

MFE-USB8

The MFE-USB8 offers an easy way to control eight relays through a virtual COM port. A simple ASCII command set allows the user to read and write outputs.

Safety notes

Improper handling of the mains voltage endangers yourself and also others! Work on the mains voltage should only be carried out by an expert.

Drivers

The MFE-USB8 uses an FTDI FT232R USB UART chip bridging the USB to the internal microprocessor's serial port. The FT232R is USB 2.0 Full Speed compatible. Drivers should already be present in recent Windows versions. The latest driver versions for Windows, Linux and Macintosh may be downloaded from <http://www.ftdichip.com/>.

The FTDI driver creates a virtual COM port on the host computer to communicate with the MFE-USB8.

Features

- Easy to use relayboard
- Eight switching relays
- Status of all 8 relays can be changed without delay by sending one single command
- LEDs to display relay status and confirm switching operation
- Drivers available for Windows, Linux and Mac

Specifications

Supply Voltage	10 - 24 Volts
Active Current (@12V)	300 mA max.
Relay Model	Zettler AZ943-1CH-12DE
Maximum Switched Power	210W
Dimensions (LxWxH)	102 x 80 x 20 mm

Appendix

ASCII commands

h	Displays a list of ASCII commands that are available
b	Reads the status byte
byte<CR>	Writes the status byte (0-255)

MFE-USB8 Operation Example

- Program issues the Read command (b)
- Program receives the status byte and converts it to a bitmask
- Program stores bitmask within an associative array (hash)
- Program makes changes to the bitmask
- Program converts bitmask back to a byte mask
- Program issues the status byte (byte<CR>)