ProCoder™

How is the ProCoder™ different from the E-CODER®?

The ProCoder boasts an 8-wheel mechanical odometer wheel bank and a high-resolution sweep hand. Just like the E-CODER, the ProCoder can output ProRead™ and E-CODER protocols and will have the ability to transmit PLUS flags when connected to Neptune® endpoints.

How is the ProCoder different from the ProRead?

The ProCoder utilizes "non-contact" optical encoder technology to register the exact meter reading. The ProCoder also boasts eight digits of resolution on the mechanical odometer as opposed to the ProRead's six digits. Additionally, the ProCoder features a high-resolution sweep hand for enhanced resolution and flow direction.

The ProCoder has a mechanical odometer wheel bank. How are the digits encoded and what makes the ProCoder absolute?

The ProCoder encodes the digits by scanning the number wheels with LED technology. This allows for the detection of the exact (absolute) position of each number wheel. The encoded register read can then be transmitted to an endpoint.

Why does the ProCoder have a mechanical sweep hand?

The ProCoder features a sweep hand to provide enhanced resolution beyond eight digits, which can be valuable in identifying leaks and direction of flow when viewing the register directly. It can also help reduce error in meter testing.

Why does the ProCoder have a black background encompassing some of the wheels on the wheel bank?

This cosmetic feature was added to assist meter readers in identifying the most significant digits for a visual meter reading quickly and easily.

Does the ProCoder have a battery inside to power the register?

No. The ProCoder registers water consumption using no external power supply and no internal battery. The ProCoder utilizes power from a wired connection to register consumption for delivering a remote read.

Will the ProCoder work with a receptacle and handheld with probe?

Yes. The ProCoder can be read with a probe. It can be programmed to output a 4-, 5-, or 6-digit reading, just like a ProRead encoder. A 10-digit register ID can also be programmed.

What constitutes a leak? Will our customer service department be inundated with leak flags?

All algorithms are set to factor out typical day-to-day water usage such as ice makers, sprinklers, etc. A day is divided into 96 15-minute intervals. If all 96 15-minute intervals show water usage, this constitutes a continuous leak. If 50 to 95 of the 15-minute intervals show water usage, this constitutes an intermittent leak. Typically 15-20% of a water utility's customer base has undetected leaks.

Is the ProCoder field programmable like the ProRead and E-CODER? If so, can you use the standard field programmer and the same programming functions that are used for ProRead and E-CODER?

The ProCoder is programmable like the ProRead and E-CODER for ID and reading digits; however, when the ProCoder is attached to an R900, R450™, cellular endpoint, it behaves like the E-CODER and automatically begins communicating in E-CoderPLUS format.

Is the ProCoder auto-detect?

Yes. The ProCoder will work with an inductive pad with a 2-wire connection or a radio endpoint with a 3-wire connection.

Are ProCoders networkable? Can two ProCoders be networked to one endpoint?

The ProCoder is networkable just like the ProRead and E-CODER.

Will the ProCoder work with Itron, Sensus, and other third-party radio endpoints?

ProCoder is compatible in 8-digit mode with Itron 100W, Sensus RadioRead and FlexNet, Aclara MTUs, and Elster Energy Axis (as long as these companies continue to follow the published E-CODER specifications).

Any other third-party radio endpoints that have ProRead compatibility will also read ProCoder; however, this is limited to a 6-digit remote reading.

Like the E-CODER, only Neptune® R900, R450, or celluar endpoints can activate/interrogate the PLUS features of the ProCoder.

Does the ProCoder have the same warranty as the E-CODER register?

Yes. ProCoder has a full 10-year warranty. Please refer to the Encoder Warranty Statement for details.

What reading equipment will interrogate the PLUS feature data from the ProCoder when connected to an endpoint?

When used in conjunction with Neptune® 360™ and handheld software, the following devices can be used to extract E-CoderPLUS data: the Trimble Nomad with belt clip transceiver, mobile data collector, or the gateway data collector.

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