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**RADIOCONTACT  
LIMITED**



**WIRELESS TRANSMISSION  
PRODUCTS  
INSTALLATION GUIDE**

**X-LINK 5.8 ECO  
5.8GHz WIRELESS TRANSMISSION SYSTEM**



**RCL GROUP OF COMPANIES**

**SECTION 1**

**1. General Guidelines For The Installation Of Radiocontact RF Equipment.**

**1.1. General**

Prior to any purchase of RF equipment a site survey should take place to determine if the equipment selected is suitable to the job in hand. During this visit particular attention should be paid to the mounting locations of the transmitter and receiver equipment. An estimate of transmission range should be made taking into consideration the height of the Rx/Tx equipment and its location to ensure direct line of site between Rx and Tx antennas.

It is important that before purchasing RF modems or video transmission equipment that the installation, application and specification documentation of the third party equipment to be integrated be carefully studied to ensure compatibility in terms of data rate, data protocol and video levels. Radiocontact Ltd cannot be held responsible for systems failing to operate correctly due to compatibility problems.

Before taking equipment to the customers site for installation ensure sufficient lab testing has been carried out to be familiar with the equipment and to confirm correct operation of all equipment to be installed, including third party equipment..

**1.2. Field Trials**

**Before mounting the RF equipment permanently a Field Trial should be carried out to ensure the equipment will function satisfactorily at the site.** This is particularly important in areas where there are steel structures, buildings, moving vehicles such as cars, cranes, trains etc. Checks should be made to ensure the required transmission range can be achieved and that there is no degradation of video picture quality or corruption of transmitted data due to other localised transmission equipment radiating on or near your selected frequency. Should interference be detected then it will be necessary to change transmission channel to avoid the interference. However should this not be possible then alternatives should be considered such as the use of directional antennas (on receiving equipment only).

***Disposal Instructions***



This symbol on products means that the product concerned should not be mixed with general household waste.

**WEEE Compliance B2B Terms & Conditions**

The B2B end user is responsible for all liabilities regarding the environmentally sound disposal of this EEE when it is discarded as WEEE.

The producer may, for commercial reasons only, offer a take back option when a B2B end user is purchasing a new product, however, this will be decided on a case by case basis and may incur a charge.

For local environmental sound disposal please contact 02890 770055 or <mailto:info@allelectricalrecycling.com> for a free no obligation quote for the removal of WEEE items from a B2B end user.

**Summary**

The following is a list of the most common video transmission problems and troubleshooting information:-

***Black picture on the monitor***

Make sure both Tx/Rx are powered and on the same channel.

Check that a video source is connected to the input of the Tx and the output of the Rx is connected to the monitor/matrix/mux.

Check video cables for correct connection and if necessary continuity.

***Noise (Snow) on the monitor***

Make sure Tx is powered.

Check that the Tx channel matches that of the Rx.

Make sure the correct antennas are used and are connected properly.

***Scrolling picture***

Make sure the V-Hold of the monitor is not responsible.

If the scrolling picture is also of poor quality or dark the video level might be too low causing loss of sync pulse.

Check termination's at both the Transmitter end (if the signal is coming from a source other than a camera) and Receiving end (check for any double terminations).

Check the level of the video source connected to the Tx.

Radiocontact Transmitters have internal termination so for the correct level of 1V p-p to be transmitted the video source must be 2V p-p.

Move the links up - down - left - right and watch the monitor for improved quality.

***B&W instead of colour picture on the monitor***

Make sure the chroma control of the monitor is not responsible.

Make sure the camera used is not B&W

If the picture is also of poor quality the video level might be too low.

Check termination's at both the Transmitter end (if the signal is coming from a source other than a camera) and Receiving end (check for any double terminations).

Check the level of the video source connected to the Tx.

Move the links up - down - left - right and watch the monitor for improved quality.

Should the problem persist then equipment should be substituted one unit at a time until the defective item is identified

**1.3. Antenna Mounting**

It is essential that all antennas/units should be mounted as high as possible from the ground. There should be no obstructions such as trees, buildings or cranes that could interfere with the direct line of sight.

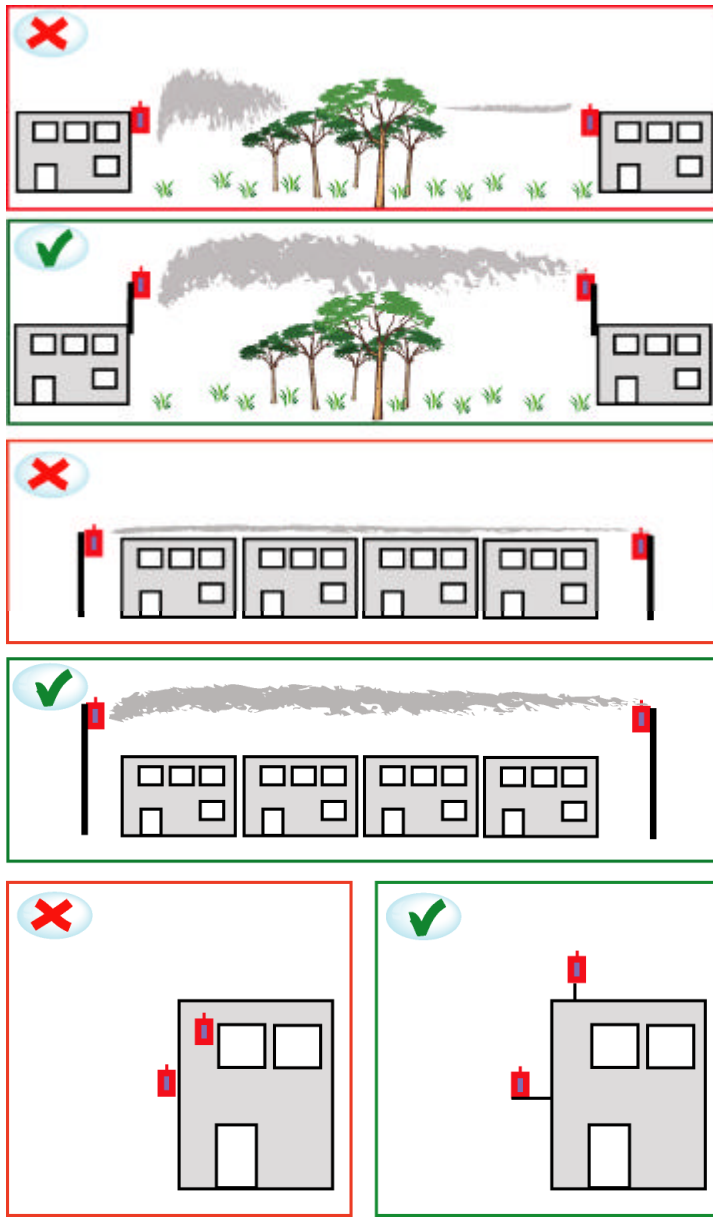
Equipment fitted with built-in stub antennas should be mounted with the antenna vertical. Sufficient space should be left between the antenna and the mounting pole or wall not to distort the RF signal. Normally a clearance space of 20 cm is required. This is to ensure maximum gain from the antenna. Buildings usually absorb some of the radiated energy while metal poles and towers can generate reflections producing “ghosting” on video systems and loss of data on telemetry systems. See Figure 1 for optimum mounting positions.

The maximum range of Radiocontact systems can be increased using high gain directional antennas at the receiver. However it is important to ensure these are mounted as high as possible and aligned towards the transmitter antenna. These antennas can only be used on the Receivers. *It is illegal to fit these high gain antennas to Radiocontact transmitters as this will compromise the requirements of the License Exempt regulations to which the equipment has been Type Approved and could cause serious interference to other users.*

In cases where multiple antennas are required to be mounted on the same mast, then a separation distance of approximately 1m should be maintained between antennas. This is to avoid interference problems between the various receiver or transmitter local oscillator and sub-harmonic frequencies.

It should be noted that accurate antenna alignment cannot be carried out until the equipment is permanently installed. It may be necessary to move either the Tx or Rx antenna to optimise video picture or data quality. Small movements of up to ¼ wavelength can mean the difference between poor signal and good signal. A ¼ wavelength at 5.8GHz is 13mm.

Figure. 1: Antenna Mounting



7. Switch off the transmitter and observe output of the receiver. For Video systems “snow” should be seen on the monitor. If another picture or distorted image is present then the problem is due to external interference and a different channel should be selected. For Telemetry systems if the Red squelch LED is on or flickers then again the problem is due to external interference and a different channel should be selected. (see same channel interference).
8. Reduced sensitivity can also be caused by strong signals in the same frequency band but not on the operating frequency. This has the effect of swamping the front end of the receiver causing it to partially or fully shut down due to the operation of its internal Automatic Gain Control (AGC) circuits. This leads to a loss in sensitivity and a reduction in the strength of the signals at the receiver. This type of problem should be identified during the initial site survey. The solution is to change transmission channel on both Rx and Tx modules until the problem disappears. Should it not be possible to find a “good” channel then the source of the interfering signal must be found and agreement reached on either changing frequency or time sharing.

***Adjacent Channel interference***

Adjacent channel interference is where another transmission system is broadcasting on one of the other channels within the band you are using. Problems of this nature normally only exist if the other transmission source is mounted too close to your receiver. The normal solution to this problem is to increase the separation distance between the two equipments concerned or to select another channel.

**GENERAL TROUBLESHOOTING GUIDELINES**

The following section describes some of the most common problems encountered during installations of both video and telemetry equipment, and possible solutions. Frequency and data selection links should be installed after this installation manual has been thoroughly read and understood and before the equipment is installed in its final location. In the event of the system not working the first things to check are the following:

***No reception of any kind***

1. Check power supply is ON, and power is being delivered to the equipment, i.e. +12V at the connector and that the green “Power On” indicator is illuminated.
2. Ensure correct polarity is used at the power connector, i.e. centre pin +ve.
3. Ensure the power supply is of the correct rating for the equipment, i.e. 12V Reg. 500mA
4. Check that the power supply is not shared with any other devices.
5. Make sure the correct channel on both Rx and Tx has been selected.
6. Check antennas have been correctly fitted and there is direct line of sight.

***Poor reception/Poor Quality Picture or Data***

Causes of this problem can be varied but generally fall into 3 categories:-

Weak received signal – poor system sensitivity  
Same channel interference  
Adjacent channel interference

***Weak received signal – poor system sensitivity***

If the video picture quality or data quality is poor check the following:

1. Transmission range is within the capabilities of the equipment used.
2. Make sure the units are not installed near metallic surfaces.
3. Antennas should be the correct frequency for the equipment and screwed tightly to the transmitter/receiver.
4. Rx/Tx equipment should be mounted as high as possible with direct line of sight.
5. Ensure equipment is mounted off the support structure as described in Section 1 as antennas mounted close to metal structures can cause signal reflections and multi-path effects which reduce the strength of the signal appearing at the receiver.
6. Due to the nature of RF signal transmission, increases in sensitivity can be achieved by moving the position of equipment by a few centimetres. This may increase the signal strength enough to resolve the problem.

**1.4. Power Supplies****Only use analogue Power supplies**

All Power Supplies used with Radiocontact RF modems and Video Transmission equipment **MUST** be analogue and **NOT** Switch Mode. These power supplies generate and radiate a high level of switching noise at a frequency of around 150 – 200KHz. This can cause interference lines on video transmission equipment and corrupt data bits on RF modems.

It should also be noted that Radiocontact RF equipment operates from 12V DC . A normal tolerance on this voltage would be ? 0.5V, therefore regulated power supplies are required. Unregulated 12V power supplies can produce voltages of 18-19V until the full supply current is taken. This can cause the internal fuse to blow due to the high surge current.

**Do not use Power supplies designed for charging batteries**

It is NOT permissible to operate this equipment from 12V rechargeable batteries as the output voltage from batteries of this type can be as high as 13.6V and can damage equipment. Should it be necessary to operate equipment from this type of battery then a suitable 12V DC regulator should be employed.

**Do not share Power supplies with other equipment**

Should it be necessary to power up several RF modems or video transmitters at the same location then separate analogue power supplies must be used. This is to prevent interference and crosstalk between the different systems.

**Confirm 12V at the equipment end**

All power supplies should be mounted as close as possible to the equipment. In situations where this may not be possible care should be taken to ensure that suitable low resistance cable is used for power connections. This is to minimise voltage drop along the power cable. When installation is complete it is necessary to measure the 12V DC supply **AT THE EQUIPMENT END** not the power supply to ensure it is within the ? 0.5V recommended limit.

**1.5. Safety**

The installation of RF and CCTV equipment involves the equipment being installed at considerable heights outside buildings or on masts. It essential that **ALL** Health and Safety Regulations are adhered to regarding the wearing of safety equipment.

**X-Link 5.8 ECO Video Transmission Equipment**

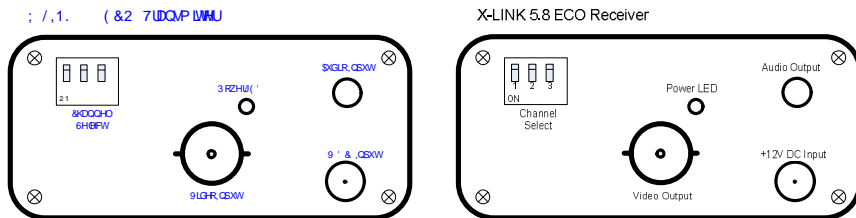
The X-Link 5.8 ECO video transmission system is RF equipment therefore the installation guidelines detailed in Section 1 apply and should be thoroughly read and understood.

This equipment is capable of transmitting stereo audio and video over a range of 100m on up to 7 different RF channels, using the supplied stub antenna and assuming a clear Line Of Sight with no obstructions and proper installation.

X-Link 5.8 ECO video equipment is not supplied in sealed housings and should be limited to mounting indoors or sheltered areas. Should it be necessary to mount this equipment in exposed conditions then our CCT/HSG IP65 sealed Outdoor Housing should be used.

***Input/Output connections***

Connections to the X-Link 5.8 ECO are shown in the following diagram.



Channel No.	SW1	SW2	SW3	Frequency
CH 1	ON	ON	ON	5740MHz
CH 2	OFF	ON	ON	5760MHz
CH 3	ON	OFF	ON	5780MHz
CH 4	OFF	OFF	ON	5800MHz
CH 5	ON	ON	OFF	5820MHz
CH 6	OFF	ON	OFF	5840MHz
CH 7	ON	OFF	OFF	5860MHz
CH 7	OFF	OFF	OFF	5860MHz

Channel Selection Table

***Power Connections***

Power supply used should be analogue 12V DC regulated at 500mA. The green “Power On” indicator will illuminate to confirm satisfactory power supply connection.

***Video Input/Output***

Video input and output connections are via the front panel BNC connector. The video output from the receiver has an impedance of 75 ohms and may be adjusted using potentiometer RV1 on the internal PCB, this is particularly useful when the system is interfaced with multiplexers or Digital Video Recorders which sometime tend to load the video signal down.

***Audio Input/Output***

The transmitter will accept Stereo audio input levels of 2V p/p into 2K $\Omega$  AT 1KHz, while the receiver will output 1V p/p into 2K $\Omega$ .

***X-Link 5.8ECO System Set up***

Install the transmitter unit following the guidelines described in the beginning of this document. Whether the transmitter is mounted on a wall or a pole make sure its stub antenna is mounted in the same plane as the receiver stub antenna, i.e. horizontally or vertically.

Power up the transmitter and confirm the green LED is illuminated. Temporarily install and power up the receiver and ensure its green power LED is also illuminated. Check that a good picture is received on the receiver monitor. Move the receiver in the vertical and /or horizontal plane slightly to obtain the best picture. Secure receiver where the best signal is received.