MCL-Link Lite Version 2.11
User’s Guide

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About This Guide

The MCL-Link Lite Version 2.11 User’s Guide provides general information about operating the MCL-Link Lite application, configuring the software, and using MCL-Link Lite commands.

Notational Conventions

The following conventions are used in this document:

- “Operator” and “User” refer to anyone using the MCL-Link Lite software.
- “PC” refers to the IBM personal computer or compatible system that you are using to develop applications.
- “Terminal” refers to various types of Symbol terminals.
- “You” refers to the administrator or person who is using this guide as a reference aid to install, configure, and/or operate the software.
- Keystrokes in bold type indicate non-alphanumeric keystrokes. For example: Select the <F1> key on the terminal to access on-line help.
- **Bold** type identifies menu items and input or text fields on a terminal screen.
- **Italics** are used:
  - for the names of parameters in function prototypes and variable names in usage and syntax descriptions
  - to highlight specific items in the general text
  - to identify chapters and sections in this and related documents.
- Square brackets [ ] in a command line enclose optional command line parameters.
- The piping symbol | has the effect of “or” when it is used to separate inline parameters on a command line; i.e., it separates alternative values for parameters.
Bullets (•) indicate:
- action items
- lists of alternatives
- lists of required steps that are not necessarily sequential
- Sequential lists (e.g., those that describe step-by-step procedures) appear as numbered lists.

Related Publications

The following is a list of documents that you may find useful if you want to know more about the MCL-Link Lite program.

- MCL-Loader User's Guide
  p/n 70-33347-xx
- MCL-Net S24 User's Guide
  p/n 70-33348-xx
- MCL-Designer User's Guide
  p/n 70-33345-xx

Service Information

If you have a problem with your equipment, contact the Symbol Support Center. Before calling, have the model number, serial number, and several of your bar code symbols at hand.

Call the Support Center from a phone near the equipment so that the service person can try to talk you through your problem. If the equipment is found to be working properly and the problem is symbol readability, the Support Center will request samples of your bar codes for analysis at our plant.

If your problem cannot be solved over the phone, you may need to return your equipment for servicing. If that is necessary, you will be given specific directions.

Note: Symbol Technologies is not responsible for any damages incurred during shipment if the approved shipping container is not used. Shipping the units improperly can possibly void the warranty. If the original shipping container was not kept, contact Symbol to have another sent to you.
Symbol Support Center

For service information, warranty information or technical assistance contact or call the Symbol Support Center in:

**United States**
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1-800-653-5350

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Chapter 1
Getting Started

Introduction

MCL-Link Lite is a subset of the full MCL-Link Communication program. It is designed to support the Symbol P360/460/370 and 470 family of Memory and Cordless Scanners only.

MCL-Link Lite is fully compatible with the MCL-Link Full version. However, some commands are not available in MCL Link Lite version.

The following restrictions apply in MCL-Link Lite:

- Terminal model: MCL-Link Lite communicates with the Symbol P360, P370, P460 and P470 Memory and Cordless Scanners only
- Terminal ID: The terminal ID must be 001 or 002. No other terminal ID’s are supported.
- Functions not supported:
  - Script function
  - Manually started from the operator console
  - Run script on terminal request
  - Run script on external application request
- ODBC commands
- Remote file operations
- Keyboard Entry emulation
- DLL interface
Installation

MCL-Link Lite is part of the MCL Collection of software. It can be installed separately or as part of the whole MCL Collection series. To install MCL-Link Lite from the MCL Collection CD:

1. Insert the MCL-Collection for Phaser CD-ROM disk into the CD-ROM drive.
2. Click the Start button on the task bar.
4. Type D:\setup.exe. and click OK (replace D: with the CD-ROM drive letter).
5. Click Next when the introductory screen appears.
6. Click Yes to accept the license agreement.
7. When prompted, type your name and company in the appropriate fields. Click Next.
8. Click Next to accept the default directory or click Browse to select a different directory. Click OK, then Next.
9. Click Next to install all the MCL programs, or select MCL-Link Lite and de-select all the other options.
10. Click Next to accept the MCL-Collection for Phaser program folder.
11. Setup installs the selected programs onto the hard drive. A screen that monitors the progress appears. When installation is complete, click Finish.
MCL-Link Lite Operating Modes

MCL-Link Lite can receive commands:

- From the user buttons.
  On the supervisor’s screen, buttons activate specific commands like:
  - request terminal status
  - send date and time to the terminal
  - send programs and data files to the terminal
  - request programs and data files from terminal.
- From the terminal.
  MCL-Link Lite is able to receive commands from terminal. The communication process is controlled by the program written in the terminal. (See Commands Received From the Terminal on page 2-3).

Starting MCL-Link Lite

There are three ways to start the MCL-Link Lite program:

- double-clicking on the MCL-Link Lite V2.11 icon on the desktop
- from the standard Run window
- from an application.
The MCL-Link Lite window displays.

![MCL-Link Lite Window](image)

**Figure 1-1. MCL-Link Lite Window**

The list below describes the functions of the buttons on the MCL-Link Lite window.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Button</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Status</td>
<td>Requests terminal status.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receive</td>
<td>Receives data from the terminal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Send</td>
<td>Sends data to the terminal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>Enables MCL-Link Lite to synchronize the terminal's time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Setup</td>
<td>Sets the host communication parameters.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Help</td>
<td>Opens the MCL-Link Lite on-line help application.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quit</td>
<td>Terminates the MCL-Link Lite program.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Communication Setup

To set up the host communication port, click on the Setup button in the MCL-Link Lite window. The MCL-Link Setup window appears.

![MCL-Link Setup Window](image)

**Figure 1-2. MCL-Link Setup Window**

To set up communications:

1. In the Host ID field, select the host identification number.
2. In the Comm Port list box, select the communication port that matches the one the terminal is plugged into on the host computer.
3. In the Speed list box, select the speed of the terminal communication port.
4. Click one of the Log File radio buttons to select the type of Log File to generate.
5. In the *Path for MCL Projects* field, select the directory where the MCL-Designer projects are located.

6. In the *General Path for Data Files* field, select the directory where the project data files are located.

7. Click on the *OK* button when done or the *Cancel* button to terminate the operation.

**Protocol**

This dialog box defines how MCL-Link Lite formats addresses and handles file transfer on the network. This applies only to the addresses formatted on the network.

Click on the *Protocol* button and the *Protocol* dialog box appears.

![Figure 1-3. Setup: Protocol Dialog Box](image-url)
Getting Started

The Dx Packet dialog box allows the user to define the directory and the name of each file where data is saved when MCL-Link Lite receives data records.

When it is necessary to add the terminal ID into each data record received from the terminal, the Terminal ID is placed onto the three first digits of the record.

Click on the Dx Packet button and the Dx Packet dialog box appears.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Block Size</td>
<td>Maximum block size for transmitting frames on the network. (The maximum frame size, not a maximum size for data. The maximum value for this field is 512 characters. Allowed values are 64, 128, 256 or 512. Default value is 512.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time Out</td>
<td>Defines the time delay between retries.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retry</td>
<td>Defines the number of retries.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Default</td>
<td>Resets all fields to their default values.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Dx Packet**

The Dx Packet dialog box allows the user to define the directory and the name of each file where data is saved when MCL-Link Lite receives data records.

When it is necessary to add the terminal ID into each data record received from the terminal, the Terminal ID is placed onto the three first digits of the record.

Click on the Dx Packet button and the Dx Packet dialog box appears.

![Figure 1-4. Setup: Dx Packet Dialog Box](image)
The Interface dialog box allows the user to enable or disable some or all buttons of the MCL-Link Lite user interface.

Click on the **Interface** button and the **Interface** dialog box appears.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Path For “Dx” Incoming Packets Files</td>
<td>Routes the packets to the specified directory. Click the Browse button to change directories.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>File/Pipe Name For “Dx” Incoming Packets</td>
<td>Assigns a file name to each individual incoming packet. Lists packets D0 through D9 and their corresponding file names.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Add Terminal ID To Each Packet</td>
<td>Attaches the Terminal ID number to the front of the record. Deselect if this is not required.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Interface**

The Interface dialog box allows the user to enable or disable some or all buttons of the MCL-Link Lite user interface.

![Setup: Interface Dialog Box](image)

**Figure 1-5. Setup: Interface Dialog Box**
### Getting Started

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Interface</strong></td>
<td>Determines the size of the window and buttons. When Compact Interface is chosen, only small buttons in a very small window appear on the screen. When Large Interface is chosen, more serial communication transactions can be displayed on the screen.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Enable User Button(s)</strong></td>
<td>Enables the checked buttons. Deselect the check boxes to disable the corresponding buttons.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Using MCL-Link Lite

The MCL-Link Lite main window contains buttons to perform all the different functions necessary for maintaining the terminals.

**Status**

Click the *Status* button to initiate the status request operation for a specific terminal. The *Terminal Status* dialog box appears.

![Terminal Status Window]

*Figure 1-6. Terminal Status Window*

The terminal sends the version number of the MCL-Code, its date and its free RAM.

Be sure the correct Host ID, Comm. Port and Speed are set before pressing STATUS, or the operation will not be successful.

**Receive**

Select the *Receive* button from the Link Lite main window to start the File Receive operation from terminal and store it onto the host. The *Receive* dialog box appears.
The **Browse** field determines which files to search for.

The **Magnification** button requests a directory status from the terminal and allows the user to select the desired file to be uploaded.

The file received from the terminal is placed in the directory *DATA* with the name specified in the **Local Filename** field.

The Magnification button opens a local (terminal) directory structure and allows the user to select the file or program that will be received from the terminal.
Send

Selecting the Send button on the main window starts the File Send operation from computer to terminal. An entire project (programs and data files), programs only or data files only may be sent to the terminal. The Send dialog box appears.
Figure 1-9. Send Window

The Magnification button opens a local (computer) directory structure and allows the user to select another directory to locate the file.

Figure 1-10. Computer Directory
The *Send a...* field determines what type of file to send to the terminal.

The *Local Name* field states the name of the file on the local computer, and *Remote Name* states the name that the file has on the terminal.

**Time**

Selecting the *Time* button provides the ability to synchronize the terminal. The date and hour is updated.

![Transmit Time Window](image)

**Figure 1-11. Transmit Time Window**

**About MCL-Link Lite Files**

Table 1-1 lists the files associated with MCL-Link Lite.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>File</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MCLLINK.EXE</td>
<td>The executable program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCLLINK.HLP</td>
<td>The Windows Help file.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCLLINK.INI</td>
<td>Contains the Setup information for MCL-Link.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCLLINK.STA</td>
<td>Contains all status received from the terminals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCLLINK.ERR</td>
<td>Contains all transactions errors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCLLINK1.LOG</td>
<td>The Log files.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MCL-Link Lite Configuration File**

The MCL-Link Lite configuration file is named MCLLINK.INI. This is an ASCII file and can be edited with a common text editor. All settings defined by the user (by the *Setup* button) are stored in this file. The values shown below are the default values.
General Communication Parameters

[MCLLINK]

Host=099  
Port=1  
Speed=38400  
RepMCLDes=C:\PHASER\LINK32

[LOG]

LogFile=1  
LogSize=50000  
LogDate=ON  
LogTime=ON  
RecordLenMax=512  
Path=C:\PHASER\LINK\LOG

[PROTOCOL]

BlocSize=512  
Protocol=14  
BroadcastDelay=100  
TimeOut=2500  
Retry=2  
Century=4
Other MCL-Link Lite Parameters

[USER_BT]
- Interface=1 Defines the interface type.
- User_Status=ON Defines if interface button is visible.
- User_Receive=ON Defines if interface button is visible.
- User_Send=ON Defines if interface button is visible.
- User_Time=ON Defines if interface button is visible.
- User_Setup=ON Defines if interface button is visible.
- User_Help=ON Defines if interface button is visible.
- User_Script=ON Defines if interface button is visible.
- User_Quit=ON Defines if interface button is visible.

(DATA]
- Path=C:\PHASER\LINK32\DATA Defines the general path for data files.
- DxPath=C:\PHASER\LINK32\DATA Defines the path for files that stores data records D0..D9.
- DATA_D0=DATA_D0.DAT Defines the file name that stores data records D0.
- DATA_D1=DATA_D1.DAT Defines the file name that stores data records D1.
- DATA_D2=DATA_D2.DAT Defines the file name that stores data records D2.
- DATA_D3=DATA_D3.DAT Defines the file name that stores data records D3.
- DATA_D4=DATA_D4.DAT Defines the file name that stores data records D4.
- DATA_D5=DATA_D5.DAT Defines the file name that stores data records D5.
- DATA_D6=DATA_D6.DAT Defines the file name that stores data records D6.
- DATA_D7=DATA_D7.DAT Defines the file name that stores data records D7.
- DATA_D8=DATA_D8.DAT Defines the file name that stores data records D8.
- DATA_D9=DATA_D9.DAT Defines the file name that stores data records D9.
- AddTermID=OFF
Configuration File Example

[PROTOCOL]
BlocSize=512
Protocol=14
TimeOut=2500
TransactionTO=10000
Retry=3
Century=4
AnswerNK=OFF
BroadcastDelay=100
PacketDelay=0

[MCLLINK]
Speed=38400
Host=099
Port=1
RepMCLDes=C:\PHASER\Designer\RepMCLDes1=C:\PHASER\LINK
LastTO=001
Minimize=OFF
ScriptVersion=2

[LOG]
LogFile=1
LogSize=50000
LogDate=ON
LogTime=ON
Path=C:\PHASER\LINK\LOG

[MODEM]
UseModem=0
ModemReset=ATZ0
ModemAnswer=ATSO=1
ModemAnswerCall=0
ModemTimeOut=30
DelayChar=,;

[CR/CT]
Separator=\7C
BinarySearch=Off

[USER_BT]
Interface=1
User_Status=ON
User_Receive=ON
User_Send=ON
User_Time=ON
User_Setup=ON
User_Help=ON
User_Script=ON
User_Quit=ON

[DATA]
Path=C:\PHASER\LINK\DATA
DxPath=C:\PHASER\LINK\DATA
DATA_D0=DATA_D0.DAT
DATA_D1=DATA_D1.DAT
DATA_D2=DATA_D2.DAT
DATA_D3=DATA_D3.DAT
DATA_D4=DATA_D4.DAT
DATA_D5=DATA_D5.DAT
DATA_D6=DATA_D6.DAT
DATA_D7=DATA_D7.DAT
DATA_D8=DATA_D8.DAT
DATA_D9=DATA_D9.DAT
AddTermID=OFF

[SCRIPT]
ScriptTrace=OFF

[DEBUG]
Trace=0

[STARTUP]
Script=STARTUP.CMD

[DEFAULT]
Rece1=
Rece2=
Send1=2
Send3=
Send4=

[ScreenPos]
ScreenPos=102,334
**MCL-Link Error File**

The MCLLINK.ERR file contains all transactions errors. The first two letters identify the error, followed by the date, time, terminal ID, and command.

**Error When Initializing MCL-Link Lite**

- **CA**  Cancel by User.
- **DE**  Demo mode (no communication)
- **PP**  Open port comm. Error
  - Choose another comm. port or close the application that uses this comm. port (close the DOS Box if needed).
- **PI**  Initialize port comm. Error
  - Choose another comm. port or close the application that uses this comm. port (close the DOS Box if needed).

**Error In Transaction**

- **ID**  Bad terminal identification.
  - The command received from the terminal is incorrect. Correct the MCL program.
- **TO**  Time Out error, no response from the terminal or the modem.
- **RJ**  Reject received.
- **MR**  Max retry.
- **XX**  Unknown command received from the terminal.
  - The command received from the terminal is incorrect. Correct the MCL program.
Troubleshooting

If you encounter any problems:

- Check that the data is sent correctly from your host (terminal ID, filename,…).
- Check that power is correctly applied to the cradle or PIM.
- Check that your terminal is powered ON and in MCL-Link mode.
- Check communication parameters on the terminal and host computer.
- Parameters must be set the same on both the terminal and the host computer.
- Check the RS232 parameters on host side (connected to good communication port, etc.).
- Check your RS232 cable.
**Introduction**

Table 2-1 lists the REMOTE commands that are sent by the terminal to the host computer.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Command</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>D0 - D9</td>
<td>Receive Data Packet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CR</td>
<td>File Look-up from Terminal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TF</td>
<td>Transmit Data File to PC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FR</td>
<td>Data File Request from PC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SR</td>
<td>Status Request</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NO</td>
<td>xxx</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** xxx is the terminal ID (from 001 to 002).
Syntax of Commands

| = Separator ASCII 124.
\ = Backslash character ASCII 92.

xxx = Terminal ID (range: 001 to 002).

Terminal_File_Name = The File Name in the terminal: a letter (from A to H) for data files, or a digit (from 0 to 8) for MCL programs.

PC_File_Name = The File Name on the PC Side. Contains the directory and file extension (if no directory is specified, the current one is used).

PHASER\LINK32\DATA .DAT for Data file and .MCL for MCL program file
Commands Received From the Terminal

The following commands are MCL lines sent by the terminal to the host computer.

**Receive Data Packet (D0-D9) From Terminal**

**Function**
Sends data to appropriate data file.

**Syntax**

\[
\text{D0|data} \\
\text{where:} \\
\text{data = data added to the DATA_DX.DAT file.}
\]

**Example**

NO|099|D0|19971010|231022|1111
D0 = Data is appended in DATA_D0.DAT File in the general path.
D1 = Data is appended in DATA_D1.DAT File in the general path.

... 
D9 = Data is appended in DATA_D9.DAT File in the general path.

The DATA_DX.DAT file is created if it doesn't exist.
File Look-Up (CR) From Terminal

Function
Looks for data in a file.

Syntax
\[ \text{CR|File\_Name|Key\_to\_search} \]

where:

- \( \text{File\_Name} \) = name of file to search.
- \( \text{Key\_to\_search} \) = data to search for.

Example
\[ \text{NO|099|CR|PARTS.DAT|1234567890123} \]

File_Name is a text file sorted on a key, the key must be the first field in the file and the records length must be constant.

MCL-Link sends to the terminal a CT command with data from the record.

- \( \text{CT|0} \) = key not found
- \( \text{CT|1|Data\_from\_file} \) = key found, data are the rest of the line
- \( \text{CT|9} \) = file not found
**Transmit Remote Data File (TF) From Terminal**

**Function**
Transmits a data file to the host computer.

**Syntax**

```
TF|Terminal_File_Name|PC_File_Name
```

where:
- `Terminal_File_Name` = represented by a letter (from A to H) for data files.
- `PC_File_Name` = Full name that contains directory and file extension (if no directory is specified, the current one is used).

**Example**

```
NO|099|TF|A:\5CDATA\5CDATAFILE.DAT
```
Remote Data File Request (FR) From Terminal

Function
Requests a data file from the host computer.

Syntax
FR|PC_File_Name|Terminal_File_Name

where:
- Terminal_File_Name = Represented by a letter (from A to H) for data files.
- PC_File_Name = Full name that contains directory and file extension (if no directory
  is specified, the current one is used).

Example
NO|099|FR|C:\5CDATA\5CDATAFILE.DAT|A
**Host Status Request (SR) From Terminal**

**Function**
Requests status from the host computer.

**Syntax**

```
SR| 1 query MCL-Link status
SR| 3|PC_File_Name query a file status
```

where:

- 1 = MCL-Link.
- 3 = a file.
- PC_File_Name = a file on the host computer.

**Example**

```
NO|099|SR|3|C:\5CDATA\5CITEM.DAT
```

Request the status of the file C:\5CDATA\5CITEM.DAT.
Quit MCL-Link (QX) From Terminal

Function
Closes the MCL-Link program on the host computer.

Syntax
QX

Example
NO|099|QX
Close the MCL-Link program.
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What topics need to be added to the index, if applicable?
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

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What can we do to further improve our manuals?
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