

# AMX1 PAGER NETWORK MANAGER

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## Features

- Works with any ASCII Pager system input
- Transmits only user-selected Event Types
- Message Format Options
- Pager On/Off Control
- Fully configurable serial pager connection

## Overview

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Works with ASCII  
pager interfaces

The AMX1 Pager Network Manager will transmit a message to an ASCII pager interface. The message typically states what the event is and where it is, but there are a number of options to determine the actual message format.

The pager system may take this text message and either transmit it to all pagers or route it to different pagers depending upon the message content. This routing is programmed within the pager system and the exact routing facilities available will vary from system to system.

The Pager can be turned on and off using menu options on the AMX1's Engineer's menu. The Pager Set-up window and the Pager Queue are also accessed from this menu. Disabling and re-enabling of the pager is logged to the AMX1 System History.

The connection to the pager system is via a serial interface – RS232 as standard, but RS422 or RS485 is possible when the pager system is remote from the AMX1.

There is a What's This Help button in the Pager Set-up and Pager Queue windows. This can be used to find information on the various options.

## Transmitting Selected Event Types

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Only user-selected  
Event Types need be  
transmitted

By default the pager interface will transmit all AMX1 events. Unprogrammed events can be globally ignored (see later set-up options).

It is unlikely that all events will need to be transmitted. There is an option in each AMX1 Event Type to specify whether or not it should be sent. To access this option in AMX1, go to the Input Programming List and choose Event Type Management from the Programming menu. Then edit the Event Type and the option will be found on the External tab.

Resets are not transmitted, but in the case of a fire alarm system reset there may be an event that can be sent to the pager.

The AMX1 connects to the pager system using a fully configurable RS232 serial interface.

## The Message Options

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A number of user - selected options are available to determine the message format

All of the message components are user-selectable. The number and format of the items to be used will have to be selected depending upon how many characters the pager system can accept in a message.

The table below details each message component in the order in which they will be transmitted and gives the maximum number of characters they require. Each of the items below can be omitted if required.

Date and Time	5 to 17 characters, depending upon option
Field Delimiter	1 to 3 characters (global option)
Event Type Text	Up to 32 characters
Field Delimiter	1 to 3 characters (global option)
Location Text	Up to 40 characters
Field Delimiter	1 to 3 characters (global option)
Numeric reference	15 characters
Field Delimiter	1 to 3 characters (global option)
AMX1 ID	User defined phrase up to 32 characters

A number of Time Formats are available, from a simple 'HH:MM' to a full numeric time and date reference 'DD/MM/YY HH:MM:SS'.

The Event Type text is the text phrase programmed into AMX1 when the Event Types were created. Please refer to the AMX1 manual if you require more information about this.

The Location/Description text normally will be the 32-character text phrase that the AMX1 user programmed for each input in the Input Programming List, or with

some systems it will be a text of up to 40 characters that originating from the external alarm system where the event came from.

The numeric reference will be a number in the form '001-001-001/0' where the numbers represent node, zone (or loop), input and input type respectively. Further information on the numeric reference can be found in the AMX1 manual and help file.

The Field Delimiter and AMX ID are further described later.

## The Pager Queue

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Events awaiting transmission can be viewed and deleted

The Pager Queue is where events are stored prior to transmission to the pager system.

The Pager Queue window allows you to see the items that are awaiting transmission, or have recently been transmitted. Each item is shown, along with its current status.

The Pager queue window will show the most recent 250 events.

If the AMX1 is manually shut down and restarted the queue contents will be preserved. However, untransmitted events that have existed longer than the 'Timeout' setting will not be transmitted.

A button at the bottom of the window allows the queue to be cleared. A further button allows the Pager to be enabled or disabled. Disabling and re-enabling of the Pager is logged to the AMX1 System History.

## Set-up Options

There are a number of Pager Network Manager set-up options accessed via the AMX1's Engineer's menu.

### AMX1 Address

This is the address of the Network Manager in the AMX1 Alarm Management System. All Network Managers must have a unique address: any faults generated by the Network Manager will be seen to be coming from this address in AMX1.

### Communications Settings

This is where the communications port settings are defined.

**N.B. These settings must match the settings in the Pager system or there will be no communication with it.**

The RS232 connection lead should either connect RTS/CTS, or be of a null-modem type. A lead that leaves RTS and CTS unterminated may not work correctly

### Communications Port

The PC communications port used to connect to the Pager system is specified here. Comms ports 1 to 8 can be used.

### Baud Rate

This is the baud rate of the serial data transmission between the AMX1 and the Pager system. Baud rates of 300, 600, 1200, 2400, 4800, 9600 or 19200 can be set.

The default setting is 2400 baud.

### Data Bits

Either 7 or 8 data bits can be used for the serial data transmission between AMX1 and the Pager system.

The default setting is 8 data bits.

### Parity

Either Odd, Even or No Parity can be set.

The default setting is no parity.

### Stop Bits

1, 1.5 or 2 stop bits can be set.

The default setting is 2 stop bits.

### Timeout

The Timeout setting is used to ensure that old event messages are not sent to the pagers.

Normally a message will be sent as soon as the event occurs in AMX1, but in some instances this may not happen. This may be because the pager system is not accepting messages (powered down) or because there are a lot of events and a long spacing interval between them.

This setting specifies how long the event will remain valid before it is sent to the Pager. If this time interval is exceeded before the event message is transmitted then the event will be abandoned and will never be transmitted

The setting may be from 1 to 60 minutes - or it may be set to 'None' if events should never timeout.

### Spacing

Spacing is the time interval between each message sent to the Pager system.

Some pager system may not be able to handle a continuous stream of messages when there are several events occurring at the same time. This setting may be used to slow down the transfer of data to the pager.

The setting may be from 1 to 30 seconds. If required the spacing may be set to 'None' and then a nominal gap of around 100ms will be inserted inbetween pager messages.

### The Output Settings

The Output tab offers a number of settings that allow you to specify the information that will be sent to the pager system.

You should be careful not to specify more information than can be sent in a pager message. (See the Truncate option).

### Include Event Type Text

If this option is selected the text describing the Event Type - e.g. FIRE ALARM DETECTED - is sent to the Pager.

#### Include Location Text

If this option is selected the text describing the location - e.g. Main Reception Area - is sent to the Pager.

#### Include Extended Text

If this option is selected the extended (extra) text is sent to the pager. The extended text may be blank in some systems, or it may contain some extra data. For example, the extended text on some fire alarm systems contains the zone text.

#### Include Numeric Reference

If this option is selected the numeric reference for the event - e.g. 021-102-023/0 - is sent to the Pager.

This option will probably have to be omitted if the pager system is unable to accept long messages.

#### Append ID

This option will append the user-specified system ID in the text that is sent to the pager system. This is useful when the pagers are getting messages from more than one system.

Next to the Append ID checkbox is a panel where you can enter a text phrase to be used as the system ID. This can be any text phrase of up to 32 characters.

#### Field Delimiter

The Field delimiter is an optional character (or characters) that are sent to the Pager in between each field - i.e. in between the Event Type text and the Location/description text.

Normally this would be set to a single space.

#### Line Delimiter

The Line delimiter is an optional character (or characters) that are sent to the Pager after each line of text to indicate the end of a message.

### Truncate To

This setting optionally truncates the line of text to a maximum length before it is sent to the Pager.

Truncation applies uses an intelligent algorithm that removes unnecessary double-spaces and substitutes some abbreviations before cutting of the end of the line. This is preferable to just losing the end of the line if the pager cannot accept all of the characters output from AMX1.

### Suppress Unprogrammed Events

When this option is selected unprogrammed events will not be sent to the Pager.

## Specification

<b>Type of Pager System</b>	Any pager system that can accept a plain text (ASCII) message via an RS232 port
<b>Pager Connection</b>	Serial – RS232 as standard, but RS422 or RS485 is possible when the pager system is remote from the AMX1
<b>RS232 settings</b>	COM1-COM8. 300-19,200 baud. 7 or 8 data bits, 1, 1.5 or 2 stop bits.
<b>Message spacing</b>	User defined, 0 – 30 seconds in one second intervals.

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Issue 1	06/12/01	First issue
Issue 2	19/05/05	Added Extended Text Added this revision note