



IR Remote Controlled Building Automation

The building automation market is expected to become a \$121.5 billion industry by 2024. The benefits are clear and scale well to large buildings and campuses. Automation increases efficiency, lowers costs, and makes buildings more sustainable.



Automation is not, of course, without its detractors. The proliferation of smart home and building technology has an easy parallel to the consumer electronics boom of the 80's. Things that were superfluous or non-existent years before rapidly became ubiquitous. The same credulity with which consumers treat a "smart thermostat" today, they applied to TV remotes not 40 years ago.

One thing that home and building automation has in common with the TV remote is infrared control. Televisions, lighting, A/C, and speakers all use IR remotes to issue a plethora of commands. Thus, an integrated network of sensors, controllers, and appliances requires a flexible IR solution.

The trouble with home and building automation is that many appliances are only intended for use with their native controls. Home owners, in particular, want to make use of the equipment they have. They should not have to invest in new appliances to reap the benefits of a smart home.

Integrating a network of third party appliances requires an adaptive control scheme. One translates commands from a central system to a communication method that its diverse parts will understand.

This is where ICP DAS USA's IR-712A comes in. IR-712A is a universal, infrared learning remote module. IR-712A "learns" commands when an IR remote is pointed at its receiver and a command issued by the user; like a universal TV remote. IR-712A can learn up to 224 commands this way, and learned commands can be stored on the device or on file.

The IR-712A supplies 2 IR output channels for individual or simultaneous control of different devices. Included RS-232 and RS-485 interfaces connect to the network with Modbus/RTU, providing control and room for expansion. The software utility provides users with easy configuration, learning, test and storage of IR commands.



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With so many individual appliances using IR commands in any home automation system, IR-712A minimizes the amount of remote controls. It allows users to control and automate off-the-shelf appliances, and to do so from one or more convenient locations.

IR-712A enables the integration of older, inexpensive appliances into a modern, efficient system. This module connects easily to Modbus master devices, e.g. PACs and PLCs. IR-712A enables connections with sensor and data networks outside an appliance's original design. Users don't need smart A/C and lighting to have a smart building, they need the tools to incorporate extant appliances into a smart system. The IR-712A enables users to make the most of what they have at the best price point possible.

Want to learn more? Visit our website www.icpdas-usa.com or give us a call at 1-310-517-9888. You can also reach us through email at sales@icpdas-usa.com. We are available from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. PST.