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www.illuminatorwholesaler.com www.elights.com

www.arcadianlighting.com

# Warranty Information

This warranty covers substantial defects in materials and workmanship of the Activator.

What This Warranty Does Not Cover: This warranty does not cover any problems which result from improper installation, modifications, improper use of output power, improper operation, excessive voltages, excessive current draw, abuse, accidents, or acts of God such as excessive heat, floods, damage caused by exposure to moisture and rain, lightning or hurricanes.

How Long The Warranty Lasts: The coverage of this warranty lasts for 90 days. After this period, standard repair rates apply.

30 Day Money Back Guarantee: The Activator comes with a 30 day money back guarantee provided it has not been installed, modified, damaged or in any way changed from its original condition. Should you decide you do not want the Activator, it may be returned, at your expense, for a full refund (less shipping). You must include all the original packing and documentation.

Repair: Do not send items to us for repair without first obtaining authorization. In many cases, problems are easily solved via phone or email without the need or expense to return items to us. If we request you return an item, be sure to mark the "Return Material Authorization" (RMA) code number on the outside of the box. The RMA is issued when you call. You are responsible for all shipping charges. UPS Street Address: CVP Products 563 Sterling Drive, Richardson, TX 75081

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# **The Activator**<sup>TM</sup> **Hookup and Operation**



## THROTTLE SOFTWARE MAY NEED UPDATING

For best operation, be sure to obtain the latest software update for your handheld throttle.

Check your T9000 throttle software revision number. It must show revision 1.3 or higher. If not, it will need to be returned to CVP Products for a free software upgrade. You pay the shipping charges to return the throttle to CVP. CVP will pay for the return shipping.

For the RF1300 throttle, check that the label on top of the chip says GTX-8A. If not, or if you are not sure, call us for a free chip to upgrade to the latest software. Instructions and the new chip will be sent at no charge.

## WARNING

The Activator is not a toy and is not designed to be operated by children. Read and follow all directions and installation instructions. Do not allow the Activator to become wet. Connect the Activator only to a properly wired and protected Linker. CVP Products shall not be responsible for any claim or loss of any nature arising directly or consequentially from the use, application or modification of equipment described.

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rev2 Activator Manual.cdr

## **Quick Start Guide**

Select the Activator group number using the rotary switches. We suggest Step 1: starting at the first group number which is 01. This makes the four output addresses, A, B, C and D, become 1, 2, 3 and 4 respectively.

Step 2: The small slide switches, labeled SETUP, select the mode to match the type of load you will connect to the Activator. For snap-action switch machines, this means the mode is PULSE. For this mode, all switches are down. Use a pencil to slide the white actuator up or down as needed. 2 : MKR



OK DR

Step 3: Connect the Activator to the Linker. The terminal strip connections labeled LINKER INPUT are used. Polarity doesn't matter.

Step 4: Connect the loads to the outputs. For this example, LGB snap switch machines are used. The right terminal of an output pair connects to the LGB switch machine's orange dot terminal. The left terminal of an output pair connects to the LGB switch machine's white dot labeled terminal. This is the standard convention but reversing it will not hurt anything.



Step 5: Turn on the Linker power supply and turn on an AirWire throttle. The Activator's GP light will turn on. If not, check your wiring and verify the Linker's power supply is turned on.

Step 6: To test that everything is OK, an activation command must be sent from a throttle. Whenever a correctly addressed activation command is received, the ST indicator will flash on and off. If you send a command to an address that is not associated with this specific Activator, the ST indicator will not flash.

For the RF1300 throttle - push the \* key twice. The mode LED starts flashing. Now enter the desired output address - for this example the Activator output address is 1 which is the A output. Push # 1 # to enter the Activator's output address. Now, to send an activation command, push either the 1 key or the 3 key. The 1 key, also called F1, sends the command to throw the turnout in the reverse direction. The 3 key, also called F3, sends the command to throw the turnout in the forward direction.

For the T9000 throttle - push SEL followed by the 5 key. Now enter the desired output address - for this example the Activator output address is 1 which is the A output. Push # 1 # to enter the Activator's output address. Now, to send an activation command, push either the 1 key or the 3 key. The 1 key, also called F1, sends the command to throw the turnout in the reverse direction. The 3 key, also called F3, sends the command to throw the turnout in the forward direction.

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# **Replacing Driver Chips**

Although rare, it is possible to damage U6 and U7, the output driver chips. U7 services the 4 rightmost outputs and U6 services the 4 left-most outputs. Fortunately, these devices are in a socket and are easily replaced. However, try to determine what the cause of the failure before replacing the chip.

The most common cause of failure is a short circuit between the output driver and V+. Another possible cause of failure is accidentally selecting the continuous mode for switch machines instead of the pulse mode. Should either of these occur, the appropriate driver chip may have to be replaced.

Unscrew and completely remove the screws from bottom of enclosure using a Philips screwdriver. Turn the enclosure over. Remove the top.

Locate and identify U6 and U7. They are new the output terminals. There might be two different chip part numbers: L293D or 754410. However, the two parts are interchangeable

Use a small screwdriver to pry the chip out of its socket. Be careful to place the screwdriver between the socket and the chip. Remove the bad chip and discard.

Don't Accidentally Prv Up The Socket.

Before inserting the new chip, it is very important that pin 1 be properly identified and that the new chip is oriented correctly. The chip has either a dimple or a notch on one end. The small circle in Orientation the middle of the package at the opposite end is not the notch. Also, when oriented, the printing on the top of the chip will face the left edge of the board.

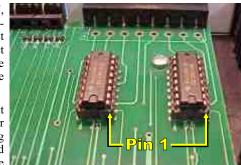
Place the new chip in the socket and press on the top. Verify that all pins go into the socket and not over the side.

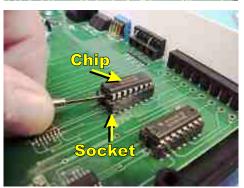
Before closing up the chassis, make one last inspection of the socket and the new chip. Verify that it is oriented properly. Verify that all pins are in the socket. Be especially careful to check for pins bent up underneath the chip.

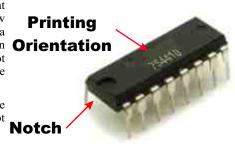
Once you are satisfied that everything is in its proper place, replace the lid and the screws.

Extra chips may be purchased from CVP Products.

**Proper Chip Orientation Mandatory** 











# **Output Addresses and Group Number (cont)**

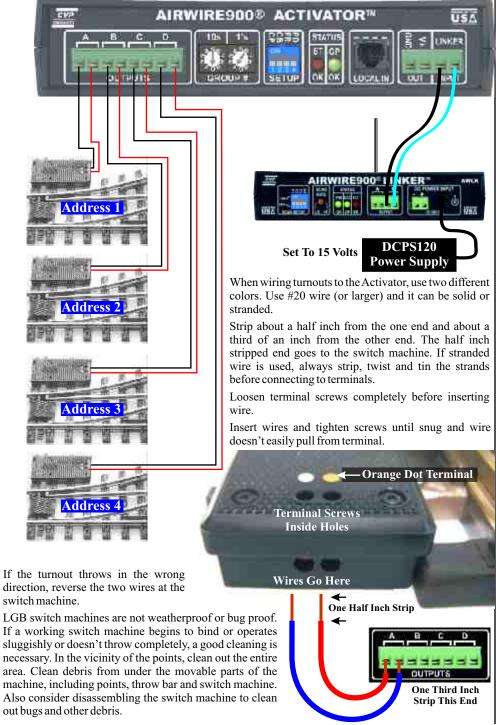
Group	Output Addresses					
Number	Α	В	С	D		
51	201	202	203	204		
52	205	206	207	208		
53	209	210	211	212		
54	213	214	215	216		
55	217	218	219	220		
56	221	222	223	224		
57	225	226	227	228		
58	229	230	231	232		
59	233	234	235	236		
60	237	238	239	240		
61	241	242	243	244		
62	245	246	247	248		
63	249	250	251	252		
64	253	254	255	256		
65	257	258	259	260		
66	261	262	263	264		
67	265	266	267	268		
68	269	270	271	272		
69	273	274	275	276		
70	277	278	279	280		
71	281	282	283	284		
72	285	286	287	288		
73	289	290	291	292		
74	293	294	295	296		
75	297	298	299	300		

Group	Output Addresses					
Number	Α	В	С	D		
76	301	302	303	304		
77	305	306	307	308		
78	309	310	311	312		
79	313	314	315	316		
80	317	318	319	320		
81	321	322	323	324		
82	325	326	327	328		
83	329	330	331	332		
84	333	334	335	336		
85	337	338	339	340		
86	341	342	343	344		
87	345	346	347	348		
88	349	350	351	352		
89	353	354	355	356		
90	357	358	359	360		
91	361	362	363	364		
92	365	366	367	368		
93	369	370	371	372		
94	373	374	375	376		
95	377	378	379	380		
96	381	382	383	384		
97	385	386	387	388		
98	389	390	391	392		
99	393	394	395	396		

### Group Number 00 Is Not Useable

Do not use Group # 00. It is not a valid number. Group numbers start at 01 and end at 99. No harm will occur but the Activator will not respond to 0 as an address. Also, the throttle will not accept 0 as a legal address.

# Simplified Hookup Diagram For LGB Turnouts



14

# Activator

							assigne
Output Terminals	Grou	up # Ro	tary S	witch	es		Group (
These terminals are where the loads	These				t the		Aisalw
are connected. Each output is configured as a pair.	addresses		-				D is alw
The load might be a set of turnouts,	The gro through 9						The Gro the table
lamps or other stationary accessories.	addresses				5015 01		To dete
Each output automatically is	Output te	erminal a	address	assig	nment		resultin
assigned a unique address based on	is autom		on set	ting o	of the		previou assigne
the Group Number rotary switch setting.	Group Nu			1			Here's a
The 8 terminal plug can be easily	Changes effect im			umbe	r take		address
unplugged.	Group nu		-	allowe	ed.		Gr
	· · · <b>r</b>			\			Nu
				$\mathbf{A}$			
CVP	AIF	DW	IP		101	nR	)
PRODUCTS	Lall						
	<u> </u>	a - 1	10	s	1's	5	
			15	6	1.50	8	
			GY I	195	CY /	-53	
			R 4	- 51	<b>R</b> 16	55	
			20	30	2	8	=
OUTPUT	s s		°2°8 G	୍ଚି RO	ًي ⊎P #	<b>a</b> b t	
OUTPUT	rs		°28 G	ROI	کی UP #	8. #	
OUTPUT	rs		°2°0 G	ROI	کر UP #	<b>B</b> <sub>0</sub> +	
OUTPUT	rs		°2 o G	RO	ייייייייייייייייייייייייייייייייייייי		
	rs		G	ROI	UP #		
Output Current		-	G G put Ac				
Output Current Maximum output current is ½ Amp.	<u>Group #</u>	A	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>D</u>		
Output Current      Maximum output current is ½ Amp.      Output Voltage	<b><u>Group #</u></b> 00	<u>A</u> na	<b><u>B</u></b> na	<u>C</u> na			
Output Current      Maximum output current is ½ Amp.      Output Voltage      Output voltage is about 2.5 volts less	<u>Group #</u> 00 01	<u>А</u> na 1	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>D</u> na		
<u>Output Current</u> Maximum output current is ½ Amp.	Group # 00 01 02	<u>A</u> na	<u>В</u> na 2	<u>C</u> na 3	<b>D</b> na 4 8		
Output Current      Maximum output current is ½ Amp.      Output Voltage      Output voltage is about 2.5 volts less than the Linker supply voltage.      Output Protection      Outputs have limited protection from	<u>Group #</u> 00 01	<u>A</u> na 1 5 9	<b>B</b> na 2 6 10	<u>C</u> na 3 7 11	<u>D</u> na 4		
Output Current      Maximum output current is ½ Amp.      Output Voltage      Output voltage is about 2.5 volts less      than the Linker supply voltage.      Output Protection      Outputs have limited protection from      short circuits overloads or	Group # 00 01 02 03 04	<u>A</u> na 1 5 9 13	<b><u>B</u></b> na 2 6 10 14	<u>C</u> na 3 7 11 15	<b>D</b> na 4 8 12 16		
Output Current      Maximum output current is ½ Amp.      Output Voltage      Output voltage is about 2.5 volts less      than the Linker supply voltage.      Output Protection      Outputs have limited protection from      short circuits overloads or      overheating. The chip driving the	Group # 00 01 02 03	<u>A</u> na 1 5 9 13 continue	<b>B</b> na 2 6 10 14 es up to	<u>C</u> na 3 7 11 15 <i>group</i>	D na 4 8 12 16 99		
Output Current      Maximum output current is ½ Amp.      Output Voltage      Output voltage is about 2.5 volts less than the Linker supply voltage.      Output Protection      Outputs have limited protection from short circuits overloads or overheating. The chip driving the outputs is in a socket should it ever need replacement. Changing the chip	Group # 00 01 02 03 04 <i>pattern</i> 0	<u>A</u> na 1 5 9 13 <i>continue</i> 385	<b>B</b> na 2 6 10 14 <i>es up to</i> 386	<u>C</u> na 3 7 11 15 <i>group</i> 387	D na 4 8 12 16 <i>p</i> 99 388		
Output Current      Maximum output current is ½ Amp.      Output Voltage      Output voltage is about 2.5 volts less than the Linker supply voltage.      Output Protection      Outputs have limited protection from short circuits overloads or overheating. The chip driving the outputs is in a socket should it ever	Group # 00 01 02 03 04 <i>pattern</i> 0 97	<u>A</u> na 1 5 9 13 continue	<b>B</b> na 2 6 10 14 es up to	<u>C</u> na 3 7 11 15 <i>group</i> 387 391	D na 4 8 12 16 99		

# **Output Addresses and Group Number**

When a GROUP Number (#) is selected, the four output pairs, A, B, C, and D, are automatically assigned 4 different addresses. These addresses are always in sequential groups of four.

Group 00 is not used. The highest group number is 99.

A is always the lowest number in the sequence of 4 addresses.

 ${\bf D}$  is always the highest number in the sequence of 4 addresses.

The Group Number and associated addresses are easy to figure out with some arithmetic or you may use the tables.

To determine the highest address in a group number sequence, multiply the group number by 4. The resulting number is the address of the D output. Then work backwards, subtracting one from the previous address. For example, group number 1 multiplied by 4, gives 4 as the highest address and is assigned to D. Then C=3, B=2 and A=1.

Here's another example: Group number 50. Multiply 50 time 4 and that gives 200 which is the highest address in the sequence and is assigned to output D. Then C = 199, B = 198, and A = 197.

Group	Output Addresses			
Number	Α	В	С	D
1	1	2	3	4
2	5	6	7	8
3	9	10	11	12
4	13	14	14	16
5	17	18	19	20
6	21	22	23	24
7	25	26	27	28
8	29	30	31	32
9	33	34	35	36
10	37	38	39	40
11	41	42	43	44
12	45	46	47	48
13	49	50	51	52
14	53	54	55	56
15	57	58	59	60
16	61	62	63	64
17	65	66	67	68
18	69	70	71	72
19	73	74	75	76
20	77	78	79	80
21	81	82	83	84
22	85	86	87	88
23	89	90	91	92
24	93	94	95	96
25	97	98	99	100

Group	Output Addresses				
Number	Α	В	С	D	
26	101	102	103	104	
27	105	106	107	108	
28	109	110	111	112	
29	113	114	115	116	
30	117	118	119	120	
31	121	122	123	124	
32	125	126	127	128	
33	129	130	131	132	
34	133	134	135	136	
35	137	138	139	140	
36	141	142	143	144	
37	145	146	147	148	
38	149	150	151	152	
39	153	154	155	156	
40	157	158	159	160	
41	161	162	163	164	
42	165	166	167	168	
43	169	170	171	172	
44	173	174	175	176	
45	177	178	179	180	
46	181	182	183	184	
47	185	186	187	188	
48	189	190	191	192	
49	193	194	195	196	
50	197	198	199	200	

4

# **Distance Vs. Wire Gauge**

Proper operation of switch machines and solenoids requires adequate wire size to deliver the required energy from the Activator to the device. If the wire is too small, the energy is dissipated in the wiring and a poor or weak throw will occur. In extreme cases, the switch machine or solenoid won't even move.

The Activator is designed to be relatively close to the devices connected to its turnouts. However, in some cases, the device may be at some distance from the Activator. Use the table below to determine the proper wire size when going further then 25 feet from the Activator. Of course, large wire size is OK for less than 25 feet.

To read the table, find the distance of your wire run. This distance assumes an out and back run of wire. Next, pick the mode your Activator is using.

<u>Continuous Mode:</u> The 0.5 Amp column is for continuous on outputs and these are loaded down to the maximum of 0.5 Amps.

**Pulse Mode:** When in pulse mode, the Activator will momentarily output up to 2 amps. This power doesn't last long but it helps throw balky turnouts. However, to deliver this energy to the turnout, the wire must be the right size.

This table was created by allowing up to 0.25 volt drop for the given current for the specified distance. The entries with "not recommended" indicate the wire size is not realistic. You can certainly go that distance but there will be a greater voltage drop for a smaller wire size.

	For Continuous 0.5 Amp load	For Pulse Output @ 2 Amp Peak
Distance (feet) From Activator To Load	Wire Size Minimum	Wire Size Minimum
10	20	20
25	18	16
50	16	14
100	14	not recommended
150	12	not recommended
200	not recommended	not recommended

# Wiring Tips - All Modes and Hookups

Wiring from the Activator to the Linker should be 14 AWG to 18 AWG depending on distance. See the chart on the inside pages for recommendations.

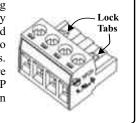
<u>Wire size</u> that connects the Activator to the load should be about 18AWG to 20 AWG and may be stranded or solid. If going a long distance the wire must be larger or there will be a voltage loss.

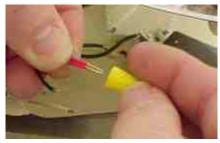
 $\underline{\textbf{For stranded wire}}, strip the insulation back about 1/4 inch back, twist strands together and tin.$ 

**Test each turnout** for excessive drag or mechanical binding. Correct any problems found now. If the machine throws in the wrong direction reverse the two wires at the switch machine.

<u>Use safe wiring techniques.</u> All splices and joints should be soldered. If not soldering, use appropriately sized wire nuts.

To remove the plug from the socket, gently rock the plug back and forth horizontally to release the locking tabs. Replacement plugs are available from CVP Products. The tabs can be cut off if needed.





# Overview

## <u>Status Indicators</u>

The bright LED indicators are used during setup and to confirm receipt of activation commands.

<u>**GP**</u> is both a power and a data indicator. If it is on, it means both power and data are being received from the Linker. If slowly blinking on and off, it means there is power but no throttle is turned on.

 $\underline{ST}$  flashes any time an activation command is received addressed to any of its 4 outputs

ACT ATOR

ST

OK

C

OCAL IN

Seyd

SETUP

### Linker Input & References

The two wires from the Linker connect to the two right terminals only. Polarity does not matter.

 $\underline{V+}$  is a voltage source derived from the Linker's input signal. Lamps or relays can use this as a power source. It is about 2.5 volts less than the Linker power supply voltage.

**<u>GND</u>** is the Activator's internal ground reference. It is used when an external power supply is connected.

LINKER

## Setup Switches

Used to select how the Activator's outputs respond to a throttle's activation commands.

**Pulse Mode:** Used for momentary or pulsed outputs on switch machines.

<u>Continuous Mode:</u> Used for On/Off control of lamps or relays.

<u>Combination Mode:</u> Outputs A and D are alternate flashing when On and B and C outputs that are On/Off.

There are two flash rates and two pulse rates from which to select.

## Local Inputs

our

If push buttons are to be used to control the Activator's outputs, they connect here. The push button toggles an output between On/Off or throws the turnout normal or reverse.

Local inputs are active any time power is applied. A throttle does not have to be turned on. In this case the GP indicator will be slowly flashing.

Local inputs can be used at the same time as throttle control or separately.

Easily obtained modular telephone plugs and cables are used.

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5

What's Connected To The Outputs?	Select Mode	Switch Settings	Affects Which Outputs	Recommended Linker Voltage
Snap Switch Machines Like LGB, Aristo, Air Solenoids Note 1	Pulse Normal		A,B,C,D	+15V
	Pulse Long	SETUP	,-,-,-	Note 4
Lamps, LEDs Relays LEDs <i>Note 2,5</i>	Continuous	SELID	A,B,C,D	+15V Note 4
Lamps, LEDs Relays LEDs <i>Note 3,5</i>	Combo Normal Flash		A and D are alternate flash	+15V
	Combo Fast Flash	SETUP	while B and C are continuous on	Note 4

**Using The Setup Switches** 

Always Make Your Selection Before Using Activator

**Note1:** LGB switch machines or other machines that take a **momentary pulse** of power to throw or activate must use this setup. Using any other setup might damage the switch machine or the Activator. The white rectangle is the movable switch. Use a small pencil or pen to move the switches.

The longer duration switch setting provides a longer throwing pulse. This may be needed for sluggish switch machines. Sluggishness might be due to drag or some other mechanical problem. However, for best operation, fix the cause of the drag and use the normal pulse duration.

F1 activates the Left Terminal of an output pair and F3 activates the Right terminal of an output pair.

**Note 2:** Continuous on operation means the output turns ON continuously when activated. Each output pair will have one output ON and the other output OFF when the throttle's F3 key is pressed. When the F1 key is pressed, the outputs reverse their state. See the application tips for additional details.

**Note 3:** Combo mode sets two outputs to flash alternately, like a grade crossing signal, and the other two outputs are set to continuous on. F3 turns on the alternating flash and F1 turns it off. For the continuous outputs, F3 turns them on and F1 turns them off.

**Note 4:** The Linker power supply voltage sets the voltage for the Activator outputs. For 12 to 14 volt devices connected to the outputs, the Linker's power supply needs to be 15 volts. For 24 volt devices, the Linker power supply needs to be 24 volts.

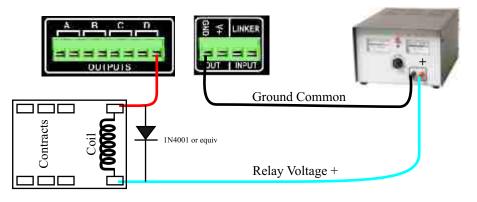
**Note 5:** Light Emitting Diodes (LED) must have a limit resistor whose value is determined by the Linker power supply voltage. The arithmetic to calculate the proper value is shown on page 8.

# **Using An External Power Supply**

An external power supply is needed whenever the voltage requirements of the load exceed the capability of the Linker's power supply. Connect the external power supply to a GFI protected power outlet.

The power supply requires a ground common connection from the external power supply's ground (sometimes called minus) to the Activator's GND terminal. Use appropriate sized wire for the output loads.

The image shows an external supply used to provide power to a relay being controlled by the D output.



## **Remote Indication Using A 2nd Activator**

Note: This feature is not usable if local inputs are used.

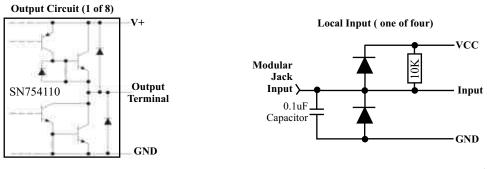
To add position indication of a remote turnout, simply use another Activator that is set to the same Group # as the remote Activator. Since both Activators receive the same command, their outputs will also be the same.

The second Activator can be set to for a different type of output mode. This is very handy when you wish to drive indicator lamps with the second output while the first Activator is set for pulse to throw snap switch machines.

The two Activators do not have to use the same Linker. The key is simply to use the same Group # for both Activators.

When power is first applied, both Activators will default to all outputs off. However, as each turnout is activated, the second activator synchronizes its indicators.

# **Equivalent Input And Output Circuits**



## **Using Combo Mode**

Combo mode splits the 4 outputs into two sets having different characteristics. Two of the outputs become alternate flashing, when turned on, and the other two outputs are set for continuous on.

**Setup:** The Combo mode is enabled when the SETUP switch #1 and #2 are on or the switch is up. Switch #3 sets the flash rate for the alternating outputs. When switch #3 is down the flash rate normal and when up the flash rate is faster. The flash rate may be changed at any time. The change takes effect immediately.



**Output Definitions:** The two sets of outputs are configured as follows: A and D are the flash outputs. B and C are the continuous outputs.

<u>Connections A and D Outputs:</u> The illustration shows the connection of a grade crossing flasher that uses standard incandescent lamps. See the section on controlling lamps and relays for additional information and requirements for voltage settings and current ratings.

**Connections B and C outputs:** These are used the same way as described in the section on lamps and relays. B and C are simply continuous on and off outputs in the combo mode. Relays are used

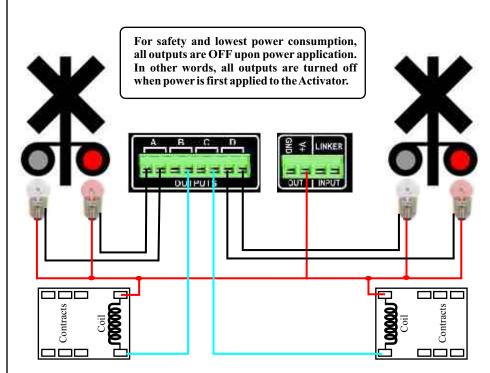
in the picture below but they could be almost any type of on/off device. See the section on controlling lamps and relays for additional information and requirements for voltage settings and current ratings.



Activation Commands A and D: First set the throttle to the accessory mode. When connected as shown in the picture, and after selecting the correct output address, pushing the

throttle's 3 key starts selected output alternately flashing. They alternately flash on and off and remain in this mode until turned off. Pushing the throttle's 1 key, turns off the bulb or LED. To flash the lamps at a faster rate, turn on switch #3 (FR).

Activation Commands B and C: First set the throttle to the accessory mode. When connected as shown in the picture, and after selecting the correct output address, pushing the throttle's 3 key turns on the relay. Pushing the throttle's 1 key, turns off the relay.



# **Using Local Inputs**

When using local inputs, the push buttons "toggle" or change the state of the device connected to the Activator output. If it is a turnout, it cycles the turnout between normal and reverse each time the button is pushed. If the Activator is set for On/Off control, each time the button is pushed it cycles the load between On and Off.

Push buttons must be momentary and they must be normally open. This means the button connects the two wires together when pushed. Any type of push button can be used. Only low voltages are used and the wire size can be small.

**Tab Down** 

White On Right

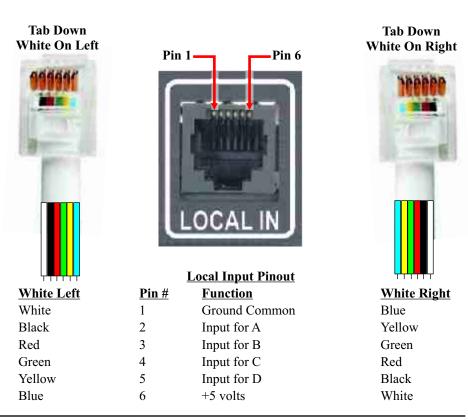
Although there are no real limits to the amount of cable allowed, the local inputs are just that - local. That means the push buttons are located relatively close to the Activator.

Wiring of the local push buttons is easy. Each push button connects to the common ground and one of the local inputs. The picture shows the wiring for the a modular cable with its white wire oriented to the right side of the plug.

The Local Input jack is designed to fit standard 6

conductor modular telephone plugs and cables. These can be obtained from almost any large hardware store, or local electronics store. However, the cheapest source of plugs and cables is from the online catalog stores like Mouser Electronics. See the back cover for their website.

CVP Products offers custom cut lengths of modular cable with the plug already attached on one end. Call us for a quotation.



# Using Incandescent Lamps, or LEDs

Lamps, relays, and LEDs are devices that require power to be applied continuously when they are on. Thus, this mode is called "Continuous." This means that once an "ON" command is received, the Activator output turns on and stays on until it receives the "OFF" command.



OUTPUTS

voltage.

Setup: This mode is enabled when the SETUP switch #1 is turned on or is up. When in this mode, all outputs feature continuous on operation.

Connections: For most installations, the device will connect between the right terminal of an output and the Activator's V+ terminal. The V+ terminal is shared by all devices. The right terminal turns ON when it receives the ON activation command.

INKER

OUT | INPUT

Voltage Ratings: The incandescent bulb voltage rating must be appropriate for the Linker's power supply setting.

The V+ source voltage is about 2.5 volts less than the Linker's power supply setting. For example, if the power supply is set for 15 volts, about 12.5 volts will be present at the V+ terminal - perfect for a 12V bulb.

Bulb/Relay Polarity: There is no polarity to an incandescent lamp. Use either pin to connect to the Activator.

LEDs: A Light Emitting Diode, LED, has two requirements if used with the Activator. First - an LED is polarity sensitive. It must be connected to the proper terminals in order to light up. Second - an LED requires a limit resistor. Failure to use a limit resistor will destroy the LED.

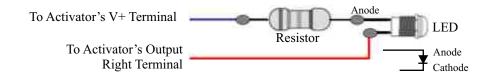
LED Limit Resistor: The limit resistor value is easily determined with a bit of arithmetic. The value of the limit resistor in ohms is equal to Linker Voltage minus 2.5V divided by 0.02 or whatever the current rating is for your LED. The resistor goes in series with either leg of the LED. For example, with the Linker set to +15volts, the limit resistor value is 625 ohms. An appropriate standard value is 620 ohms. The chosen

value doesn't have to be exactly as calculated. Plus or minus 5% is close enough. Tip: higher resistor values mean a dimmer LED.

LED Polarity: In most cases, a simple, single color LED has two pins. One pin is usually longer than the other - this pin is called the anode pin. It must connect to the V+ terminal to work correctly. The other pin is called the cathode. The image below shows the long pin connected to the V+ terminal through a limit resistor. The electrical symbol for an LED is also shown and oriented the same as the LED in the holder.

Activation Commands: When connected as shown in the picture, and after putting the throttle into Accessory Mode and selecting the desired output address, pushing the throttle's 3 key turns on the bulb or LED. Pushing the throttle's 1 key, turns off the bulb or LED.

For safety and lowest power consumption, all outputs are OFF upon power application. In other words, all outputs are disabled when power is first applied to the Activator.



## **Using Relays**

Relays are perfect devices for controlling other devices and equipment that the Activator can not control directly. A good example of this is low voltage garden landscape lighting. A simple relay connected to the activator allows you to control your outdoor lighting directly from your handheld throttle. Another example is where the relay controls a landscape and scenery water pump.



Relays require power to be applied continuously when they are on. Thus, this mode is called "Continuous," This means that once a "ON" command is received. the Activator output turns on and stays on until it receives the "OFF" command.

Setup: This mode is enabled when the SETUP switch #1 is turned on or is up. When in this mode, all outputs feature continuous on operation. There are many types of relays. Most low voltage DC operated relays can

be used with the Activator provided the voltage requirement is met. See note below about output



**Connections:** For most installations, the relay will connect between the right terminal of an output and the Activator's V+ terminal. The V+ terminal is shared by all devices. The right terminal turns ON when it receives the ON activation command.

Voltage Ratings: The relay voltage rating must be appropriate for the Linker's power supply setting.

The V+ source voltage is about 2.5 volts less than the Linker's power supply setting. For example, if the power supply is set for 15 volts, about 12.5 volts will be present at the V+ terminal. Thus a 12-14 volt automotive relay works great. If you want to use an external supply, the drawing on the lower left is how to connect it.

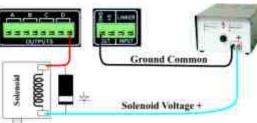
**Relay Polarity:** There is no polarity to a relay. Use either pin to connect to the Activator.

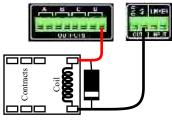
Relay Coil Current: The rating for the amount of current used to activate the relay coil must be 1/2 amp or less. Most high quality low voltage relays consume much less current than this.

Relay Contact Ratings: Be sure to use a relay that can switch the desired amount of load current. Generally, the higher the current, the bigger the relay.

Activation Commands: When connected as shown in the picture, and after putting the throttle into Accessory Mode and selecting the desired output address, pushing the throttle's 3 key turns on the bulb or LED. Pushing the throttle's 1 key, turns off the bulb or LED.

For safety and lowest power consumption, all outputs are OFF upon power application. In other words, all outputs are disabled when power is first applied to the Activator.





This is a typical solenoid connected to the Activator's D output and using an external DC power supply. The DC power supply must be set to match the solenoid voltage rating plus 2 volts. You must add the external diode. Diode is a 1N4001 or equivalent.

This is a typical relay connected to the Activator's D output. Study your relay to determine both the coil terminals and the contact terminals. Diode is 1N4001 or equivalent.

#### Caution: For 12-14V DC Relays or Solenoids, Set Linker Power Supply to 15 Volts

There is about a 2.5 volt loss between the Linker DC power supply voltage input and what appears at the Activator outputs. For 12 volt relays, the DC power supply should be set to 15 volts. For 24 volt relays, only about 21 volts is available when the Linker has an input DC voltage of 24 volts. The 24 relays might not activate.

Warning - Do Not Use AC Relays

Only DC relays can be used with the Activator.

