

# Marex ECS basic

Quick guide

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**Marex ECS basic**

This quick guide provides instructions for mounting, commissioning, operating and troubleshooting a Marex Easy Control System basic for reversing gear applications. It applies only to the products named in the scope of delivery. This quick guide is addressed to assembly and service technicians and users.

In instructions which refer to the boat's direction of thrust, 'forward' is used as equivalent term for 'ahead' and 'reverse' for astern.

**⚠️** Read the instruction manual of the boat and the assembly instructions of the delivered Marex ECS components before mounting the system.

**➡️** Use the products only in permissible areas as specified in the assembly instructions.

**⬆️** Mount the products in the order described in this quick guide (chapters 1 to 9).

## 1 Scope of delivery

Check the entire delivery for completeness on the basis of the delivery note.

Marex ECS control unit including mounting material R419302102

Marex ECS control head including mounting material and drilling template R417002550 (single) or R417002400 (twin)

Assembly instructions

Marex ECS wiring harness R419302201 (single) or R419302202 (twin)

2 x terminating resistor

2 x caps

## Marex ECS bus cable STATION/PROPULSION

labeled 'STATION', with additional label 'PROPULSION'

Part no.	Length
R419801349	1 m
R419801350	5 m
R419801351	10 m
R419801352	15 m
R419801353	20 m
R419801354	30 m

Gender changer for connecting two bus cables

Part no.	Length
R419801362	0.15 m

Terminating resistor

Terminating resistor	Part no.
	0941054274

Marex ECS control cable GEAR forward/reverse

Part no.	Length
R419801334	10 m
R419801335	5 m X
R419801336	10 m X

X = with solenoid valve connector

## Marex ECS control cable THROTTLE

Part no.	Length	Signal
R419801320	10 m	4 to 20 mA
R419801321	20 m	4 to 20 mA
R419801322	10 m	0 to 5 (10 V)
R419801323	20 m	0 to 5 (10 V)
R419801324	10 m	PWM
R419801325	20 m	PWM

Marex ECS control cable AUX (START INTERLOCK)

Part no.	Length	Signal
R419801344	10 m	A
R419801345	10 m	B

A = start interlock contact, safety stop, high idle  
B = start interlock contact

Marex ECS control cable ALARM (optional) alarm and monitoring system interface

Part no.	Length
R419801319	10 m

## Marex ECS POWER cable

Part no.	Length
R419801567	5 m
R419801316 *	10 m
R419801568	5 m
R419801522 *	10 m
R419801547	20 m

\* Cables not suitable for 12 V-version of Marex ECS actuator.

Marex ECS actuator (optional)

Part no.	Power supply
R417002102	12 V DC
R417002103	24 V DC

not shown:

Part no.	Length
3236994152	2 m
3236994162	3 m

Marex ECS push-pull cable (optional) for the actuator, stroke 76 mm

## 2 System overview

Number of control heads	Max total length of STATION cables	
	12 V	24 V
1	60 m	120 m
2	50 m	120 m
3	40 m	80 m
4	30 m	60 m

Max. total length of PROPULSION cabling: 250 m

## 3 Preparing the mounting

Note the following requirements:

- The control head has to be mounted lever-up in a panel (permissible thickness of the panel: 2 mm to 20 mm). Provide enough space so that the lever's movement range is not obstructed.
- The control head has to be mounted in the direction of travel of the boat.

Prepare a panel cut-out for the control head corresponding to the drilling template (Ø 68 - 85 mm).

## Drilling template for panel cut-out

Dimensions: 80 mm width, 75.5 mm height, 4 x Ø 6.5 mm holes.

Remove the protection caps from the STATION connectors of the control head. Keep the protection caps!

Remove the terminating resistors from the wiring harness and keep them until finishing the mounting (see 4).

Re-label the STATION cables using the 'PROPULSION' labels when connecting the actuators.

## 4 Mounting one control head

Feed a STATION cable through the cut-out and connect it to one of the STATION connectors of the control head.

Fit a terminating resistor to the other STATION connector. If you mount additional control heads, connect another STATION cable instead.

Insert the control head correctly positioned into the panel cut-out.

Screw it to the panel with the supplied washers and fastening nuts. Mind the maximum tightening torque of 2 Nm!

Do not forget!

## Mounting additional control heads

Do not forget!

## 5 Mounting the control unit

Do not mount the control unit directly on the engine!

Do not step on the unit!

Permissible operating temperature: -25 °C to 78 °C!

Hot surface! Do not touch during operation!

Do not remove the fastening elements!

Avoid exposure to splash water!

## 6 Mounting the wiring harness

6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 6.4, 6.5, 6.6

## 7 Connecting the cables

Make sure the power supply is switched off before connecting the cables.

Cover all unused connectors with protective caps!

7.1 STATION

Connect the free end of the STATION cable to the wiring harness. The other end is already plugged in the control head (see 4).

Fit terminating resistors to unused STATION connectors.

## 7.2 GEAR + THROTTLE

Make sure the THROTTLE cable matches the type of your engine (4 to 20 mA, 0 to 5 V or PWM). Then connect the GEAR and THROTTLE cables to the wiring harness, engine and gearbox.

## Pin assignment GEAR cable

Signal	Pin 1	Pin 2
FORWARD OUT	1	2
REVERSE OUT	1	2

Imax = 2 A

## Pin assignment THROTTLE cable

Signal	Pin 1	Pin 2
0-5 (10 V) SIGNAL	1	2
4-20 mA SIGNAL	1	2
PWM	1	2

Imax: 20 mA, Rmax: 500 Ω, F: 500 Hz, Open Drain

A pull-up resistor must be connected before measuring the output signal (open drain output).

## 7.3 AUX + ALARM

Connect the AUX and ALARM cables to the wiring harness and engine or monitoring system.

## Pin assignment ALARM + AUX cables

Signal	Pin 1	Pin 2	Pin 3
NORMALLY OPEN CONTACT START INTERLOCK	1	2	
SAFETY STOP / HIGH IDLE	1	2	3

Relay contact Imax = 5 A DC, Digital IN Rmax = 10 Ω, Imax = 0.2 A

## 7.4 POWER

Connect the POWER cable to the wiring harness and power supply.

## Wiring

Control unit	12 V DC	24 V DC
Imax	8 A	6 A
Fuse	16 A	10 A

Actuator	12 V DC	24 V DC
Imax	10 A	8 A
Fuse	30 A	16 A

Connect to one battery, Connect to two batteries (recommended for twin controls)

Make sure that each power cable is electrically protected by circuit breakers! Consider your local regulations, e.g. ABYC.

## 8 Mounting and connecting an actuator (optional)

Be careful not to trap hand or fingers when handling moving parts of the actuator!

Before mounting, be aware that the length of the push-pull cable determines the distance of the actuator from the engine!

Read the actuator's documentation before mounting the actuator!

Make sure that the system is powered off before connecting the cables!

Do not expose the actuator to wave water!

Observe the permissible operating temperature: -25 °C to 78 °C!

Make sure the push-pull cable is in perfect condition!

## 8.1 Mounting an actuator

Make sure to set the actuator's function (see below) before starting the auto-configuration of Marex ECS (10).

Mount the actuator using the delivered mounting material.

Ground the actuator at the grounding point 'GND'.

Set switch S1 to define the function of the actuator.

## 8.2 Connecting an actuator

Connect the push-pull cable to actuator and engine or gearbox.

Connect the PROPULSION cable to actuator and wiring harness.

Connect the POWER cable to actuator and power supply.

The maximum length of the power cable for system with 12-V actuators is 5 m.

## 8.3 Teaching in the actuator, GEAR control function

- Switch on the power supply.
- Set switch S2 to "ON". The red and green LEDs flash.
- Move the adjustment lever of the actuator manually to the FORWARD position.
- Push switch S3 to confirm the setting. The red and green LEDs stay on for a short time. The position is stored.
- Move the adjustment lever to the NEUTRAL position next.
- Push switch S3 to confirm the setting. The red and green LEDs stay on for a short time. The position is stored.
- Finally, move the adjustment lever to the REVERSE position.
- Push switch S3 to confirm the setting. The red and green LEDs stay on for a short time. The position is stored.
- Set switch S2 to "OFF". The teach-in process is complete. The actuator is ready for use now. The red LED is off. The green LED is permanently illuminated.

## Teaching in the actuator, THROTTLE control function

- Switch on the power supply.
- Set switch S2 to "ON". The red and green LEDs flash.
- Move the adjustment lever of the actuator manually to the MINRPM position.
- Push switch S3 to confirm the setting. The red and green LEDs stay on for a short time. The position is stored.
- Move the adjustment lever to the MAXRPM position next.
- Push switch S3 to confirm the setting. The red and green LEDs stay on for a short time. The position is stored.
- Set switch S2 to "OFF". The teach-in process is complete. The actuator is ready for use now. The red LED is off. The green LED is permanently illuminated.

## 9 Checklist: Is everything correctly connected?

- Check whether everything is correctly connected.
- Check the complete STATION cabling: Is the control head connected correctly to the wiring harness? Check also the connection of additional control heads if installed.
- Check the complete PROPULSION cabling: Is the actuator connected correctly to the wiring harness? Check also the connection of additional actuators if installed.
- Did you fix terminating resistors to open ends?
- Did you protect the sockets that you do not need with protective caps?
- Did you attach the 'PROPULSION' labels on the PROPULSION cables?
- Did you use the clamps to fix the wiring harness?
- Did you connect a THROTTLE cable suitable for your engine (PWM, 4-20 mA, 0-5 V)?
- Did you use the appropriate AUX cable for your system? Not every connector provides every feature (refer to 1, scope of delivery and the delivery note).
- Are the connectors firmly attached? Did you connect the power supply? Did you provide an electrical protection for the connector cables?
- If an actuator has been installed: Did you ground the actuator?

## 10 Configuring the system with the auto-config plug

- Make sure the power supply is switched off!
- Disconnect the auto-config plug from the wiring harness.
- Switch on the power supply.
  - The device status LEDs flash alternately red and green on all components.
  - The auto-config is running. The process may take a few minutes.
- When the LEDs flash green on all components, the auto-config is finished.
- Reconnect the auto-config plug to the wiring harness. The configuration is complete. The device status LEDs are indicating the devices' state again.
  - Repeat the auto-config if the process is interrupted or red LEDs flash or light up permanently!



### 11 Setting up Marex ECS Connecting to the network

**Always** set the central head level in NEUTRAL position, before charging the system set.

**Do not change settings while the boat is motion!**

You can comfortably set up Marex ECS with your mobile device e.g. a smartphone or tablet computer. Start by switching on the WLAN of the central head.

- Push the ALARM key for at least 5 seconds. As soon as you hear a short buzzer signal, the WLAN is on.
- Connect your mobile device to the Marex ECS MarexLink network. You are prompted to enter a password.
- Enter "marex". Your mobile device confirms that the network connection has been successfully set up.

If not used, the WLAN will switch off after 15 minutes.

### 12 Connecting your mobile device to Marex Link

Basic setup  
The following basic settings are adjustable. These are examples, your Marex ECS may exceed the basic functions.

THROTTLE:  
 • MIN RPM: minimum engine rpm, default = 8.5 V  
 • MAX RPM: maximum engine rpm, default = 4.5 V  
 • HIGH IDLE: increase MIN RPM when activated, see 14.5, default = MIN RPM

GEAR:  
 • Throttle IDLE up (once after engine acceleration) after clutch in, default = 1 s  
 • Clutch off-idle (time reference to disengagement), default = 1 s  
 • Further information on the settings, use the help button in the menu of MarexLink.

Logging out of Marex Link and switching the WLAN off

To switch the WLAN off, refer to the manual of your mobile device. The WLAN will switch off automatically. You can also switch it off manually by pressing the ALARM key on the central head again for more than 5 sec, only you hear a long buzzer sound.

### 13 Testing the system

**Make sure the boat is in a safe condition and the central head level (if any) is in NEUTRAL position, before starting a system test**

Switch off the power supply and set the level (L) of every installed central head in neutral position.  
 Switch on the power supply. Check if all central heads are ready for operation.  
 Does the device status LED light up green?  
 If yes: Push the COMMAND key twice to transfer the command to the central head. Transfer the command to all other central heads if available. If not:  
 Check all THROTTLE cables to the central unit and repeat the status check (L1). This repeats itself.

Make sure you have successfully transferred the command to the central head (see 13). Then push the level (L) of the central head to the FORWARD gear.

Check if the signals are correctly transmitted over the OEGAR cable to the gear box. Make sure if a correct signal is received at the gear box when moving the central head level (L).

Measure the voltage of the OEGAR cable:  
 • Is the voltage correct?

Check if the engine speed adjusts in accordance with the lever position – it is a signal correctly transmitted over the THROTTLE cable?  
 • Is it within the range required for your system (see 2.8 m.n. to 5 V, P/NM)?

The signal transmission works fine:  
 • Repeat the procedure with the level (L) in the REVERSE detent.

If not:  
 • Make sure that you use suitable cables for your system, no contact in wires, correct connections and repeat the auto-configuration.

**With two engines, perform separate tests for port and starboard to ensure that THROTTLE, OEGAR and AUX cables have not been swapped.**

**Pay special attention to the OEGAR cable and the signals for FORWARD and REVERSE!**

Your system includes actuators, verify the correct positioning of the adjusting lever if the positions are not correct, repeat the test in process (L).

The system test is finished.

### 14 Operating Marex ECS

#### 14.1 Keypad

Marex ECS single

- COMMAND key with COMMAND LED
- ALARM key with ALARM LED
- SLOW MODE key with SLOW MODE LED
- WARNING UP key with WARNING UP LED (single only)
- SYNCHRO key with SYNCHRO LED (two only)
- Device status LED
- Brightness sensor

Marex ECS twin

#### 14.2 State of key indicators

- Station in COMMAND (passive) / Station in COMMAND (active) / COMMAND requested
- no ALARM / ALARM pending, acknowledged / ALARM pending, not yet acknowledged
- SLOW MODE off / SLOW MODE on
- SYNCHRO off (two only) / SYNCHRO on (two only)
- WARNING UP off (single only) / WARNING UP on (single only)

#### 14.3 States of the device status LEDs

Central head: Actuator

- Green: The device is ready for operation.
- Red: The device is not operational.
- Red with yellow: The device is defective yet the auto-configuration has been aborted.
- Yellow: Autoconfig is running. The LED's flash after yellow and red.
- Green with yellow: As soon as the autoconfig is finished, the device status LED flashes green.
- Yellow: Test is in progress at the actuator. Both LED's flash synchronously.
- Overhaul: The actuator forces positions during the test-in-process.

#### 14.4 The scale of the central head

The illuminated scale of the central head guides you intuitively through the operation.

When in position on the scale, the R10, r10 are intended to move the lever to that position, e.g. during a table transfer (see 14).

When all positions on the scale flash, the WARNING UP MODE is active.

The illuminated scale of the central head guides you intuitively through the operation.

When in position on the scale, the R10, r10 are intended to move the lever to that position, e.g. during a table transfer (see 14).

When all positions on the scale flash, the WARNING UP MODE is active.

#### 14.5 Digital inputs

Marex ECS supports special functions which can be connected via the AUX cable (see also 7.3).

Safety stop (Dead Man Switch)  
 When the safety stop is activated, the engine rpm are automatically set to idle and the table is disengaged.

High idle  
 High idle provides a second idle speed for higher performance. If high idle is activated, the value which corresponds to the speed (RPM) is set as a 10% increase over the HIGH IDLE value.

#### 14.6 Taking over the command

Requesting the command transfer

- Push the COMMAND key on the central head you want to activate. The COMMAND LED flashes white, accompanied by a buzzer sound.
- If the COMMAND LED flashes slowly, accompanied by long buzzer sounds, → settle level (L) of the central head to the position which flashes on the scale.
- If the COMMAND LED flashes quickly with short buzzer sounds, → push the COMMAND key again. The central head is active.

You can always take over the command if the requesting lever is set in NEUTRAL position. Be aware to stop the system step-by-step when moving at high speed!

#### 14.7 ALARM – Acknowledging alarm signals

ALARM! The ALARM LED flashes red, accompanied by a steady buzzer sound.

Push the ALARM key. The alarm is acknowledged. The buzzer is muted. When the ALARM LED permanently lights up red there is a pending alarm.

or:

Push the ALARM key. The alarm is acknowledged. The buzzer is muted. The ALARM LED switches off. There has been a temporary alarm.

See 15 for details on troubleshooting.

#### 14.8 SLOW MODE – Reducing the THROTTLE signal

SLOW MODE reduces the maximum throttle signal to 50%.

The central head is not be active and in NEUTRAL position to switch SLOW MODE on and off.

Make sure that the central head is active and in NEUTRAL position.

Push the SLOW MODE key. The SLOW MODE LED permanently lights up white. The THROTTLE signal is reduced.

Push the SLOW MODE key again. The SLOW MODE LED switches off.

#### 14.9 WARNING UP – Controlling the engine rpm without engaging the clutch

In the WARNING UP MODE, you can control the engine rpm without engaging the clutch.

The WARNING UP function is switched on via the COMMAND key.

The central head must be active and in NEUTRAL position to switch WARNING UP on.

Make sure that the central head is active and in NEUTRAL position.

While pushing and holding the COMMAND key, carefully move the central head lever to the FORWARD position. The WARNING UP MODE is switched on. The central head scale flashes.

Settle the central head lever in NEUTRAL position. The scale stops flashing. WARNING UP MODE is switched off.

**Warning!** If the gear box catches in anyway, immediately set the level (L) in NEUTRAL position to prevent the boat from moving.

Alternatively, the WARNING UP function can be switched on via the WARNING UP key (single only).

The central head must be active and in NEUTRAL position to switch SYNCHRO on.

Make sure that the central head is active and in NEUTRAL position.

Push the WARNING UP key. The WARNING UP LED lights up indicating the WARNING UP MODE is on. Move the central head lever to the FORWARD position.

Settle the central head lever in NEUTRAL position. The WARNING UP LED switches off. WARNING UP MODE is switched off.

#### 14.10 SYNCHRO – Synchronizing two engines

SYNCHRO allows to control both engines with the starboard lever.

The central head must be active and in NEUTRAL position to switch SYNCHRO on and off.

Make sure that the central head is active and in NEUTRAL position.

Push the SYNCHRO key. The SYNCHRO LED permanently lights up white. The SYNCHRO MODE is active. You can control both engines by using the starboard lever.

Push the SYNCHRO key again. The LED turns off. The SYNCHRO MODE is switched off.

### 15 Troubleshooting – what to do in case of alarms

**WARNING**  
 Hazard of a fatal accident or collision due to a system failure!

When ALARM LEDs flash red or light up red permanently, this indicates a device failure or malfunction which may result in a system failure or even unexpected reaction of the boat. You may no longer be able to control the main propulsion engine. To prevent a fatal accident or collision, immediately take the following measures when the ALARM LED flashes at night:

- First bring the boat into a safe state!
- Only then acknowledge the alarm and aim into the cause of the fault (see 15.2).

If the active central head fails, Marex ECS automatically reduces the engine rpm to idle and disengages the clutch.

Take control or change the central station

If available, choose a central head of which the device status LED lights up green and push the COMMAND key twice in order to activate the central head (see 14.4).

If this is not possible, change to the local control of the propulsion system, if available.

#### 15.1 Alarm signals and acknowledgment

If the ALARM LED of your central head flashes red accompanied by the buzzer → Bring the boat into a safe state!

Acknowledge the ALARM by pushing the ALARM key. The buzzer is muted and the ALARM LED changes its state.

If the ALARM LED permanently lights up red, you have to take trouble-shooting measures immediately (see 15.2).

OR:

Even if the ALARM LED turns off, you must check the function of system and components immediately!

Two-engine systems provide one ALARM LED each for port and starboard. In case of alarm, only one may flash or light up permanently. This indicates a serious error of the propulsion system and the other propulsion device is not affected.

#### 15.2 Troubleshooting the central head

After acknowledging the alarm, check the LEDs on the central head (L) and carry out the corresponding steps as explained in the table below:

LED signal	Meaning	What to do
[Red]	This central head is defective.	• Prepare the central head and repeat the auto-configuration (see 13). • If available, check also the function of the other central heads by comparing the LED signals and referring to the instructions in this table. • If available, check also the function of the optional actuator(s) as explained in 15.3.
[Green]	This central head works fine, but another system component is defective.	• If available, check the function of the other central heads, by comparing the LED signals and referring to the instructions in this table. • Check the on-board power supply as explained in 15.5.
[Yellow]	The communication of the central head has failed or the power supply is beyond the adm. isle range.	• Do you still have the command and a connected engine and gear? • Check the on-board power supply as explained in 15.5. • Final. • Check the STROTON cables as explained in 15.4.
[Overhaul]	Power supply failure.	• Check the power supply as explained in 15.5.

#### 15.3 Troubleshooting the actuator

After checking the LEDs on the central head (L1, L2), it may be necessary to check the condition of the actuator(s). Two LEDs are provided under the gear panel, one for the actuator in idle state, the other in active state (L3).

Compare the LED signals under actuation with the instructions in the table below:

LED signal	Meaning	What to do
[Red]	This actuator is defective.	• Replace the actuator and repeat the auto-configuration and teach-in process.
[Green]	This actuator works fine, but another actuator may be affected.	• Check the functions of all other actuators (UP/overhaul). Refer to the instructions in this table.
[Yellow]	The actuator has stopped working due to overload.	• Check manually if the actuator's lever is moving freely by pulling the push-pull cable. • Eliminate the cause of the stiff movement. • Oil- and re-connect the POWER cable and by again.
[Overhaul]	Power supply failure or the adm. isle range or the adm. isle range between the actuator and the central unit is disturbed.	• Check the PROPULSION cable (15.4) and POWER supply (15.5).

#### 15.4 Troubleshooting communication failures

If the communication between the system components is disturbed, check the STROTON and PROPULSION cables:

- Check if the STROTON cable is properly connected between the central head and the central unit.
- Check if terminating resistors are correctly applied at central head and wiring harness. Attach them if necessary.
- Check if the PROPULSION cable is properly connected between actuator and central unit.
- Check if the terminating resistors are correctly applied at actuator and wiring harness. Attach them if necessary.

After verifying the cabling and terminating resistors, you cannot identify the failure, refer to [www.marex-ec.com](http://www.marex-ec.com) for further information and support.

#### 15.5 Troubleshooting power supply failures

Check the voltage of battery and system components. Pay special attention to correct polarity and fuses. Check correct connection and only after test and cables are checked.

Measure the battery voltage to check if the power supplied is within the adm. isle range for the components:

Control unit	9...21 V DC
Actuator 12 V DC	9...18 V DC
Actuator 24 V DC	18...21 V DC

Check if appropriate, functioning fuses are installed:

Control unit	12V DC	24V DC
Actuator	16 A	10 A
Actuator	20 A	16 A

Check if the POWER cable is correctly connected to the battery:

Power cable	
Wiring No. 1	+
Wiring No. 2	-

#### 15.6 Troubleshooting via MarexLink

You can also use MarexLink for error diagnosis and troubleshooting:

Measure the voltage at the POWER connector to the wiring harness. Verify the correct polarity:

Pin assignment POWER connector	
Pin 1	- battery
Pin 2	- battery
Pin 3	- battery *

Your system features a separate wire for ignition, make sure to switch on the ignition when testing response supply.

Measure the voltage at the POWER connector to the actuator. Verify the correct polarity:

Pin assignment POWER connector	
Pin 1	- battery
Pin 2	- battery
Pin 3	not used

If, after verifying power cables, connectors and battery voltage, you cannot identify the failure, refer to [www.marex-ec.com](http://www.marex-ec.com) for further information and support.

Check the voltage at the POWER connector to the wiring harness. Verify the correct polarity:

Measure the voltage at the POWER connector to the actuator. Verify the correct polarity:

#### 16 Further information

MarexLink web access:  
 or <http://192.168.10.1:8080>

Write down here the central unit's serial number which is printed on its product label:

Serial No. of Marex ECS Control Unit:

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The data specified herein describe the product.

No statements concerning a certain condition or suitability for a certain application can be derived from our information. The goods information does not release the user from the obligation of own judgement and careful use.

Our products are subject to a normal process of wear and aging.

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An example configuration is depicted on the title page. The delivered product may thus vary from that in the illustration.

Translation of the original operating instructions. The original operating instructions were made in the German language.

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