GE

Grid Solutions

8 Series Advanced Communications Connector Module Option Change

Technical Note

Overview

8 Series relays with the Advanced Communications option come with one of two connector types as defined by the order code: option '**S**' – **2xFiber-ST** or option '**C**' – **2xRJ45 Copper**.

An 8S-COM-C spare part module is available to change the connector type (and order code) from option '**S**' – **2xFiber-ST** to option '**C**' – **2xRJ45 Copper**, if both the firmware and communications hardware in the relay meet minimum version requirements. Before ordering the 8S-COM-C spare part module, check each 8 Series relay for compatibility as described in the next section.

An 8S-COM-F spare part module is available to change the connector type (and order code) from option '**C**' – **2xRJ45 Copper** to option '**S**' – **2xFiber-ST**. This change does not have minimum hardware and software requirements, so no compatibility check is required. Order the 8S-COM-F spare part module, and contact the factory for the order code option update procedure.

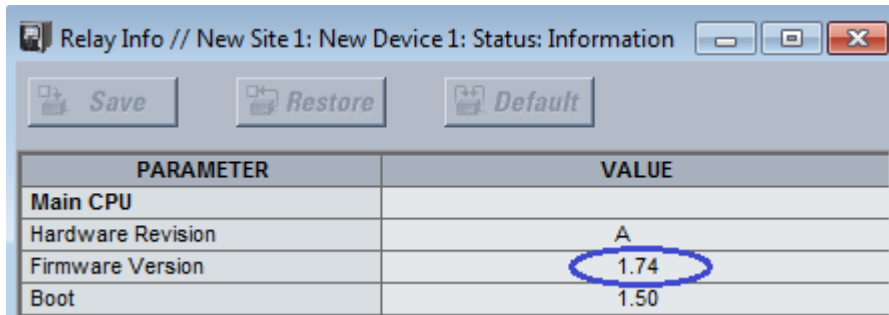Find the 8 Series Communication Interface Modules in the Grid Solutions Online Store:
https://store.gegridsolutions.com/ViewProduct.aspx?Model=8S-COM

Compatibility Check Procedure (Option S to Option C)

To change an 8 Series Advanced Communications connector module from option 'S' to option 'C', confirm that the 8 Series relay has firmware version 1.60 or higher and internal communications hardware "AI" (A + capital letter i) or higher.

1. Check that the firmware is version 1.60 or higher as follows:

   Read the Firmware Version value from the front panel at **STATUS > INFORMATION > MAIN CPU > Firmware Ver.**, or read this value from the EnerVista 8 Series Setup software at **Status > Information > Relay Info > Firmware Version**.
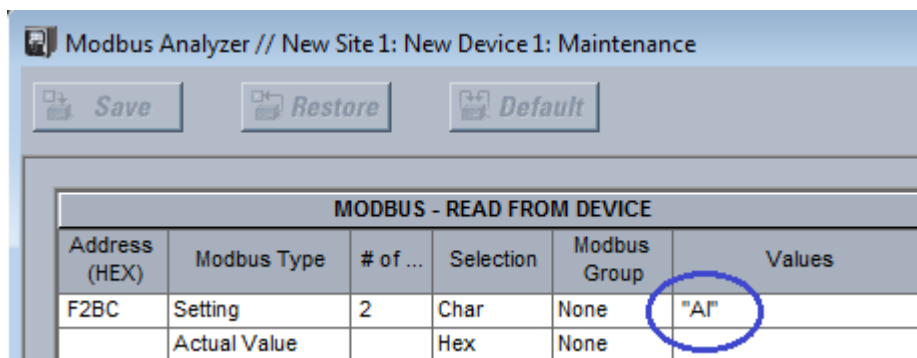

Figure 1: Example of 8 Series Firmware Version 1 .74 in the EnerVista 8 Series Setup software

2. Check that the Internal Hardware for Advanced Communications is rev AI or higher as follows:

   Note: The minimum version required, AI, is capital letter 'A' + capital letter 'i'.

   A. Establish communications with the 8 Series relay.

   B. Using the Enervista 8 Series Setup sofitware, navigate to **Maintenance > Modbus Analyzer**.

   C. Read the Comms CPU board 2-digit communications hardware revision using the **READ FROM DEVICE** section setup as follows:

Figure 2: Example of 8 Series Comms CPU Hardware Version AI in the EnerVista 8 Series Setup software

3. If only the firmware is not compatible (firmware version lower than 1.60 and communications hardware version AI or higher), follow the *Upgrading Relay Firmware* instructions in the 8 Series relay instruction manual.

4. If the communications hardware is not compatible (hardware version lower than AI), return the relay to the factory for an upgrade.

5. If both the firmware and communications hardware are compatible (firmware version 1.60 or higher, hardware version AI or higher), order the 8S-COM-C spare part module, and contact the factory for the order code option update procedure.

Summary

Comms Interface Module Replacement	Communications Hardware Rev	Firmware Rev	Action to take
From 'S' to 'C'	A1-A9, AA-AH	Any	Return to factory for hardware update
	AI or greater	<1.60	Update firmware and then continue with replacement procedure
	AI or greater	>=1.60	Continue with replacement procedure
From 'C' to 'S'	Any	Any	Continue with replacement procedure
Swap with same module type (S to S, C to C)	Any	Any	Ready to swap module immediately

Find the 8 Series Communication Interface Modules in the Grid Solutions Online Store:
https://store.gegridsolutions.com/ViewProduct.aspx?Model=8S-COM

For further assistance

For product support, contact the information and call center as follows:

GE Grid Solutions
650 Markland Street
Markham, Ontario
Canada L6C 0M1
Worldwide telephone: +1 905 927 7070
Europe/Middle East/Africa telephone: +34 94 485 88 54
North America toll-free: 1 800 547 8629
Fax: +1 905 927 5098
Worldwide e-mail: multilin.tech@ge.com
Europe e-mail: multilin.tech.euro@ge.com
Website:http://www.gegridsolutions.com/multilin/