ALPHA™ Protocol

Adaptive's protocol document allows you to be in complete control of your ALPHA electronic message display.

The Adaptive protocol document allows your ALPHA sign to communicate directly with cash registers, point-of-purchase displays, programmable logic controls, your desktop PC, or almost any device with a serial port. Post real-time information, boost morale, advertise at the point-of-purchase, all from your own software application. With Adaptive's ALPHA Protocol document you'll have your software "Alpha Ready" in no time.

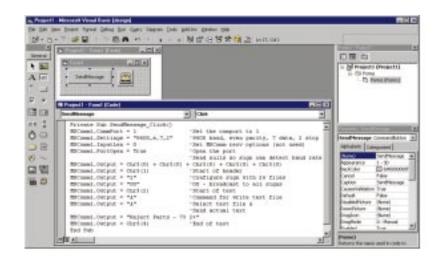ADAPTIVE™ - Creating a new vision for business communication

Standard Features

- *Set and display time and date.*
- *Create messages controlling the following attributes: message text, message run period (time/day of week), sequence that multiple messages are displayed.*

- *Control text presentation: Character color, font (height, width, style), flash status, presentation style/affect.*
- *Able to request sign status.*
- *Supports transmissions using "Standard ASCII" or "printable characters only."*

- *Supports international characters.*
- *Single message can be targeted to one sign, groups of signs, or all signs.*
- *Simple summation can be used to validate transmission packets.*

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ALPHA™ Sign Communications protocol specifications

Use you're own development platform (your own programming language). This is a Microsoft "Visual Basic" example.

(ALPHA™ BIG DOT®)

Protocol document shows clear examples of how to communicate with ALPHA products

<NUL>	<NUL>	<NUL>	<NUL>	<NUL>	<SOH>	Type Code	Sign Address	<STX>	Command Code	File Label	Text	<ETX>	CHK SUM	<EOX>
		A			B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K

Item	Name	Code	Descriptions
A	<NUL>	00h	A minimum of five <NUL>s (00H) must be transmitted at the beginning of each packet. This sign uses these five characters to establish the baud rate.
B	<SOH>	01h	The <SOH> is the "Start Of Header" ASCII character.
C	"z"	7Ah	Type code for all sign models, also indicates that sign should configure itself for 26 message files – labels "A" through "Z"
D	"00"	30h,30h	Sign address – 00 = all signs broadcast
E	<STX>	02h	The <STX> is the "Start of text" ASCII character
F	"A"	41h	"A" command code for "write text file"
G	"A"	41h	"A" indicates writing to text file label "A"
H	Text	-----	Actual text of message ("Reject Parts – 73 2%")
I (optional)	<ETX>	03h	The <ETX> is the "End of Text" ASCII characters
J (optional)	XXXX	-----	Four ASCII hex digits representing a 16-bit hexadecimal summation of all transmitted data from the <STX> through the <ETX> inclusive. The most significant digit is first.
K	<EOT>	04h	The <EOT> is the "End of Transmission" ASCII character

Note: The information provided in this document will allow you to send a message to a sign, however, in order to get technical help or phone support, you will need to purchase a complete protocol document with the 2 hour support plan.

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