric Input Mode. In this mode, data is entered using the alphanumeric keypad. Pressing a key will display the first letter shown on the keypad. Repeated key presses will toggle through all the letters, both upper and lower case, shown on the key cap. To enter two letters which appear on the same key cap, select the first character, then use the right arrow to shift to the next position and enter the next letter. The Left and Right arrow keys may be used to position the cursor to edit any character. When data entry is complete, the ENTER key must be pressed. The keys contain the following characters:

  - 1 => 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0
  - 2 => A B C a b c 2
  - 3 => D E F d e f 3
  - 4 => G H I g h i 4
  - 5 => J K L j k l 5
  - 6 => M N O m n o 6
  - 7 => P Q R S p q r s 7
  - 8 => T U V t u v 8
  - 9 => W X Y Z w x y z 9
  - 0 => 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
  - . => . , # $ % & ?
  - - => - + * / space

- **Enabling System Output**
  The RUN/STOP key is used to arm the system. With external trigger disabled, the key will arm and start pulse output. With external trigger enabled, the key will arm the pulse generator. Pulse output then starts after the first valid trigger input. With external trigger enabled, pressing the RUN/STOP key a second time disables the pulse generator.

9730 Display

Display Layout and Indicators

A graphical display module displays parameters and status information. The status information is located in the upper-left corner of the display, between the two brackets. There are three enunciators:

- ❖ Vertical Arrow Indicates there are additional pages to the current Menu.
- ❖ Blinking Circle Indicates the unit is actively generating pulses, or armed and waiting for an external trigger.
- ❖ Musical Note Indicates the function key has been pressed

The upper-right side of the display contains the title of the currently displayed menu. The rest of the display is used for system parameters. The display brightness may be adjusted, allowing the instrument to be used under various lighting conditions.

Description of Front Panel Area

Keypads and Keys

Four keypads provide fast access to various menus and easy editing of system parameters.

- Channel Keys Provides one touch access to the desired channel menu for setting up the channel parameters. The channel menu keys are indicated with a capital letter corresponding to the channel (e.g. press the **A** key to display the menu corresponding to channel A). The **FUNC** key (solid yellow key at the bottom center of the numeric keypad) allows the channel keys to select the channel test menus.
- Trigger Key Provides one touch access to the trigger menu for setting up trigger parameters. The trigger menu key is indicated with the letters **TRIG**.

- Arrow Keypad — The up and down arrows (referred to as **UP** and **DOWN** keys for the rest of this document) are used to increment/decrement the current parameter (indicated by the blinking cursor). The position of the cursor controls the step size for each increment. The right and left arrows (referred to as **LEFT** and **RIGHT** keys for the rest of this document) move the cursor to different positions within the current parameter. The **NEXT** key selects the next parameter in the currently displayed menu.
- Numeric Keypad — Allows numbers and alphanumeric values to be entered. When entering alphanumeric values, pressing a key will display the first letter shown on the key. Repeated key presses will toggle through all the letters, both upper and lower case, shown on the keycap. To enter two letters which appear on the same keycap, select the first character, then use the right arrow to shift to the next position and enter the next letter. When data entry is complete the **ENTER** key must be pressed. The **FUNC** key allows a key to select the secondary function/menu in yellow directly above the key.

Second Level Menus (Function Key)

The second level menus (indicated in yellow above certain keys) are accessed through the use of the yellow **FUNC** key. Pressing the **FUNC** key once and then pressing the desired menu key will display the specified second level menu. Pressing the **FUNC** key twice in succession will put the unit into Function Lock mode, where the second level menus can be accessed without repeatedly pressing the **FUNC** key. Pressing the **FUNC** key a third time will exit Function Lock mode.

Channel Outputs (BNC Connectors)

Each channel has two outputs on the front panel:

1. Voltage Monitor — This is an analog representation in volts of the voltage output to the load. The transfer function of this follower is 0.2 V/V, as listed directly below the monitor BNC connector.
2. Current Monitor — This is an analog representation in volts of the current output to the load. The transfer function of this follower is 0.5 V/A, as listed directly above the monitor BNC connector.

The outputs of the voltage and current monitors are optically isolated and have a typical 1us delay.

Channel Status LED Indicators

Each channel has four panel LED indicators and one button led indicator to reflect the current status of the channel:

- ARMED — Green LED indicating the channel is armed and ready.
- CHARGE READY — Amber LED indicating the channel capacitor bank is charged and ready.
- RESISTOR FAULT — Red LED indicating the pretest error status of the current channel.
- GROUND FAULT — Red LED indicating the pretest error status of the current channel.
- Channel Button — Green LED back illuminating button text when the channel is enabled.

Arm Switch (Keyed)

The upper right-hand corner of the front panel contains a safety Arm Switch which may be turned to the ‘STANDBY’ position while changing parameters to ensure no pulses are generated. This switch must be in the ‘ARM’ position in order to allow generation of pulses.

NOTE: The Arm switch keys are included with the shipped accessories.

System Status LED Indicators

The system state has two front panel LED indicators to reflect the current system state:

- Power — Green LED back illuminating button text when system is powered on.
- ARM — Red LED indicating the system arm keyswitch is in the “Arm” position.
- Trigger — Green LED back illuminating button text when the global system trigger is enabled.
- Run — Green LED back illuminating button text while system is pulsing or ready to trigger.

Front Sync Output

The front panel sync output is user selectable to output the TTL representation of the system pulse or any of the individual channels. This output may also be disabled.

Front Trigger Input

The front panel trigger input is user selectable as the source for the global system trigger.

Description of Rear Panel Area

Channel Connections (Banana Jacks)

Each channel has two sets of banana jacks for connecting to the device under test:

- OUTPUT — Red and Black current jacks (labeled ‘A’ between them) connect to the positive and negative drive terminals (respectively) of the device under test.
- MEASURE — Red and Black voltage sense jacks (labeled ‘V’ between them) connect to the positive and negative measurement terminals (respectively) of the device under test. This connection is optional when pre and/or post resistance tests are not enabled.

Rear Sync Output

The rear panel sync output is user selectable to output the TTL representation of the system pulse or any of the individual channels. This output may also be disabled.

Rear Trigger Input

The rear panel trigger input is user selectable as the source for the global system trigger.

Interlock Short

This is a protection jumper required for system or channels to enable or arm. It is labeled ‘INTLK’ on the rear panel overlay. A bypass shorting jumper is included with the instrument when shipped.

Communication Ports

This instrument ships with RS232 and USB communications installed. An option to include Ethernet may be specified at the time the order is placed. The rear panel overlay labels for the communications connections are ‘RS232’, ‘USB’, and ‘ETHERNET’ respectively.

Voltage Input (AC)

A switched and fused AC input connection is located on the rear panel along with markings indicating the required voltage and maximum current draw.

Cooling Fans

The rear panel also contains one or two cooling fan outputs depending on whether the instrument has two or four channels respectively. Air is circulated in through the rear panel and out through the side panel openings. WARNING: DO NOT BLOCK COOLING FAN INPUTS OR OUTPUT(S).

MODE Menu (FUNC + 1)

- Page0
  - Line0 – empty
  - Line1 – Mode: Single Shot, Burst, Recipe
  - Line2 – empty
  - Line3 – empty

Setting System Mode Parameters

Mode: Selects the T_0 mode: Single Shot, Burst mode or Recipe Mode.

Note: When Trigger is enabled while in Burst mode, burst mode is disabled and the unit will perform as in Single Shot mode. The display will show "Burst (Disabled)" on the Mode: line.

RATE Menu (FUNC + 4)

- Page0
  - Line0 – empty
  - Line1 – empty
  - Line2 – Per: <period>
  - Line3 – decimal place indicator

Setting System Rate Parameters

Per: Sets the T_0 period which determines the burst mode output frequency of the unit.

- Page0
  - Line0 – Channel: Enabled, Disabled
  - Line1 – Wid: <width>
  - Line2 – Dly: <delay>
  - Line3 – decimal place indicator

- Page1
  - Line0 – 'Enable' Enabled, Disabled
  - Line1 – empty
  - Line2 – Brst: <burst>
  - Line3 – Ampl: <amplitude>

Setting Channel Output Parameters

'Enable'	Enables or disables the channel for pulsing.
Wid:	Sets the channel pulsewidth.
Dly:	Sets the channel delay until active edge.
Brst:	Sets the burst count for the channel. When system is in 'Single Shot' mode, this parameter will display '(Disabled)' and not be adjustable.
Ampl:	Sets the amplitude of the output current pulse.
Offs:	Sets the amplitude offset of the output current pulse.

- Page0
  - Line0 – empty
  - Line1 – PreTest: Disabled
  - Line2 – empty
  - Line3 – empty
- Page0 – Alt
  - Line0 – empty
  - Line1 – PreTest: Enabled
  - Line2 – PreMeas: “measured resistance”
  - Line3 – empty

- Page1 – (Only available when PreTest is Enabled)
  - Line0 – empty
  - Line1 – PreMax: <pretest maximum resistance>
  - Line2 – PreMin: <pretest minimum resistance>
  - Line3 – IPreMax: <pretest measurement current>

Setting Channel Pre-Test Parameters

PreTest:	Enables or disables pre resistance test and requirements for the channel.
PreMeas:	Displays the measured resistance from the last run pre-test.
PreMax:	Sets the maximum resistance allowable for pulse generation.
PreMin:	Sets the minimum resistance allowable for pulse generation.
IPreMax:	Sets the test current for measuring the resistance.

- Page2
  - Line0 – empty
  - Line1 – PostTest: Disabled
  - Line2 – empty
  - Line3 – empty
- Page2 - Alt
  - Line0 – empty
  - Line1 – PostTest: Enabled
  - Line2 – PstMeas: “measured resistance”
  - Line3 – TstType: Standard, Outside, Outside Pre

- Page3 – (Only available when PostTest is Enabled)
  - Line0 – empty

- Line1 – PstMax: <post-test maximum resistance>
- Line2 – PstMin: <post-test minimum resistance>
- Line3 – IPstMax: <maximum test current>

Setting Channel Post-Test Parameters

PstTest:	Enables or disables post resistance test and requirements for the channel.
PstMeas:	Displays the measured resistance from the last run post-test.
TstType:	Sets the type of test for determining pass/fail condition of the Post Test. The types are as follows: Standard – Indicates “Ground Fault” if PstMeas is less than PstMin and “Resistance Range Error” if above PstMax if PstMax is enabled. Outside – Indicates “Resistance Range Error” if PstMeas is between PstMin and PstMax. Outside Pre – Indicates “Resistance Range Error” if PstMeas is between PreMin and PreMax.
PstMax:	Sets the maximum resistance allowable to consider a post-test as passed. (May be disabled by setting to 0 through the command interface)
PstMin:	Sets the minimum resistance allowable to consider a post-test as passed.
IPstMax:	Sets the maximum test current for measuring the resistance.

TRIG Menu (TRIG)

- Page0
  - Line0 – empty
  - Line1 – Mode: Disabled
  - Line2 – empty
  - Line3 – empty
- Page0 – Alt
  - Line0 – empty
  - Line1 – Mode: Enabled
  - Line2 – Level: <trigger threshold level>
  - Line3 – Edge: <trigger edge>

- Page1
  - Line0 – empty
  - Line1 – Filter: Disabled
  - Line2 – empty
  - Line3 – Source: Front Input, Rear Input
- Page1 - Alt
  - Line0 – empty
  - Line1 – Filter: Enabled
  - Line2 – MinWid: <minimum trigger pulse width>
  - Line3 – Source: Front Input, Rear Input

Setting Trigger Parameters

Mode:	Enables or disables external trigger operation.
Level:	Sets the trigger threshold level.
Edge:	Sets the triggering edge to rising or falling.
Filter:	Enables or disables minimum trigger pulse width filtering.
MinWid:	Sets the minimum allowable trigger pulse width.
Source:	Sets the trigger input source to front panel or rear panel

Counter Menu (FUNC + 8)

- Page0
  - Line0 – empty
  - Line1 – Counter: Disabled, Enabled
  - Line2 – Counts: “system pulse count since reset”
  - Line3 – CLR to zero counter.

Setting Counter Parameters

Counter:	Enables or disables the T_0 pulse counter.
Counts:	Returns the current value of the counter.
CLR:	Pressing the **CLR** while in the Counter menu will reset the Counts value to 0.

SYSTEM Menu (FUNC + 3)

- Page0
  - Line0 – empty
  - Line1 – Front Sync: Disabled, T0, ChA, ChB, (ChC, ChD)
  - Line2 – Rear Sync: Disabled, T0, ChA, ChB, (ChC, ChD)
  - Line3 – empty

- Page1
  - Line0 – empty
  - Line1 – Interface: RS232
  - Line2 – Baud Rate: <RS232 baud rate>
  - Line3 – Echo: <RS232 echo>

- Page1 - Alt
  - Line0 – empty
  - Line1 – Interface: USB
  - Line2 – empty
  - Line3 – empty

- Page1 - Alt
  - Line0 – empty
  - Line1 – Interface: Ethernet
  - Line2 – empty
  - Line3 – empty

  Note: Ethernet Interface will only display if unit was ordered with the Ethernet Option.

- Page2
  - Line0 – empty
  - Line1 – Key Rate: <key rate>
  - Line2 – Key Vol: <key volume>
  - Line3 – empty

- Page3
  - Line0 – empty
  - Line1 – Mark: <decimal point indicator>
  - Line2 – LCD: <LCD brightness>

- Line3 – empty

Setting System Parameters

Front Sync: Sets the source of the front panel sync output signal set to the front panel. Choices are Disabled, T_0, ChA, and ChB for two channel instruments, with ChC and ChD added for four channel instruments.

Rear Sync: Sets the source of the rear panel sync output signal set to the front panel. Choices are Disabled, T_0, ChA, and ChB for two channel instruments, with ChC and ChD added for four channel instruments.

Interface: Selects through the installed interfaces and allows adjustments of appropriate parameters.

Baud Rate: Sets the baud rate for the RS232 communications port.

Echo: Enables or disables command echoing for the RS232 communications port.

Key Rate: Sets the key repeat rate (useful for modifying the rate at which parameters adjust)

Key Vol: Sets the perceived key beep volume by adjusting the beep time.

Mark: Sets which character, either a ‘,’ or a ‘.’, to use as a decimal point indicator.

STORE Menu (FUNC + 6)

- Page0
  - Line0 – empty
  - Line1 – Store#: <configuration# 1-12>
  - Line2 – Name: <configuration name>
  - Line3 – empty

Setting Store Parameters

Store#: Sets which user bin to store the current instrument setup.

Name: Allows the user to rename the user bin.

RECALL Menu (FUNC + 9)

- Page0
  - Line0 – empty
  - Line1 – Recall#: <configuration# 0-12>
  - Line2 – empty: “configuration #”
  - Line3 – empty

Setting Recall Parameters

Recall#: Sets which user bin to recall.
Level: Displays the name of the selected user bin.

Quick Start – Internal Single Shot Generator Operation

Although the 9730 has a powerful set of feature extensions that allow the user to cater it to many unique test setups, the following steps may be followed to quickly generate a single shot internally generated pulse. Starting from the default settings, which can be recalled by recalling configuration 0, the following parameters need to be set:

Pulse Width, Delay

Enter the Channel menus by pressing the appropriate channel key. Enter the required pulse width and delay. Repeat for each output channel.

Amplitude

Enter the channel menus as specified in the previous step. Press the channel menu an additional time to display the second parameter page. Enter the desired current amplitude. Repeat for each output channel.

Enable

Enter the channel menus as specified in the previous step. Use the up-arrow key to change the first line of the display to read ‘Enabled’. Repeat for each output channel.

Interlock

Make sure the Safety Interlock on the rear panel is shorted with either a setup specific safety connection or the 50 Ohm interlock bypass (shipped with the instrument accessories).

Wait for Charge

When the Safety Interlock is properly shorted the instrument will charge up the capacitor banks for each channel (regardless of whether the channel is enabled or not). When the channel ‘CHARGE READY’ LEDs become illuminated, proceed to the next step.

ARM Key Switch

Turn the Arm Key Switch to the ARM position. If the system 'ARM' LED or the desired channel 'ARMED' LEDs do not illuminate, the previous two steps need to be revisited.

Start

Press the **RUN/STOP** key to generate a single pulse for each enabled channel.

Quick Start – Single Shot External Trigger Operation

To generate a single pulse for single external trigger event, based on the default configuration 0, the following parameters need to be set:

Trig

Enter the trigger menu by pressing the **TRIG** key. Change mode to 'Enabled'.

Level

Press the **NEXT** key to select the trigger threshold voltage parameter. Adjust to approximately 50% of the trigger signal amplitude.

Edge

Press the **NEXT** key to select the Edge parameter. Set the instrument to trigger off the rising edge or falling edge as desired.

Filter

Press the **TRIG** key to select the next page. Select the filter to be enabled or disabled. If enabled, press the **NEXT** key to select the filter width. Adjust the filter width to be shorter that the external trigger pulse width but longer than any "errant" pulses.

Source

Press the **NEXT** key to select the trigger source. Select either front or rear input.

Pulse Width, Delay

Enter the Channel menus by pressing the appropriate channel key. Enter the required pulse width and delay. Repeat for each output channel.

Amplitude

Enter the channel menus as specified in the previous step. Press the channel menu an additional time to display the second parameter page. Enter the desired current amplitude. Repeat for each output channel.

Enable

Enter the channel menus as specified in the previous step. Use the up-arrow key to change the first line of the display to read 'Enabled'. Repeat for each output channel.

Interlock

Make sure the Safety Interlock on the rear panel is shorted with either a setup specific safety connection or the 50 Ohm interlock bypass (shipped with the instrument accessories).

Wait for Charge

When the Safety Interlock is properly shorted the instrument will charge up the capacitor banks for each channel (regardless of whether the channel is enabled or not). When the channel 'CHARGE READY' LEDs become illuminated, proceed to the next step.

ARM Key Switch

Turn the Arm Key Switch to the ARM position. If the system 'ARM' LED or the desired channel 'ARMED' LEDs do not illuminate, the previous two steps need to be revisited.

Start

Press the **RUN/STOP** key to allow the unit to generate a single pulse for each enabled channel at the next external trigger event.

Standard Operation Modes

System Pulse Generation Overview

Please refer to the System Timer Functions section for and overview of how the system generates system pulses. System modes are controlled via the **MODE** menu.

Single Shot Mode (Trigger Disabled)

The **RUN/STOP** button triggers a single pulse for each enabled channel. To generate channel pulses in single shot mode:

- In the system **MODE** menu: Set to 'Single Shot' mode.
- In the channel menu: Set desired channels to 'Enabled'.
- Verify the rear panel Safety Interlock.
- Turn Arm Switch to 'ARM' Position.
- Run Pre-Test if enabled and resolve any resulting error conditions.

Pressing the **RUN/STOP** key will now generate a single pulse for each enabled channel.

NOTE: All operation modes require the Interlock to be in place and the Arm Switch to be in ARM position.

Burst Mode (Trigger Disabled)

The **RUN/STOP** button causes each channel to generate exactly the number of pulses specified by that channels burst count. The rate of pulse generation is specified in the RATE menu. The minimum period will be limited to 5 times the largest set pulse width. Pressing the **RUN/STOP** button while the burst is in process will stop the output. After the burst has been completed, pressing the **RUN/STOP** button will generate another burst. To generate a burst of pulses:

- In the system **MODE** menu: Set to 'Burst' mode.
- In the system **RATE** menu: Set the desired period.
- In the system **TRIG** menu:
  - Set trigger mode to 'Enabled'.

    - Set trigger level.
    - Set trigger edge.

- In the channel menu:
    - Set desired channels to ‘Enabled’.
    - Set the desired burst count for each enabled channel.

- Verify the rear panel Safety Interlock.

- Turn Arm Switch to ‘ARM’ Position.

- Run Pre-Test if enabled and resolve any resulting error conditions.

Pressing the **RUN/STOP** key will now generate a burst of pulses for each enabled channel.

NOTE: All operation modes require the Interlock to be in place and the Arm Switch to be in ARM position.

Recipe Mode (Optional) (channels A & B only!)

The **RUN/STOP** button triggers a single pulse for each enabled channel. The pulses are programmable with up to 8 defined segments. Recipes can only be defined using the computer comm ports. See programming examples for how to set up a recipe. Once defined the unit can be fired using the **RUN/STOP** key or by sending the software command.

NOTE: All operation modes require the Interlock to be in place and the Arm Switch to be in ARM position.

External Input Overview

The front and rear panel external inputs may be used to trigger the system and/or channel timers to generate a single pulse. The external input has both level and filter options so that only the desired pulse type (amplitude and width) is able to trigger the unit. The external trigger rate is equal to the widest channel width times 1.2 or the output current amplitude setting, whichever is larger.

Period=k*Width; k=1.2 or output amplitude whichever is larger

The unit will not allow triggers any faster than this to protect the unit from damage due to over-triggering.

- Trigger Level. This sets a threshold level that the input trigger must be higher than before it will become active. Typically, this level should be set to a 50% level of the input trigger amplitude. This level can be used to filter out any pulses that are not of sufficient amplitude. Care must be taken that the level is not set too low as this could cause triggering off of a bias or noise floor level.
- Filter Width. When enabled, the filter width can be adjusted so that the unit will not accept any trigger pulse widths that are less than the set filter width. This allows for filtering out of errant or "runt" pulses that may be caused by noisy environments.

Single Shot Mode (Trigger Enabled)

The external trigger input triggers a single pulse for each enabled channel. External triggering is internally limited to 5 times the maximum set pulse width. To generate channel pulses in single shot mode with the trigger enabled:

- In the system **MODE** menu: Set to 'Single Shot' mode.
- In the system **TRIG** menu:
  - Set trigger mode to 'Enabled'.
  - Set trigger level.
  - Set trigger edge.
- In the channel menu: Set desired channels to 'Enabled'.
- Verify the rear panel Safety Interlock.
- Turn Arm Switch to 'ARM' Position.
- Run Pre-Test if enabled and resolve any resulting error conditions.

Pressing the **RUN/STOP** key will now allow a single pulse for each enabled channel at the next external trigger event.

NOTE: All operation modes require the Interlock to be in place and the Arm Switch to be in ARM position.

Special Testing Modes

Pre Pulse Resistance Testing

The 9730 allows the user to setup a pre pulse resistance test that, when enabled, must run and pass within the user specified range before allowing pulses to be generated for any enabled channel. To use pre pulse resistance testing:

- Setup the system mode, period and channel pulse parameters as described in the Standard Operation Modes section.
- In the Channel Test Menu:
  - Set PreTest to 'Enabled'
  - Set PreMax to the maximum "Go" resistance
  - Set PreMin to the minimum "Go" resistance
- Verify the rear panel Safety Interlock.
- Turn Arm Switch to 'ARM' Position.
- Press the **FUNC** key and then the **PRE** key ('**.**' on the numeric keypad) to run the pre pulse resistance test.
- Refer to Testing Mode Error Conditions for more information on any resulting errors.

Post Pulse Resistance Testing

The 9730 allows the user to setup a post pulse resistance test that, when enabled, may be run at any time to verify the resistance of the connected load is greater than a user specified minimum. To use pre pulse resistance testing:

- Setup the system mode, period and channel pulse parameters as described in the Standard Operation Modes section.
- In the Channel Test Menu:
  - Set PstTest to 'Enabled'
  - Set PstMin to the minimum resistance expected for a "fired" device.
- Verify the rear panel Safety Interlock.
- Turn Arm Switch to 'ARM' Position.

- Press the **FUNC** key and then the **POST** key ('**.**' on the numeric keypad) to run the post pulse resistance test.

- Refer to Testing Mode Error Conditions for more information on any resulting errors.

Testing Mode Error/Status Conditions

- ***Status - "No Error Detected"*** – This message is returned through a channel error query whenever no errors are detected for the current channel. Refer to Channel Commands for more information channel queries.

- ***Error - "Valid Pre-Test Required"*** – This message is displayed or returned through a channel error query when the instrument has attempted to trigger and one or more channels with pre pulse resistance testing enabled have not yet passed testing.

    - Simultaneous flashing of the 'RESISTOR FAULT' and 'GROUND FAULT' LEDs for any channel indicates the test has not yet been run (or re-run since the last pulsing attempt).
    - Alternating flashing of the 'RESISTOR FAULT' and 'GROUND FAULT' LEDs indicate the test was performed previously but failed.

- ***Error - "Failed Resistance Range"*** – This message is displayed or returned through a channel error query when the pre or post pulse resistance testing has been run, and one or more channels were determined to have a resistance outside the valid range.
    - Flashing of the 'RESISTOR FAULT' LEDs indicate the test was performed but the resistance was determined to be outside the valid range.

- ***Error - "Ground Fault"*** – This message is displayed or returned through a channel error query after running the post pulse resistance test, when one or more channels were determined to have a resistance less than the set minimum.
    - Flashing of the 'GROUND FAULT' LEDs indicate the test was performed but the resistance was determined to be outside the valid range.

- ***Status - "Arm Switch/Interlock"*** – This message is displayed when attempting to fire the unit or run a test with the Arm Switch or Interlock disengaged. This message will also be returned through the channel error query anytime the Arm Switch or Interlock is disengaged.

- ***Status - "Channel Not Enabled"*** – This message is returned through a channel error query when the current channel is not enabled for pulse output.

- ***Status - "No Test Enabled"*** – This message is returned through a channel error query when the current channel is not enabled for pre or post resistance testing.

- ***Error - "HW Fault"*** – This message is displayed or returned through a channel error query when a channel has failed a self-diagnostic check.

Note: If a "HW Fault" error is indicated, please contact customer service and indicate the number of the error as returned by the channel error query. This may indicate an internal hardware failure of the unit.

Personal Computer to Pulse Generator Communication

The 9730 comes standard with a RS232 serial and USB interface. An Ethernet interface is available as an option. All menu settings can be set and retrieved over the computer interface using a simple command language. The command set is structured to be consistent with the Standard Commands for Programmable Instruments (SCPI). Although due to the special features optional in the 9730, some of the commands are not included in the specification. The syntax is the same for all interfaces.

RS232 Interface Overview

The serial port is located on the back of the 9730 and uses a 9-pin D-type connector with the following pin-out (as viewed from the back of the unit):

- No Connection
- Tx – Transmit (to computer)
- Rx – Receive (from computer)
- DTR – Connected to pin 6
- Ground
- DSR – connected to pin 4
- RTS – Connected to pin 8
- CTS – Connected to pin 7
- No Connection

The serial port parameters should be set as follows:

- Baud Rate
  - 115200 (default)
  - 57600
  - 38400
  - 9600
  - 4800
- Data Bits
  - 8
- Parity
  - None
- Stop Bits
  - 1

*The default baud rate for the RS232 is 115200

USB Interface Overview

The USB interface is standard on the 9730. Before this type of communication can be used, the appropriate drivers must be installed on the personal computer. These drivers are included on the disc that was shipped with your unit. Please contact Quantum Composers or visit www.quantumcomposers.com for updated installation files and instructions.

USB communication is achieved by using a mapped (virtual) COM port on your computer. The driver installation executable will obtain an unused COM port number, install the USB drivers, and make that COM port number available for typical RS232 communication to the pulse generator. HyperTerminal or other common software may be used.

When communicating through the mapped COM port over USB, the baud rate for the communication port used by the USB chip must match the baud rate for the COM port of your computer. The USB baud rate is set at 38400.

USB communication notes:

- The correct drivers must be installed on your computer before communication can be accomplished via USB.
- The BAUD rate on your computer must be set to 38400 for successful communication.
- USB 1.0 specification is used. The USB cable can be removed without "unplugging" the device in the operating system environment.

Ethernet Interface Overview

The Ethernet module used in Quantum Composers' pulse and current generators is a "Digi Connect ME" device manufactured by Digi International, Inc. It supports virtually all practical Ethernet communication methods. A set of utilities and documentation by Digi is included on the CD/USB shipped with the pulse generator. This discussion assumes that the Digi utilities included with your pulse generator and National Instruments VISA (version 3.3 in this procedure, see National Instruments' website) are installed.

Determining IP address

The Digi module has been reset to factory defaults before it left the manufacturing facility. In this mode, it is ready to be assigned an IP address by the local DHCP server. If a crossover cable is being used, the Ethernet device will assume a default IP address.
The Digi utility "Digi Device Discovery" can be used to determine the IP address that is currently assigned to the Ethernet module. Hit "Start, All Programs, Digi

Connect, Digi Device Discovery". When the utility opens, it scans the LAN looking for Digi Ethernet modules. It may take a minute after plugging in or powering the Ethernet module before the LAN negotiates the connection with the Digi module. Hit "Refresh View" in the left column after a minute or so if the utility fails to see the unit when you start it. When the utility sees the Digi device, it will display it in the list (**Figure 2** (Digi Device Discovery utility displaying Digi module discovered on the LAN)).

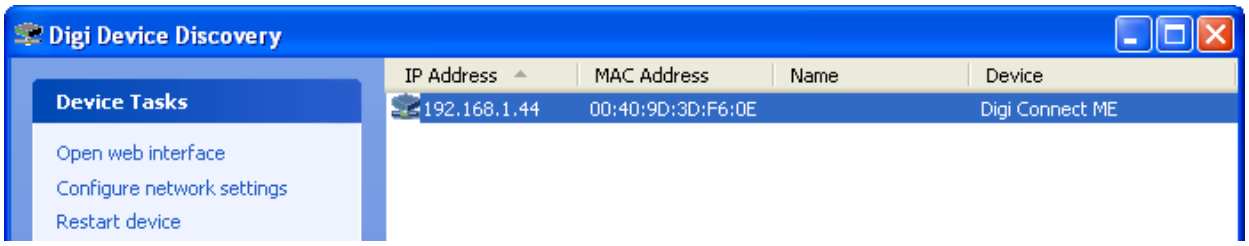


Figure 2 (Digi Device Discovery utility displaying Digi module discovered on the LAN)

Note the IP address for use later. A static IP address can be set using the "Configure network settings" link in the left hand column. From this point, a web interface can be opened, allowing access to configuration options for the Digi module. Select "Open web interface" under the device tasks on the left hand column of the Digi Device Discovery software.

You will be required to enter a username and password. Units built after January 2021 will have a unique password for each unit. The password can be found on the paperwork shipped with the device and there will also be a label on the device indicating the password.

Older units:

- Username: “root”
- Password: “dbps”

Newer Units:

- Username: “root”
- Password: <unit specific>

The Digi Connect ME Configuration and Management home page will be displayed (**Figure 3** (Configuration Home page)).

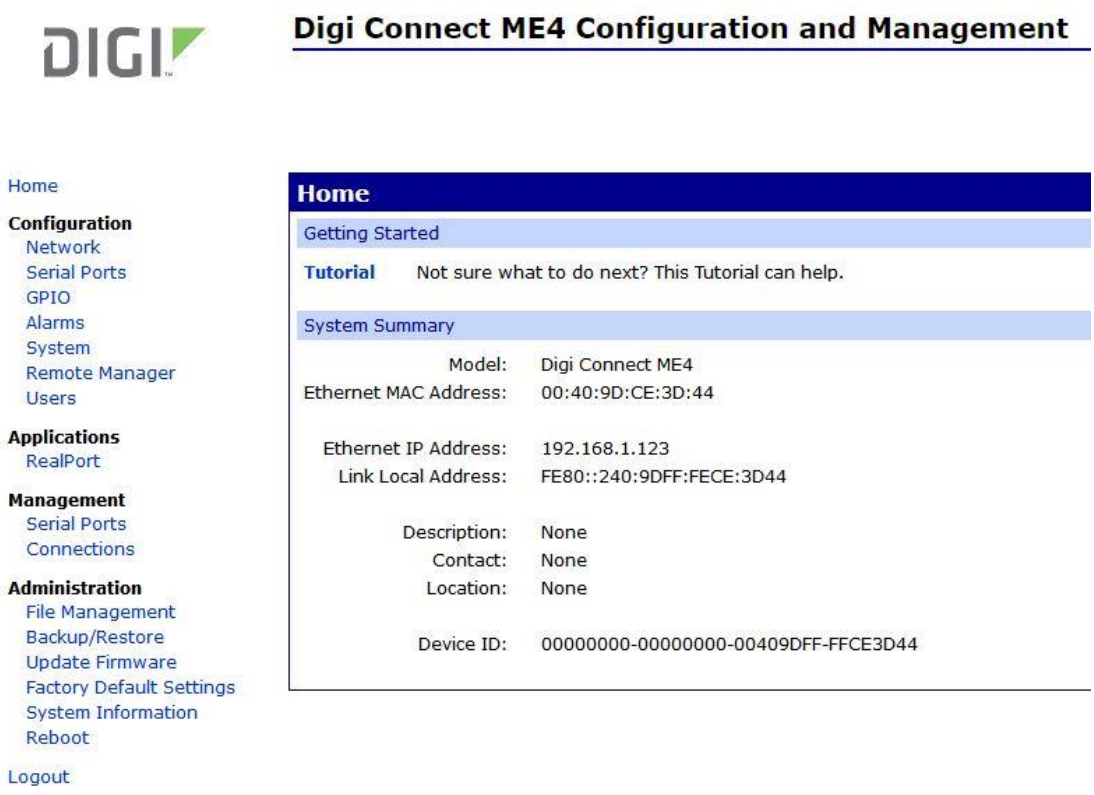


Figure 3 (Configuration Home page)

From the home page select “Serial Ports” on the left hand side. The serial port configuration page will be displayed (**Figure 4** (Serial Ports Page)).

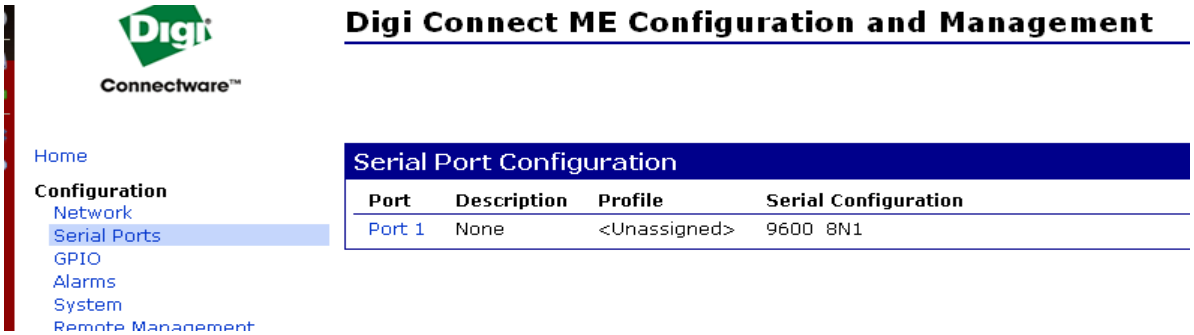


Figure 4 (Serial Ports Page)

Select Port 1 from the list of ports. The Port Profile Settings will then be displayed. Be sure that the box next to “Enable Raw TCP access using TCP Port:” is selected and note the port number. By default the port number is 2101. Then change the current port profile by selecting the “Change Profile…” link (**Figure 5** (Change Serial Port Profile)).

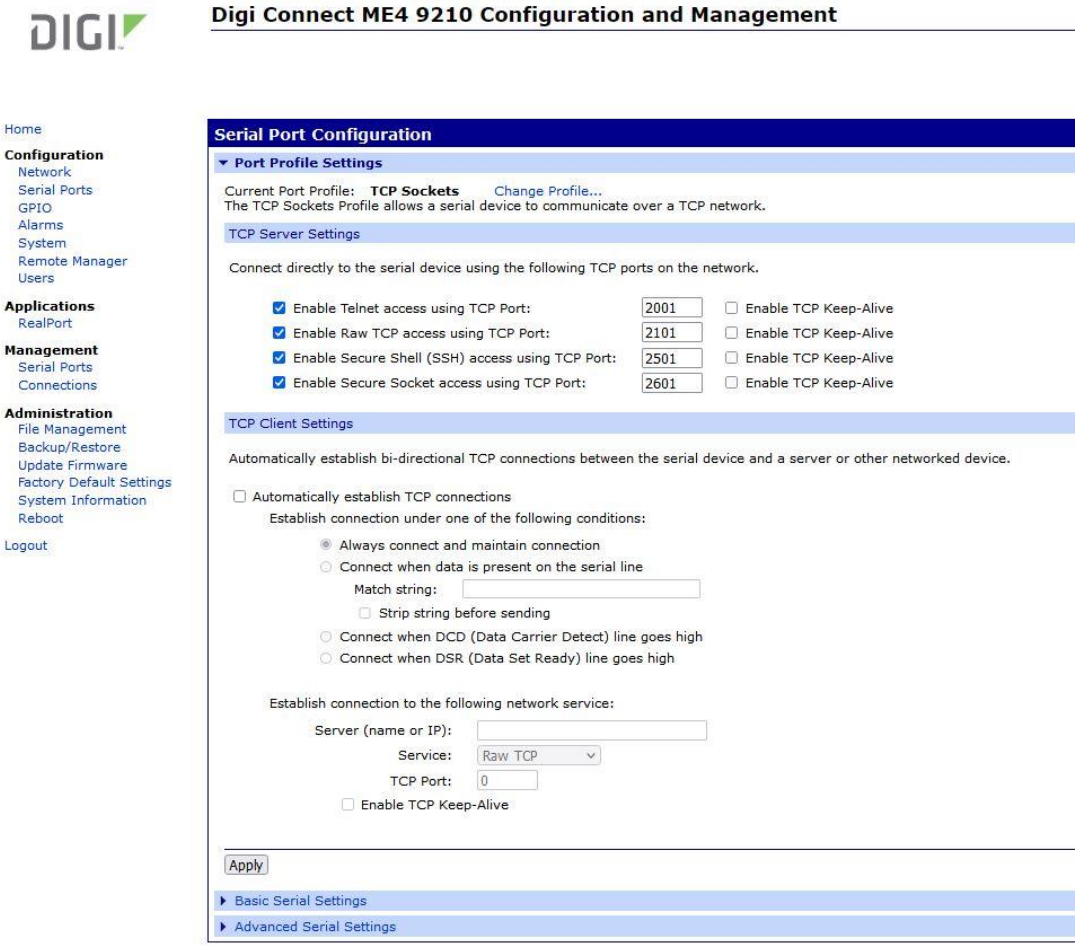


Figure 5 (Change Serial Port Profile)

Select TCP Sockets from the list of available profiles and click on apply at the bottom of the page (**Figure 6**).

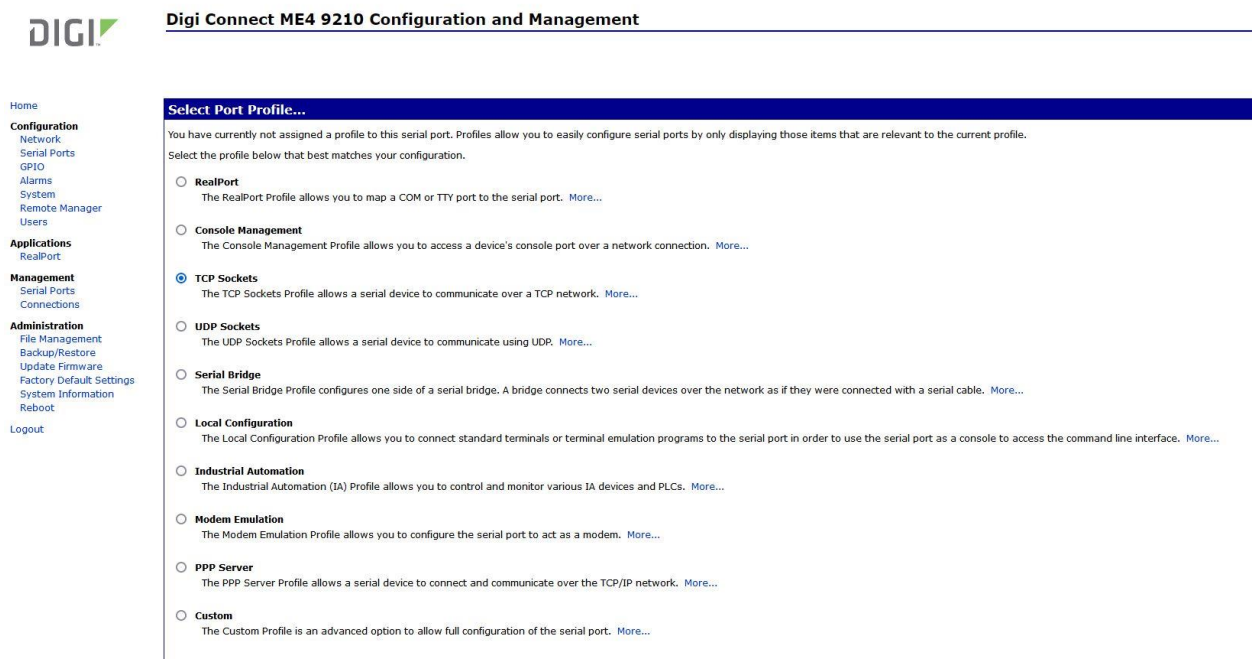


Figure 6 (Selecting TCP Sockets)

Next, select the “Basic Serial Settings” section located below the “Port Profile Settings” section. If the product is a 9500+ select 9600 as the baud rate, all other models need to be set to a baud rate of 115200 (**Figure 7**).

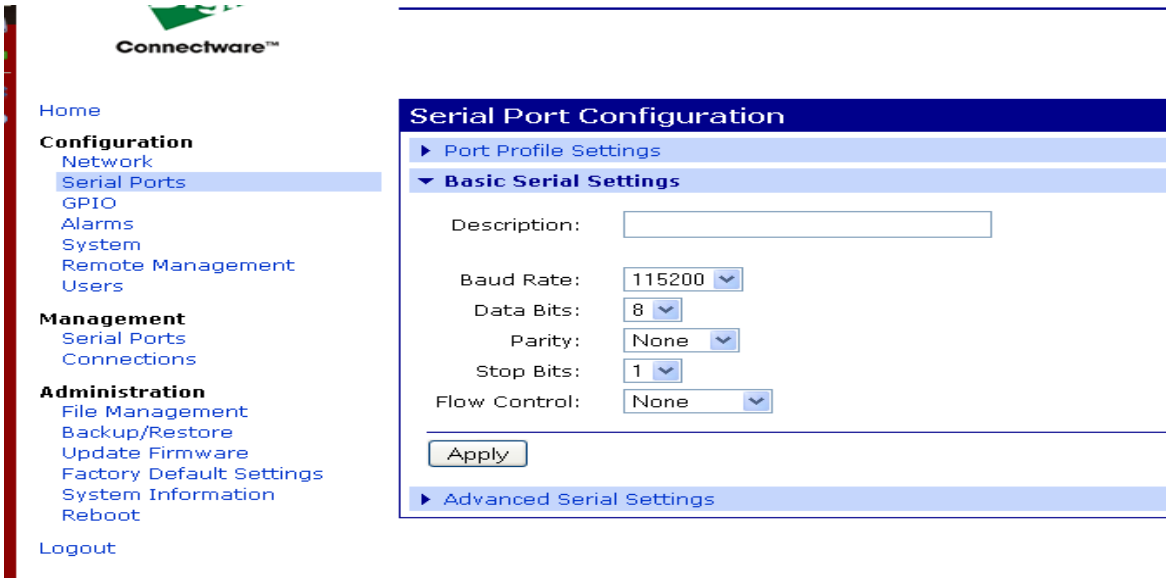


Figure 7 (Basic Serial Settings)

Click on apply after changing the baud rate. Select “Logout” from the bottom of the left hand column. After logging out power cycle the instrument. Use the Digi Device Discovery software to see if the IP address of the unit appears again. Once the unit has been identified the unit is ready for communication.

Testing Ethernet Communication

Ethernet communication to the pulse generator can be tested using any terminal utility that supports TCPIP. Two options are the “VISA Interactive Control” that is installed with National Instruments VISA libraries and another is Putty.

VISA Interactive Control Example

After determine the IP address for the unit, “VISA Interactive Control” can be used to send and receive command strings to and from the pulse generator. The VISA Interactive Control can be found installed in the National Instruments program group. When this utility opens, it displays local resources found. TCPIP resources are typically not shown in this window. However, the resource string can be successfully entered manually in the “Resource to Open” field (**Figure 8**). The resource string for Digi Connect Ethernet Modules in Quantum Composer pulse generators needs to be formatted as follows:

TCPIP0::<IP address>::2101::SOCKET

Or, for example:

TCPIP0::192.168.1.44::2101::SOCKET

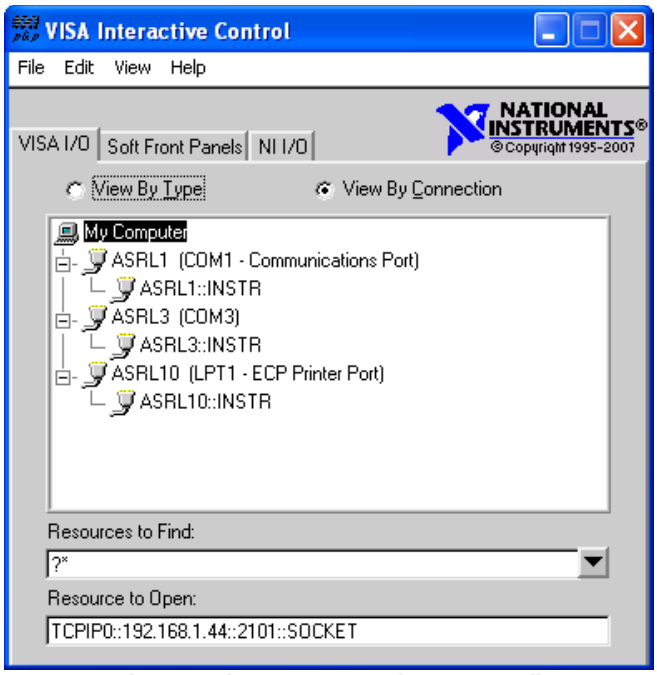


Figure 8 (VISA Interactive Control)

A session window will open allowing access to communication parameters and read and write buffer access and control. Quantum Composer units support SCPI formatted command strings. For these units, command strings and responses are both terminated with text-style line terminations, a carriage return and linefeed pair. These are ASCII characters number 13 and 10 respectively. They are represented in this utility (and in many other contexts) as “\r\n”. In hexadecimal, these are represented as “0x0D” and “0x0A”, respectively. When sending command strings to the pulse generator, strings need to be terminated with a carriage return and linefeed pair. Without this line termination, the pulse generator will not execute commands, but continue to wait for more characters until it sees this string termination sequence.

Select the “Write” tab (**Figure 9**).

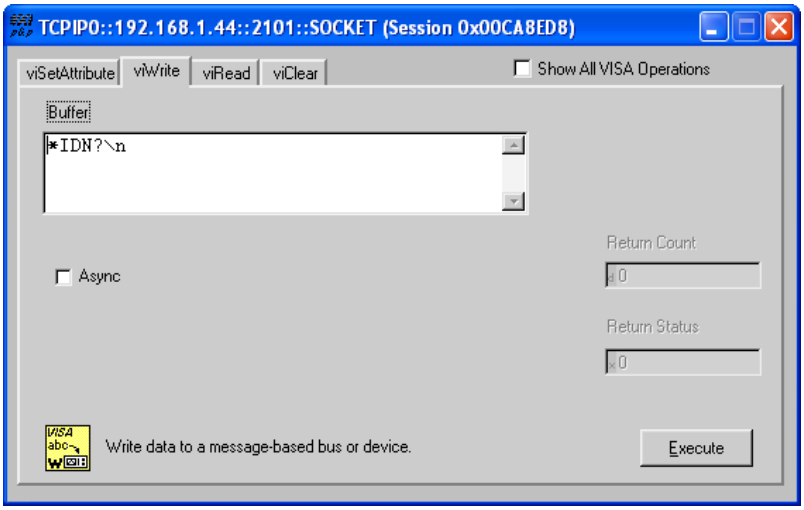


Figure 9 (Write Tab)

The “Buffer” field can be edited to send any valid command to the pulse generator. Hit “Execute” to send the “*IDN?” command. Now select to the “Read” tab (**Figure 10**).

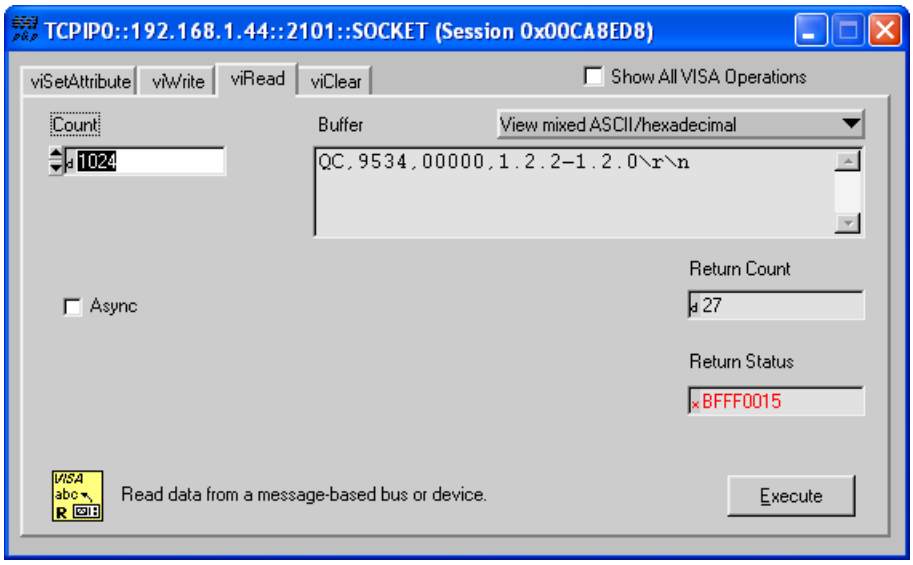


Figure 10 (Read Tab)

Successive iterations between “Write” and “Read” operations can be accomplished from here. Keep in mind that it is always best to follow each “Write” command immediately with a “Read” command, whether the commands are generated from a utility such as this, or from a more complex coded application. The pulse generator is designed to respond to every command line with either the result of a query (ie, “:pulse1:width?\r\n” could return “0.000100000”), or a simple “ok\r\n” to acknowledge a successful parameter change. If a “Read” command does not follow each “Write” command, the read (output) buffer in the pulse generator can overfill and become corrupt.

Putty Example

Putty is an open source terminal emulator that can be used for various methods of communications. Once Putty is installed and run for the first time, a few parameters need to be entered before communications with the unit can be established (**Figure 11**).

- Host Name (or IP Address): Enter the IP address of the unit determined by using the Digi Device Discovery utility as described previously.
- Port: Enter the port number of the device as set during the device configuration. Default is 2101.
- Connection type: Select Raw.

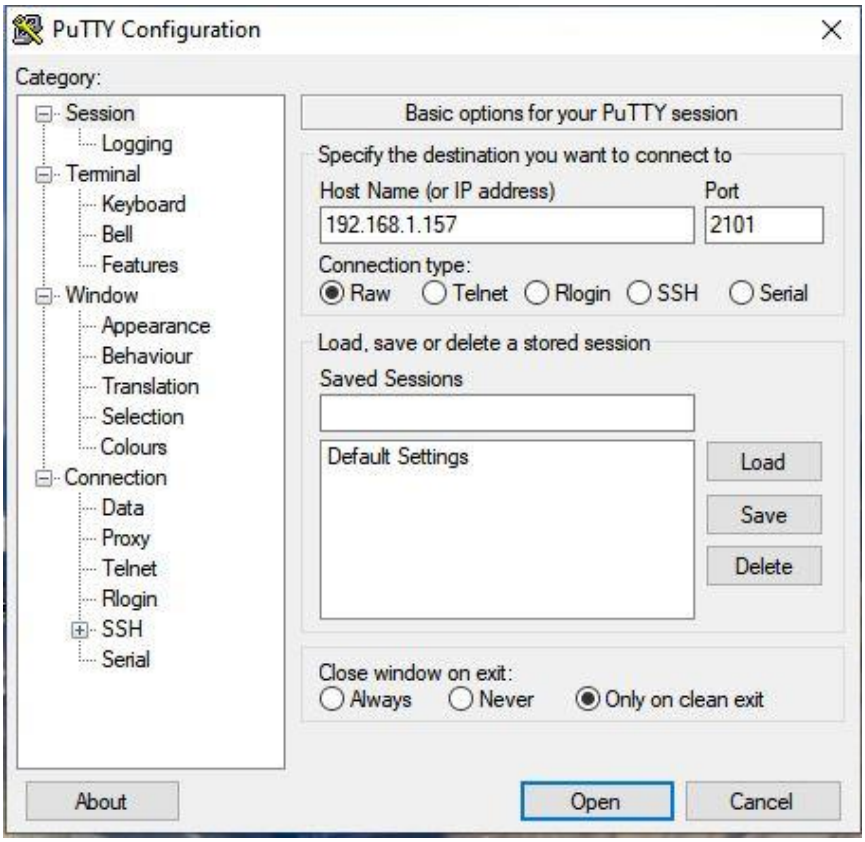


Figure 11 (Putty Settings)

Select Open and a new window will appear (**Figure 12**). In this window, commands or queries can be sent to the unit. In the example, an *IDN? query is sent. Once enter is pressed, a response should be received.

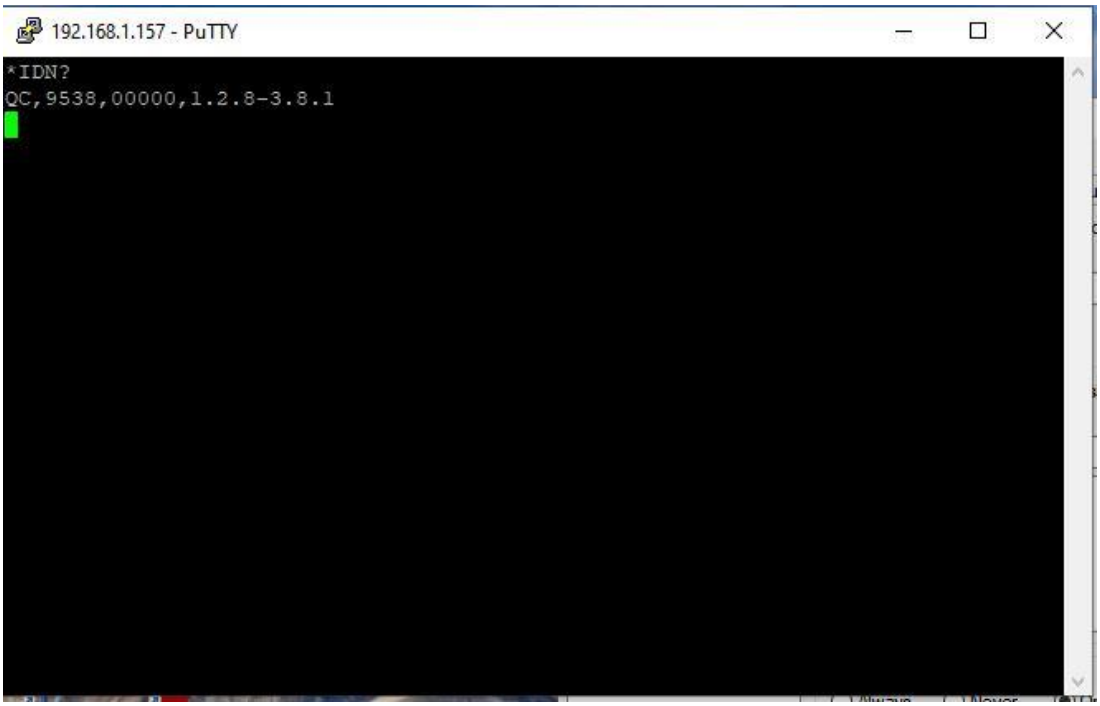


Figure 12 (Putty Terminal Window)

Many applications may need a communication mechanism no more sophisticated than what can be achieved with these simple utilities. At the very least, these tools can be used to verify that the pulse generator and communication hardware are functioning properly. From here, a specific application in whatever preferred programming language can be built.

Although Quantum Composers cannot support all programming languages, we do have extensive experience with many languages, and strive to provide whatever assistance we can. Contact QC technical support for the latest information on what assistance may be available for your application.

Programming Command Types and Format

The 9730 Pulse Generator uses two types of programming commands: IEEE 488.2 Common Commands and Standard Commands for Programmable Instruments (SCPI). The format is the same for all interfaces. HyperTerminal (in Windows) or any other generic terminal program may be used to interactively test the commands using the RS232 interface. The format of each type is described in the following paragraphs.

Line Termination

The pulse generator uses text-style line terminations. When a command is sent to the unit the firmware is programmed to read characters from a communication port until it reads the line termination sequence.

The command string is parsed and executed after reading these characters. These characters are the “carriage return” and “linefeed”. They are ASCII character set values 13 & 10 respectively (hex 0x0D and 0x0A). All command strings need to have these characters appended.

When the pulse generator responds to a command, whether it is a query or a parameter change, it also appends its return strings with these characters. Coded applications could use the behavior to know when to stop reading from the unit. However, if the “echo” parameter is enabled, there will be two sets of line terminators, one following the echoed command string, and the one following the pulse generator’s response.

Note: The pulse generator will echo commands on the DB9 serial port only.

The pulse generator responds to every communication string. If the communication string is a query, the unit responds with the queried response (or error code) followed by the line terminators. If the communication string is a parameter change, the response is “ok” (or error code) followed by the line terminators. For this reason, it is not recommended that multiple commands be stacked together into single strings as is common with some other types of instruments. It is recommended that the coded application send a single command in a string and follow immediately by reading the response from the unit. Repeat this sequence for multiple commands.

IEEE 488.2 Common Command Format

The IEEE 488.2 Common Commands control and manage generic system functions such as reset, configuration storage and identification. Common commands always begin with the asterisk (*) character and may include parameters. The parameters are separated from the command pneumonic by a space character. For example:

*RCL 1 <cr> <lf>
*IDN? <cr> <lf>

SCPI Command Keywords

SCPI commands control and set instrument specific functions such as setting the pulsewidth, delay and period. SCPI commands have a hierarchical structure compose of functional elements that include a header or keywords separated with a colon, data parameters and terminators. For example:

SCPI Keyword Separator

A colon (:) must always separate one keyword from the next lower-level keyword. A space must be used to separate the keyword header from the first parameter. If more than one parameter is used, you must separate subsequent parameters with a comma.

SCPI Optional Keywords

Optional keywords and/or parameters appear in square brackets ([]) in the command syntax. Note that the brackets are not part of the command and should not be sent to the pulse generator. When sending a second level keyword without the optional keyword, the pulse generator assumes that you intend to use the optional keyword and responds as if it had been sent.

SCPI Parameter Types

The following parameter types are used:

- <numeric value>
  - Accepts all commonly used decimal representation of numbers including optional signs, decimal points and scientific notation: 123, 123e2, -123, -1.23e2, .123, 1.23e-2, 1.2300E-01.
- <Boolean value>
  - Represents a single binary condition that is either true or false. True is represented by a 1 or ON; false is represented by a 0 or OFF. Queries return 1 or 0.
- <identifier>
  - Selects from a finite number of predefined strings.

Error Codes

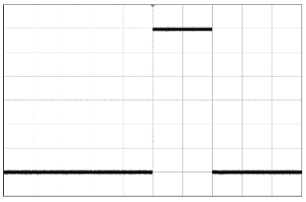
The unit responds to all commands with either:

ok<cr><lf> or ?<n><cr><lf> <cr> = carriage return, <lf> = line feed

Where "n" is one of the following error codes:

1 Incorrect prefix, i.e. no colon or * to start command.
2 Missing command keyword.
3 Invalid command keyword.
4 Missing parameter.
5 Invalid parameter.
6 Query only, command needs a question mark.
7 Invalid query, command does not have a query form.
8 Command unavailable in current system state.

Example 1 – simple square wave current pulse:



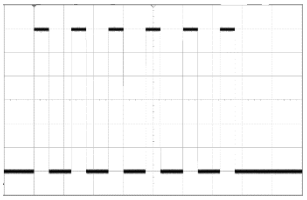
0.8 A amplitude, 20 ms pulsewidth, 2.3 ms delay
internal trigger, single shot operation.

:PULSE0:MODE SING<cr><lf>	sets system mode to single shot
:PULSE0:TRIG:MODE DIS<cr><lf>	disables the external trigger
:PULSE1:AMPL 0.80<cr><lf>	set pulse amplitude to 0.80 amps
:PULSE1:WIDTH 0.020<cr><lf>	sets pulsewidth to 20 ms
:PULSE1:DELAY 0.0023<cr><lf>	sets delay to 2.3 ms
:PULSE1:STATE ON<cr><lf>	enables channel A

To start the pulse use either of the following commands:

:PULSE0:STATE ON<cr><lf> starts the pulses
:INST:STATE ON<cr><lf> alternate form to start pulses.

Example 2 – burst of pulses:



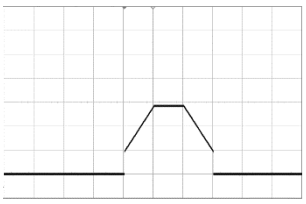
0.80 A amplitude, 100 ms pulsewidth
250ms rate, 6 pulse burst
internal trigger, burst mode operation.

:PULSE0:MODE BURST<cr><lf>	sets system mode to burst
:PULSE0:RATE 0.250<cr><lf>	sets the system rate to 250 ms
:PULSE0:TRIG:MODE DIS<cr><lf>	disables the external trigger
:PULSE1:AMPL 0.80<cr><lf>	set pulse amplitude to 0.80 amps
:PULSE1:WIDTH 0.100<cr><lf>	sets pulsewidth to 100 ms
:PULSE1:STATE ON<cr><lf>	enables channel A

To start the pulses use either of the following commands:

:PULSE0:STATE ON<cr><lf> starts the pulses
:INST:STATE ON<cr><lf> alternate form to start pulses.

Example 3 – simple ramp current pulse (optional):



0.4 A to 1.2 A current ramp
1.2 amp, 500 ms constant current
1.2 A to 0.4 A current ramp
internal trigger, recipe operation.

:PULSE0:MODE RECIPE<cr><lf>	sets system mode to recipe
:PULSE0:TRIG:MODE DIS<cr><lf>	disables the external trigger
:PULSE1:INCR:CLR 1	clears channel A segment recipe
:PULSE1:INCR:NSEG 3	sets number of segments to be used
:PULSE1:INCR:SEGN 1	start segment 1 definition
:PULSE1:INCR:IBEG 0.40	starting current set to 0.4 amps
:PULSE1:INCR:IEND 1.20	ending current set to 1.2 amps
:PULSE1:INCR:DUR 0.500	duration set 0.5 sec
:PULSE1:INCR:SEGN 2	start segment 2 definition
:PULSE1:INCR:IBEG 1.20	starting current set to 1.2 amps
:PULSE1:INCR:DUR 0.500	duration set to 0.5 sec
:PULSE1:INCR:SEGN 3	start segment 3 definition
:PULSE1:INCR:IBEG 1.20	set starting current to 1.2 amps
:PULSE1:INCR:IEND 0.40	set ending current to 0.4 amps
:PULSE1:INCR:RATE 1.6	set change rate to 1.6 A/sec
PULSE1:WIDTH 1.6	set total pulse duration to 1.6 sec
:PULSE1:STATE ON<cr><lf>	enables channel A

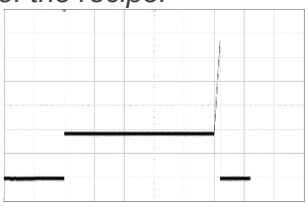
To start the pulse use either of the following commands:

:PULSE0:STATE ON<cr><lf> starts the pulses
:INST:STATE ON<cr><lf> alternate form to start pulses.

NOTES:

- *IBEG sets IEND to be equal to IBEG, thus it must be set before setting IEND if the segment is a ramp. If the segment is a constant amplitude then IEND does not have to set.*
- *DURation uses the beginning and ending current amplitudes to determine the required ramp rate. Either DURation or Rate may be used to define the current ramp.*
- *In Recipe mode only channels A and B are available.*

- *The pulsewidth controls the duration that the channel is active. Width must be set equal or greater than the total duration of the recipe.*



Example 4 – AK-LV-16 Test Pulse (optional):

0.4 A, 10s constant current
0.4 A to 1.2 A 0.4 sec current ramp
internal trigger, recipe operation.

:PULSE0:MODE RECIPE<cr><lf>	sets system mode to recipe
:PULSE0:TRIG:MODE DIS<cr><lf>	disables the external trigger
:PULSE1:INCR:CLR 1	clears channel A segment recipe
:PULSE1:INCR:NSEG 2	sets number of segments to be used
:PULSE1:INCR:SEGN 1	start segment 1 definition
:PULSE1:INCR:IBEG 0.40	starting current set to 0.4 amps
:PULSE1:INCR:DUR 10	duration set 10 sec
:PULSE1:INCR:SEGN 2	start segment 2 definition
:PULSE1:INCR:IBEG 0.40	set starting current to 0.4 amps
:PULSE1:INCR:IEND 1.20	set ending current to 1.2 amps
:PULSE1:INCR:DUR 0.400	set duration to 400 ms
PULSE1:WIDTH 10.5	set total pulse duration to 10.5 sec
:PULSE1:STATE ON<cr><lf>	enables channel A

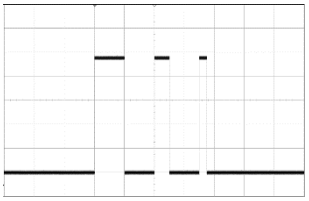
To start the pulse use either of the following commands:

:PULSE0:STATE ON<cr><lf> starts the pulses
:INST:STATE ON<cr><lf> alternate form to start pulses.

NOTES:

- *IBEG sets IEND to be equal to IBEG, thus it must be set before setting IEND if the segment is a ramp. If the segment is a constant amplitude then IEND does not have to set.*
- *DURation uses the beginning and ending current amplitudes to determine the required ramp rate. Either DURation or Rate may be used to define the current ramp.*
- *In Recipe mode only channels A and B are available.*
- *The pulsewidth controls the duration that the channel is active. Width must be set equal or greater than the total duration of the recipe.*

Example 5 – complex burst (optional):



2.4 A, 500 ms constant current pulse
500 ms off
2.4 A, 250 ms constant current pulse
500 ms off
2.4 A, 125 ms constant current pulse
internal trigger, recipe operation.

:PULSE0:MODE RECIPE<cr><lf>	sets system mode to recipe
:PULSE0:TRIG:MODE DIS<cr><lf>	disables the external trigger
:PULSE1:INCR:CLR 1	clears channel A segment recipe
:PULSE1:INCR:NSEG 5	sets number of segments to be used
:PULSE1:INCR:SEGN 1	start segment 1 definition
:PULSE1:INCR:IBEG 2.40	starting current set to 2.4 amps
:PULSE1:INCR:DUR 0.500	duration set 0.500 sec
:PULSE1:INCR:SEGN 2	start segment 2 definition
:PULSE1:INCR:IBEG 0	starting current set to 0 amps
:PULSE1:INCR:DUR 0.5	duration set to 0.500 sec
:PULSE1:INCR:SEGN 3	start segment 3 definition
:PULSE1:INCR:IBEG 2.40	set starting current to 2.4 amps
:PULSE1:INCR:DUR .250	duration set to 0.250 sec
:PULSE1:INCR:SEGN 4	start segment 4 definition
:PULSE1:INCR:IBEG 0	starting current set to 0 amps
:PULSE1:INCR:DUR 0.5	duration set to 0.500 sec
:PULSE1:INCR:SEGN 5	start segment 5 definition
:PULSE1:INCR:IBEG 2.40	set starting current to 2.4 amps
:PULSE1:INCR:DUR .125	duration set to 0.125 sec
PULSE1:WIDTH 2.4	set total pulse duration to 2.4 sec
:PULSE1:STATE ON<cr><lf>	enables channel A

To start the pulse use either of the following commands:

:PULSE0:STATE ON<cr><lf> starts the pulses
:INST:STATE ON<cr><lf> alternate form to start pulses.

Instrument Commands

Keyword	Command	Sub-Command	Parameter Range	Notes
:INSTrument				Subsystem
	:CATalog		?	Query only. Returns a comma-separated list of the identifier strings for all channels. A two channel instrument would return: T_0, CHA, CHB.
	:FULL		?	Query only. Returns a comma-separated list of the identifier strings of all channels and their associated number. A two channel instrument would return: T_0, 0, CHA, 1, CHB, 2.
	:COMMands		?	Query only. Returns an indented list of all SCPI commands.
	:NSELect		1-4	Selects a channel using the channel's numeric value. All channel specific commands will refer to the selected channel.
	:SELect		T_0 / CH[A-D]	Selects a channel using the channel's identifier string. All subsequent channel specific commands will refer to the selected channel.
	:STATe		0/1 or OFF/ON	Enables / Disables the output for all channels. Command is the same as pressing the RUN/STOP button.
	:PRETest		0/1 or OFF/ON	Runs the resistance pre-test for all pre-test enabled channels.
	:POSTtest		0/1 or OFF/ON	Runs the resistance post-test for all pre-test enabled channels.

Keyword	Command	Sub-Command	Parameter Range	Notes
:SPULse or PULSe[0]				Subsystem. Contains commands to control the output pulse generation. Commands without suffix refer to the currently selected logical instrument. See INSTrument subsystem.
	:STATe		0/1 or OFF/ON	Enables / Disables the output for all channels. Command same as pressing RUN/STOP button.
	:PERiod		1[us] – 200[s]	Sets the T_0 period in seconds.
	:MODe		SINGle / BURSt / RECipe	Sets the T_0 generation mode.
	:FSYNc		DIS / T0 / CHA / CHB / etc.	Sets the pulse source for the front panel sync output.
	:RSYNc		DIS / T0 / CHA / CHB / etc.	Sets the pulse source for the rear panel sync output.
	:TRIGger			Subsystem to define the Trigger function.
		:MODe	0/1 or OFF/ON	Sets Trigger Mode. Disable or TRIG (enable).
		:TSOurce	FRONtpanel / REARpanel	Switches the system trigger source between front or rear panel inputs.
		:EDGe	FALLing / RISing	Selects which edge (rising or falling) to use as the trigger signal.
		:LEVel	0.2 – 15[V]	Sets the Trigger Threshold. Value is in volts, with a resolution of .1 Volts.
		:FENable	0/1 or OFF/ON	Enables/Disables the trigger pulse width filter.
		:FILTer	.02 – 1000[us]	Sets the trigger minimum pulse width value in microseconds.
	:COUNt			Contains commands to manipulate the system shot counter (T_0 pulses)
		:STATe	0/1 or OFF/ON	Enables/Disables the system shot counter.
		:CLear	0	Clears the system shot counter.
		:COUNt	?	Query Only. Returns the value of the system shot counter.
	:PRETest		?	Query Only: Returns the measured resistance value for all channel with PreTest enabled in the form of <n>:x.xx with each channel separated by a single space (e.g. 1:1.99 2:2.00 4:2.01 if all channels except channel 3 have PreTest Enabled)
	:POSTtest		?	Query Only: Returns the measured resistance value for all channel with PostTest enabled in the form of <n>:xxx.xx with each channel separated by a single space (e.g. 1:149.99 2:147.00 4:150.01 if all channels except channel 3 have PostTest Enabled)

Keyword	Command	Sub-Command	Parameter Range	Notes
:PULSe<n>				Contains commands to control the output pulse generation. Valid suffix values depends on the number of channels (ChA = 1, ChB = 2, etc). Command without suffix refers to the currently selected logical instrument. See INSTrument subsystem.
	:TEMPerature		?	Query Only. Reads the temperature of the selected channel.
	:STATe		0/1 or OFF/ON	Enables/Disables the output pulse for selected channel.
	:WIDTh		5[us] – 100[s]	Sets the width or duration of the output pulse. Setpoint resolution is 100ns.
	:DELay		0 – 30[s]	Sets the time from the start of the T_0 period to the first edge of the pulse. Resolution is 100 ns.
	:BCOunter		2 - 250	Burst Counter. Sets the number of pulses to generate when channel is in the BURST mode.
	:AMPLitude		0.02 – 6[A]	Sets adjustable output level. Resolution is 1 mA.
	:IADO		0 – 200[mA] (+/-)	Sets dynamic current amplitude offset for the individual channel. This value can be both positive and negative.
	:INCRmode			(Optional Feature)
		:CLR	1	Clears the segment recipe. Must be used before defining a new recipe.
		:NSEGments	1 - 8	Sets the number of segments.
		:SEGNumber	1 - 8	Sets the segment number.
		:IBEGin	0.02 – 6[A]	Sets the current amplitude at the start of the segment.
		:IEND	0.02 – 6[A]	Sets the current amplitude at the end of the segment.
		:DURation	0.001 – 60[s]	Sets the duration of the segment, used for square wave pulses.
		:RATE	0.1 – 40[A/s]	Sets the rate of the current amplitude change, is used in place of duration for current ramps.
	:PRETest			Subsystem. Contains commands for control and monitoring of the channel pre-test parameters.
		:MODe	0/1 or OFF/ON	Enables/Disable the channel pre-test.
		:MAXres	0.5 - 100	Sets the maximum valid resistance for pre-test in Ohms. Resolution is 10 miliohms.
		:MINres	0.1 - 100	Sets the minimum valid resistance for pre-test in Ohms. Resolution is 10 miliohms.
		:RESistance	?	Query Only. Returns the last measured resistance from the pre-test.
		:IMAX	3 -100[mA]	Sets the maximum test current for pre-test in miliamps. Resolution is 100 uA

	:POSTtest			Subsystem. Contains commands for control and monitoring of the channel post-test parameters.
		:TYPe	0,1,2	Sets the type of test to perform for the post test. Valid parameters are: 0 – Standard, 1 – Outside, 2 – Outside Pre
		:MODe	0/1 or OFF/ON	Enables/Disable the channel post-test.
		:MAXres	100 - 300	Sets the maximum valid resistance for post-test. (May be disabled by writing a value of '0'). Resolution is 10 miliohms.
		:MINres	3 - 100	Sets the minimum valid resistance for post-test in Ohms. Resolution is 10 miliohms.
		:RESistance	?	Query Only. Returns the last measured resistance from the post-test.
		:IMAX	3 – 100[mA]	Sets the maximum test current for post-test in miliamps. Resolution is 100 us.
	:ERRor		?	Query Only. Returns errors resulting from running the pre or post tests on this channel. Refer to Testing Mode Error Conditions for more information.

Display Commands

Keyword	Command	Sub-Command	Parameter Range	Notes
:DISPlay				Command to change the units' display settings.
	:MODe		0/1 or OFF/ON	Enables/Disables automatic display update. When on, front panel display is updated with serial command parameter changes. Setting to off decreases response time.
	:UPDate		?	Query only. Forces update of display. Use when "MODe" is off.
	:BRIGhtness		1-8	Controls intensity of display. 1 is lowest intensity and 8 is full intensity.

Keyword	Command	Sub-Command	Sub-Command	Parameter Range	Notes
:SYSTem					
	:STATe			?	Query only. Returns ”1” if the system is armed and/or generating pulses or “0” if the system has been disarmed.
	:BEEPer				Controls the audible beeper.
		:STATe		0/1 or OFF/ON	Enables/disables the beeper.
		:VOLume		0-100	Sets the volume of the beeper. 0 is off and100 is maximum volume
	:COMMunicate				Controls the system communication parameters
		:SERial			Controls the serial parameters.
			:BAUD	4800 / 9600 / 19200 / 38400 / 57600 / 115200	Sets the baud rate for both receiving and transmitting using the RS232 port.
			:USB	4800 / 9600 / 19200 / 38400 / 57600 / 115200	Sets the baud rate for communication when using virtual com ports for USB.
			:ECHo	0/1 or OFF/ON	Enables/Disables transmission of characters received on the RS232 port.
	:INTLCK			?	Query only: Returns the current state of the Arm Switch/Interlock circuit.
	:KLOCk			0/1 or OFF/ON	Locks the keypad.
	:VERSion			?	Query only. Returns SCPI version number in the form: YYYY.V ex. 1999.0
	:BVERsion			?	Query only. Returns the current version of the bootloader.
	:INFOrmation			?	Query Only. Returns model and version information for the instrument.
	:NSID			?	Query Only. Returns the instrument ID for use when upgrading firmware.

IEEE 488.2 Common Commands

Mnemonic	Command Name	Parameters	Notes
*IDN?	Identification Query		Queries the Pulse Generator Identification. The ID will be in the following format: model#,serial#,version#
*CAT?	Catalog Query		Query: Generate a list of commands.
*LBL	Label Command/Query	<string value>	Query Form returns the label of the last saved or recalled configuration. Command Form sets the label string for the next "*sav" command. String must be in double quotes, 14 characters max.
*RCL	Recall Command	0-12	Restores the state of the Pulse Generator from a copy stored in local nonvolatile memory (0 through 12 are valid memory bins).
*RST	Reset Command		Resets the Pulse Generator to the default state.
*SAV	Save Command	1-12	Stores the current state of the Pulse Generator in local nonvolatile memory (1 through 12 are valid memory bins).
*SER?	Serial # Query	?	Returns the serial # of the Instrument.
*TRG	Trigger Command		Generates a software trigger pulse. Operation is the same as receiving an external trigger pulse.

Special Commands

The 9730 product line was design with user safety in mind. Since the 9730 may be used to trigger or initiate various devices that can be harmful to the operator if not tested in a secure location, features were added to the 9730 unit that will insure safe operation of the unit. Such features are:

- Removable key switch that disables the channel outputs if turned to the standby position. Key can also be removed to prevent unauthorized use.
- Remote interlock. A remote interlock can be tied to entry doors or DUT (device under test) enclosures to ensure that the channels are disabled when the interlock is not satisfied.

These features listed about will both disable the channels and not automatically re-enable the channels without some kind of user intervention such as front panel buttons or sending remote commands to the device. Since the DUT and the

9730 may reside in separate locations, this was an important safety measure to incorporate.

Some customers have started using the 9730 device in high throughput production lines and have requested that this safety feature be removed. **Quantum Composers has added a bypass feature to accommodate these customers under the condition that usage of this bypass function is an acceptance agreement by the user that they are knowingly and willingly bypassing a safety feature for the 9730 and accept any liability associated with bypassing such feature**.

Bypass Instructions

The safety feature can by bypassed by sending a command after the unit has been powered on. This command can be sent along with any other initialization commands that may already being sent on startup. This command is a static command such that when the unit is powered off, it will return to the default safe operation until the initialization command is sent again. The commands are as follows:

:SPUL:ARMD 0	(This will disable the feature of disabling the channels and not automatically re-enabling them).
:SPUL:ARMD 1	(This will restore the safety feature of disabling the channels and not automatically re-enabling them)
:SPUL:ARMD?	(This is a query command to read the current state of the bypass command)

		MIN	TYP	MAX	UNIT
I/O Configuration					
	Output Modules	2		4	
	Output Modes		Single & Burst		
	Control Modes		Internal Rate & External Trigger		
Internal Rate Generator					
	Rate	0.01		100,000	Hz
	Resolution		100		ns
	Accuracy		20		ns
	Jitter		10		ns(RMS)
External Trigger Inputs					
	Triggers		Front & Rear		
	Rate ****	1.2 X Longest Pulse		200	s
	Insertion Delay		300		ns
	Input Impedance		1		kΩ
	Slope		Rising or Falling		
	Trigger Level	.2		15	V
	Trigger Level Resolution		100		mV
	Trigger Filter		Filters out unwanted “glitch” or “runt” Pulses		
	Filter Range	.02		1000	µs
	Filter Resolution		20		ns
Timing					
	Pulse Width Range **	5u		100	s
	Width Accuracy		+/-0.1		%
	Width Resolution		100		ns
	Delay Range	0		30	s
	Delay Accuracy		+/-0.1		%
	Delay Resolution		100		ns
	Period Range ***			200	s
	Period Accuracy		+/-0.1		%

	Period Resolution		100		ns
Output					
	Amplitude	0.02		6	A
	Resolution		1		mA
	Accuracy		+/-0.5	+/-2	%
	Rise Time	1	3	10	us
	Overshoot		3	33	%
	Slew Rate	0.15		12	A/us
	Compliance Voltage	19		22	V
	Burst Count	2		250	Bursts
Monitors					
	Current Scale		0.5		A/V
	Voltage Scale		0.2		V/V
	Accuracy		+/-1.0	+/-2.5	%
	Bandwidth	100		1000	kHz
	Propagation Delay		1	3.5	us
	Offset			2	mV
Resistance Measurement					
	Range	0.1		150	Ω
	Resolution		.01		Ω
	Accuracy .1 to 15Ω		+/-4		%
	Accuracy 16 to 150Ω		+/-10		%
	Measurement Current	3	40	100	mA
	Current Resolution		100		µA
	Current Accuracy		+/-4		%
Sync					
	Front and Rear		To, CHA-CHD		
Safety					
	Remote Interlock		Shorting Interlock		
	Arm Key Switch		Removable Key Switch		
	Internal Error Checking		Checks Control Circuit for Errors		

Communications					
	RS232	4800	115200	115200	Baud
	USB		Serial Bridge		
	Ethernet		Optional		
Size					
	Rack Mount		19" x 10" 2U size rack mount		
	Weight (2 Ch)			8	Lbs
	Weight (4 Ch)			12	Lbs
Electrical					
	AC Input Voltage	100		240	V
	AC Input Frequency			50/60	Hz
	Current			6	A

*** All Output data taken with 2ft and 50ft of cables with 1 ohm load resistance unless otherwise specified.**

**** Maximum pulse width is limited by current amplitude. 1A can go up to 360s and 6A is limited to 300ms.**

***** Period=k*Longest Channel Width; k=1.2 or highest current output amplitude, whichever is larger.**

****** Internal rate generator, external trigger, and manual triggers are internally limited to 1.2(or the output current amplitude whichever is larger)X the largest set pulse width up to a max of 360s.**

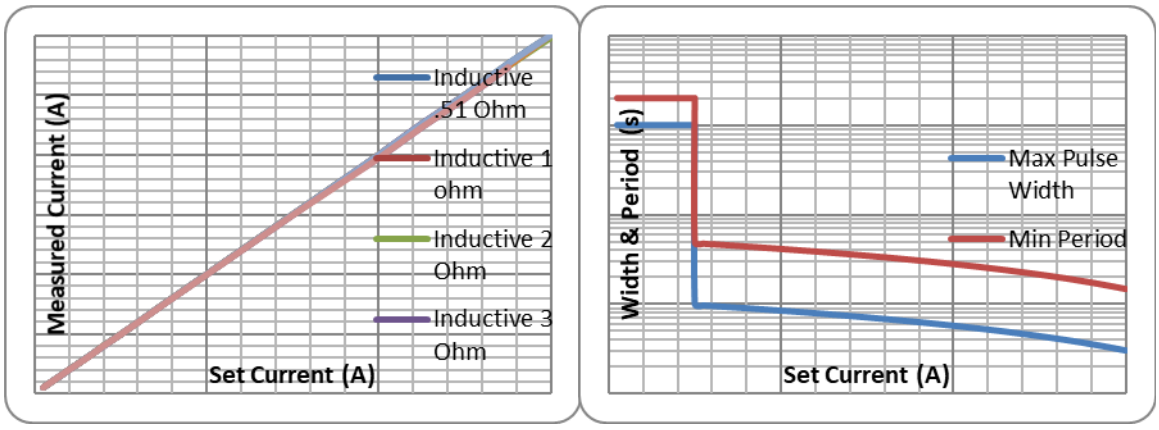


Figure 1 Linearity

Figure 2 C

The output circuitry is designed to handle 30W of power and is firmware limited to prevent overdriving the output circuitry. Figure 2 shows the maximum settable pulse width and minimum settable period at max pulse width.

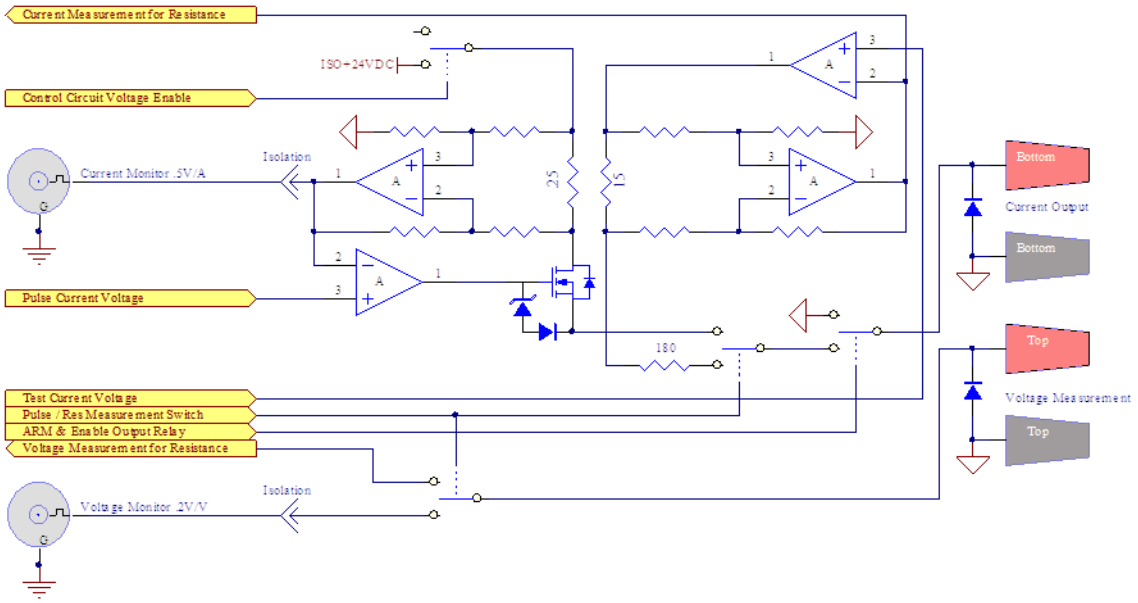


Figure 3 Limited Output Diagram

Figure 3 is a basic diagram of the output control circuitry for both the current pulse output and the resistance measurement output. The current pulse side has an opamp that controls a high side switching mosfet and receives feedback from a high side current measuring differential amplifier. The control circuit has error checks to measure the controlling amplifiers output voltage, mosfets output voltage, and feedback voltage. If there are any errors with these voltages the output is not allowed to be turned on and the system will display an error.

The resistance measurement side uses a 4-Wire technique where a known current is sent to the load and the voltage is measured to give resistance measurement. The current source consists of a high side opamp for control and output and a high side current measuring differential amplifier as the feedback.

Technical specifications including electrical ratings and weight are included within the manual. See the Table of Contents to locate the specifications and other product information. The following classifications are standard across all QC products:

- Indoor use only
- Ordinary Protection: This product is NOT protected against the harmful ingress of moisture
- Class 1 Equipment (grounded type)
- Main supply voltage fluctuations are not to exceed 10% of the nominal supply voltage
- Pollution Degree 2
- Installation (overvoltage) Category II for transient over-voltages
- Maximum Relative Humidity: <80% RH, non-condensing
- Operating temperature range of 0 to 40 degrees Celsius
- Storage of transportation temperature of -40 to 70 degrees Celsius
- Maximum altitude 2000m (6562 ft.)
- This equipment is suitable for continuous operation.

This section provides a description of the safety marking symbols that appear on the instrument. These symbols provide information about potentially dangerous situations which can result in death, injury, or damage to the instrument and other components.

Symbol	Publication	Description/Comment
	IEC 417, No. 5032	**Alternating current**.
	IEC 417, No. 5017	**Earth (ground) terminal**. Primarily used for functional earth terminals which are generally associated with test and measurement circuits. These terminals are not for safety earthing purposes but provide an earth reference point.
	IEC 417, No. 5019	**Protective Earthing conductor terminal**. This symbol is specifically reserved for the protective conductor terminal and no other. It is placed at the equipment earthing point and is mandatory for all grounded (Class I) equipment.
	IEC 417, No. 5020	**Frame or chassis terminal**. Used for points other than protective conductor and functional earth terminals where there is a connection to accessible conductive terminals to advise the user of a chassis connection.

	IEC 417, No. 5007	**On** (AC Mains) Located on the power switch at the rear of the unit
	IEC 417, No. 5008	**Off** (AC Mains) Located on the power switch at the rear of the unit
	IEC 417, No. 5172	**Class II Equipment protected by double insulation or reinforced insulation.** The equipment typically does not require a Safety Ground (Protective Ground).
	ISO 3864, No. B.3.6	**Caution, risk of electric shock**
	IEC 417, No. 5041	**Caution, hot surface**
	ISO 3864, No. B.3.1	**Caution (refer to accompanying documents)** used to direct the user to the instruction manual where it is necessary to follow certain specified instructions where safety is involved.
	IEC 417, No. 5268-a	**In-position of bistable push control**
	IEC 417, No. 5269-a	**Out-position of bistable push control**
	IEC 60417, No.5009	**Standby/On Symbol** momentary contact switch, does not disconnect AC mains voltage.
	-	**Indicates compliance with the WEEE Directive. Please dispose of the product in accordance with local regulations and conventions.**
	CE Mark	**Indicates compliance with European Union Legislation for the relevant Safety (Low Voltage Directive 2006/95/EC) and EMC (EMC Directive 2004/108/EC) requirements.**
	UKCA Mark	**Indicates compliance with the UK Declaration of Conformity.**

MANUFACTURERS DECLARATION OF CONFORMITY

Application of Council Directive(s)	EMC Directive 2004/108/EC
	Low Voltage Directive 2006/95/EC
Manufacturer's Name	Quantum Composers, Inc.
Manufacturer's Address	212 Discovery Drive
	Bozeman, Montana 59718
Model Name	9730
Year of Manufacture	2015
Conformance to	EN 61326-1:2013
	EN 61010-1:2010
	EN 50581:2012

We, the undersigned, hereby declare that the equipment specified above conforms to the above Directive(s).

Location Bozeman, Montana

Representative Name Paula Carstensen

Date March 1, 2015

Title General Manager

Paula Carstensen
(Signature)

The 9730 includes an optional Rupture Detection (quench) feature that is designed to monitor the output voltage and current applied to the load and respond when the circuit has been ruptured (open). This feature is used when it is undesirable to continue applying a voltage/current to the load when the load has opened. The feature will disable the outputs before the set current pulse width is completed. The feature utilizes independent voltage and current circuits that can be used individually or logically OR'd together to disable the output in the event that a ruptured circuit is detected.

The rupture detection uses three optional methods to determine when the load has opened:

- Voltage Monitor – Detects a rapid increase in the drive voltage as the result of the control loop trying to maintain current flow into an open circuit. This is most sensitive in low current situations.
- Current Monitor – Detects a rapid decrease in the current flow due to an open circuit. This is most sensitive in high current situations.
- Voltage/Current Mode – Monitoring both voltage and current is the default operating mode as it provides good detection sensitivity across all current levels.

Channel Quench Menu (FUNC A, B, C or D)

Line 1: Quench mode: <operational mode>
Line 2: Quench Gate: <gate inhibit time>

SCPI Commands for Rupture Detection:

Keyword	Command	Sub-Command	Parameter Range	Notes
:PULSe<n>				Contains commands to control the output pulse generation. Valid suffix values depends on the number of channels (ChA = 1, ChB = 2, etc). Command without suffix refers to the currently selected logical instrument. See INSTrument subsystem.
	:QUENch		?	Query Only. Returns the current set quench mode.
			DISable/ VMONitor/ IMONitor/ IVMonitor	DISable – disables rupture detection VMONitor – enables voltage monitoring, disables current monitoring IMONitor – enables current monitoring, disables voltage monitoring IVMonitor – enables both current & voltage monitoring (preferred mode)
	:GATe		n	The voltage monitor needs to be inhibited for approximately 10 to 30µs to avoid latching during the start of a pulse. This parameter controls the width of the inhibit gate. Valid values are 1µs to 1,000µs. Default is 20µs.