

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

# R900<sup>®</sup>v5

#### Does the R900<sup>®</sup>v5 MIU have a field replaceable battery?

No. The R900v5 is fully-potted for field reliability and does not include an option to replace a battery in the field.

#### Does the R900v5 MIU require any programming for connecting to a register?

No. The R900v5 provides auto-detect capability to detect the register it is connected to and begin reading the register.

#### Does the R900v5 MIU require any programming to change from walk-by/mobile to fixed network mode?

No. The R900v5 simultaneously transmits both the mobile and fixed network message, so that customers can easily migrate from walk-by/mobile to fixed network at their convenience with no site visits to reprogram.

#### Are the meter readings time synchronized?

Yes. When operating on a LoRa<sup>®</sup> network, the LoRa<sup>®</sup> network provides time synchronization via two-way communication with the MIU. This allows the MIU to accurately timestamp the individual hourly meter readings.

#### What information is sent in the LoRa® fixed network packet?

The LoRaWAN<sup>™</sup> fixed network packet is transmitted every three hours and includes up to 12 time-synchronized, top-of-the-hour meter readings.

How often is the R900v5 mobile message transmitted? The R900v5 mobile message is transmitted every 20 seconds.

## Does the R900v5 support RF activated data logging?

Yes. The R900v5 supports RF activated data logging using either a Belt Clip or MRX<sup>®</sup>.

#### What version of software is compatible with the R900v5 MIUs?

The R900v5 MIU is compatible with N\_SIGHT<sup>™</sup> v5.6+ for walk-by and mobile reading. For fixed network reading, the R900v5 MIU is compatible with N\_SIGHT<sup>™</sup> PLUS v5.6+ and Neptune<sup>®</sup> 360<sup>™</sup>.

#### What are LoRa<sup>®</sup>, LoRaWAN<sup>™</sup>, and the LoRa Alliance<sup>™</sup>?

LoRa<sup>®</sup> is short for Long Range and is a spread-spectrum modulation technology focused on long range communication for battery powered devices. LoRaWAN is an open-standard, Low Power, Wide Area (LPWA) networking protocol that leverages the LoRa<sup>®</sup> modulation that targets battery operated devices and supports bidirectional, end-to-end communications between endpoints and a LoRa<sup>®</sup> network. The LoRa Alliance<sup>™</sup> is a nonprofit association consisting of industry-leading companies that develop the LoRaWAN open-standard to promote adoption of LoRa<sup>®</sup> LPWA networks across the globe.

#### What security practices are employed in the LoRa network?

The LoRaWAN protocol defines an end-to-end AES128 bit encryption which is derived from the IEEE 802.15.4 industry standard. This provides mutual authentication between the R900v5 MIU and the LoRa<sup>®</sup> network as well as network integrity protection.



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#### What are the key benefits of LoRa<sup>®</sup> for Smart Water AMI?

- Long range communications reducing the number of Gateways required for coverage
- Low power requirements to support 10+ year battery life for remote meters
- Low bandwidth throughput to effectively support sensors transmitting small amounts of data
- Competitive module pricing reducing the costs of remote sensor hardware
- Open-standard architecture to provide multi-vendor device interoperability on a common network

#### What compatible sensors are available for a LoRa<sup>®</sup> network? Are there any devices for smart city initiatives?

Since the LoRaWAN protocol is an open-architecture standard, there are a variety of devices that can operate on a LoRa<sup>®</sup> network. Please see the LoRa<sup>®</sup> Certified Product website (<u>https://lora-alliance.org/lorawan-certified-products</u>) for a directory of available products.

# Do the E-CODER<sup>®</sup>)R900*i*<sup>™</sup>, ProCoder<sup>™</sup>)R900*i*<sup>™</sup>, MACH 10<sup>®</sup>)R900*i*<sup>™</sup> and standalone R900v5 Pit require an external, through-the-lid pit antenna?

Yes. The R900v5 MIU does not contain an internal antenna and requires an external, through-the-lid antenna to function. Both the standard R900 antenna and the high-gain R900v5 pit antenna are compatible.

#### How does a R900v5 connect to a LoRa® network?

The R900v5 completes a join process which is either initiated via magnet swipe or on a scheduled 30-day basis. If the MIU successfully joins the network, the MIU will begin transmitting its readings via the LoRa<sup>®</sup> network in addition to transmitting the R900 mobile message.

#### Can a R900v5 be connected to two (2) separate encoder registers?

No. The R900v5 can only be connected to a single register.

#### What happens if the LoRa® network is down, can I still receive a reading?

Yes. The R900v5 MIU always transmits the R900v5 mobile message, so that you have a secondary reading method in the event of a network outage.

#### What encoder registers are compatible with the R900v5?

The R900v5 is compatible with the following encoder registers:

- Neptune ARB<sup>®</sup> III, IV, V; ProRead<sup>™</sup>, E-CODER<sup>®</sup>, ProCoder<sup>™</sup>, and MACH 10<sup>®</sup>
- Sensus (Invensys) ECR II, ECR III, ICE, iPerl (3 wire), Electronic Register, and OMNY
- Hersey/Mueller Translator
- Badger ADE and HR E|LCD
- Elster/AMCO InVision (Sensor protocol version)



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