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Tech note

Using a Barcode Scanner for Submetering Transmitter Configuration

Introduction

This document provides details for submetering customers interested in speeding the configuration process by scanning submetering transmitter IDs (TXIDs) into the TapWatch application, either by directly scanning the TXIDs directly into the TXID field under the Add Units function, or into an Excel spreadsheet if using Export/Import function. In addition to speeding configuration, field personnel can visually verify the TXID without having to open the transmitter case.

Scanning Submetering Transmitter TXIDs

The labels are hinged to allow for opening of the case, and are intended to remain on the product indefinitely so that the front covers — especially those with customer added labels or markings — remain with the correct back cover and printed circuit board.

Inovonics submetering transmitters include a hinge label with registration information.

Each label contains:

- The model number.
- The ten digit TXID in human readable form.
- 2D barcode

Figure 1 Inovonics submetering transmitter hinge label

Installer and field technicians can scan the barcode directly into TapWatch using any 2D barcode scanner. Users can either connect the scanner to a PC or laptop, or to a mobile device with the appropriate female USB adapter. Inovonics suggests the following 2D barcode scanners:

- Elekele PDF417 handheld wired USB port barcode reader.
- Motorola DS4308, standard resolution model.
- Datalogic PD9530-HPE.

Referring to the barcode scanner manufacturer's manual and the *TapWatch User Manual*:

1. Connect an approved barcode scanner to your personal computer.

2. Configure the scanner to add a line feed after each barcode scan per the barcode scanner manufacturer's manual.

3. Create a site in the TapWatch application per the *TapWatch User Manual*.

4. Add all of the site's buildings in the TapWatch application.

5. Add the repeaters, entering the repeater TXID's manually in the TapWatch application per the *TapWatch User Manual*.

6. Add units to the first building per the *TapWatch User Manual*.

At this point you can either scan the TXIDs directly into the TXID field under the Add Units function, or into an Excel spreadsheet if using Export/Import function.

To Scan the TXIDs using the Add Units Function

1. In the Add Units function, make sure your cursor is in the TXID field.

2. Scan the transmitter's 2D barcode.

3. Complete entering the transmitter's information per the "Add a Unit" section of the TapWatch Application User Manual.

4. Repeat for as many units as needed.

5. Ensure that the TXIDs are associated with their correct units.

To Scan the TXIDs using the Export/Import Function

1. Export the site, creating an Microsoft Excel® spreadsheet in the correct format.

2. On the Meters_Transmitters tab of the spreadsheet, fill in the unit names under each building, leaving the Transmitter TXID column cells blank.

3. Label each transmitter with the building/unit to which it will be installed.
   • This can be done while the transmitters are still in the bulk pack boxes.

4. Place the cursor on the Transmitter TXID cell for the first unit.

5. Scan the barcode of that transmitter.
   • The scanner will populate the spreadsheet cell with the TXID number, and the cursor will advance to the next unit.

6. Repeat step 5. until all transmitters have been scanned.

7. Ensure that the TXIDs are associated with their correct units.

8. Save and close the spreadsheet.

9. Import the spreadsheet into the TapWatch application per the *TapWatch Application User Manual*.

For questions about Inovonics installations, contact Inovonics technical services:

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